

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes  
April 13, 2016**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Allyson Ashworth, Richard Carter, Sandra Chapman, George Couch, Les DeFelice, Patrick Ford, Jim Haizlett, Jim Stultz, Rhonda Tysk

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Sheli Bernstein-Goff, Reid Boden, Greg Chase, Scott Cook, Linda Cowan, Brian Crawford, David Cullinan, Mary Ann Edwards, Brian Fencl, Steve Greiner, Matt Harder, Aaron Harper, Diana Harto, Susan Herrick, Stephanie Hooper, Melissa Hudson, Jason Kogler, Tammy McClain, John McCullough, Corey Reigel, Sylvia Hawranick Senften, Ron Witt

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum and Mission Statement**

Chair Couch called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. and a quorum was established.

**II. Introductions**

**A. New Board Appointees**

Chair Couch introduced two new board members; Jim Stultz, who succeeds Ann Thomas, and Jack Adams, who is replacing Patrick Kelly. Also recognized were SGA President Elect Reid Boden and Vice President Elect David Cullinan.

Chair Couch recognized long-time Board member Ann Thomas for her service with the presentation of a plaque and Resolution.

**III. Public Comment**

Chair Couch recognized Susan Herrick, Matthew Harder, Tammy McClain, Brian Fencl, and Melissa Hudson to speak in open session, and thanked them for their comments.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Minutes of the full Board of February 10, 2016\***

**B. Minutes of the Executive Committee of March 30, 2016\***

**On motion by Jim Stultz and seconded by Jim Haizlett, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of February 10, 2016, and the Executive Committee of March 30, 2016.**

**V. Agenda Order**

Chair Couch asked that the Faculty Senate update be the first order of business on the agenda.

**On motion by Sandra Chapman and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the change in the agenda order as stated.**

**A. Faculty Senate**

Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Linda Cowan discussed the Faculty Senate's involvement on campus, noting that all Board members are welcome to attend their meetings held in Arnett Hall #202 at 3:30 p.m. the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. The Executive Committee of Faculty Senate meets two weeks prior. With upcoming elections there will be new officers who serve a two-year term. A brief discussion followed with regard to issues with Policies 202 and 210 and the response received by Faculty Senate.

## **VI. Rules**

### **A. Proposed BOG Policy 55: Freedom of Information Act Requests\***

Policy 55, Freedom of Information Act Requests, was disseminated for 30-day comment period on February 15, 2016. No comments were received.

**On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve Policy 55, Freedom of Information Act Requests.**

## **VII. Reports**

Dr. Crawford stated that the HEPC approved the Compact update at their April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. They also approved the new major leading to certification in Early Intervention Education and a Reading Specialist Certification as part of the MAEd program. They will both now go to the State Department of Education Review Board for final approval.

The Intent to Plan for the MA in Clinical Psychology was submitted to the HEPC today. This program will prepare students to take the Examination for Professional Practice of Psychology (EPPP).

By unanimous vote of the screening committee, Professor Mike Turrentine was selected for and accepted the position of Dean of the Gary E. West College of Business. The appointment will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Joe Greathouse, Director of the new Zoo Science Major, has become Director of the Good Zoo. With the cooperative arrangement between the University and Oglebay, he remains a full-time employee with a reduced teaching load.

## **VIII. President's Report**

President Greiner stated that at this time applications for freshmen and transfers are up 6% ahead of a year ago for Fall 2016. Housing applications are also up, running approximately 20% ahead of the prior year-to-date numbers. There were 225 attendees at the recent Spring Open House held April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

President Greiner thanked the Deans and Cabinet members; it's been a tough year. The Governor proposed a 4% budget cut, but we are hearing from legislators that there may be an additional 8.5% cut; we have no idea what's going to happen. We have to plan for the worst case scenario and hope for better. West Virginia ranks last in support for higher education and it's getting worse.

Two new masters programs will begin in the fall; the Master of Business Administration and the Master of Science in Criminology. President Greiner was also able to speak at a Community University event at The Highlands Center, with 50/60 adults in attendance.

Athletically, it's been another great year for both the men and women's basketball teams, with honors going to many of the players. The Great Gala will be held April 30<sup>th</sup> with a Kentucky Derby theme and tickets are still available.

## **IX. Finance Report**

### **A. Approval of FY 2017 Budget/Tuition & Fees\***

Board members have the content of the FY17 tuition and fees, operating, and capital budgets in front of them. The University has approximately a week to turn around and submit a budget once we are told what the cuts will be from the State. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to much of the financial information contained in the Board packet. With regard to a tuition increase, WLU is still near the bottom in terms of affordability for in-state students.

This information is the University's best attempt to minimize any negative impact on the bottom line. A discussion followed with regard to a process being put in place where constituent groups could take information back to their groups, receive input, and bring this information back to the Board.

Chair Couch stated that he understands the concerns with regard to the budget process. This being said he asked for a motion to approve the FY 2017 budget/tuition and fees.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget/Tuition and fees as presented, with one vote against.**

**X. Board Items**

**A. Honorary Degree Approval\***

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to confer an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (DHL) degree from West Liberty University at the May 2016 commencement to Dianna Vargo.**

**B. Approval of Program Reviews\***

The Board is asked to approve the five-year program review for the following degree programs and recommend **continuation of the program at the current level of activity.**

- Chemistry
- Psychology

The Board is asked to approve the five-year program review and recommend **continuation of the programs at the initial teacher preparation level and granted at the advanced preparation level.**

- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education

**On motion by Pat Ford and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the program review recommendations.**

**C. Math BA/BS Program Closure Approval\***

The Board of Governors is asked to approve the discontinuance of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics program housed within the College of Sciences. In accordance with West Liberty University policy and West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission guidelines, the removal of the degree program was approved by the West Liberty University Curriculum Committee on February 9, 2016. Reason for discontinuance is continuing and long-term low enrollment. Any student within the degree program will complete their degree as written, but no new students will be admitted. There will be no impact on support in terms of math for general studies.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the discontinuance of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Mathematics program within the College of Sciences.**

**D. Proposal to Add MA/MS in Biology Approval\***

The Board is asked to support our request for approval to offer a Master of Arts (MA) and Master of Science (MS) in Biology as outlined in Title 133 Procedural Rule of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Series 11. Approval of our Intent to Plan was documented in a letter from Paul L. Hill, Chancellor, on June 22, 2015. Both the MA and MS are 30 credit hour master's degrees that provide a high quality, affordable and accessible graduate program for qualified students in the northern panhandle, state of West Virginia, and surrounding areas.

Due to relatively few opportunities for graduate education and the locational challenges facing the northern panhandle, the program is intended to enhance educational and employment opportunities and enhance professional and academic growth in the state of West Virginia through effective training and education.

**On motion by Jack Adams and seconded by Richard Carter, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the proposal to add the new degree program Master of Arts in Biology/Master of Science in Biology to be offered within the College of Sciences, Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.**

**E. Renewal of University Place I & II Lease\***

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Jim Stultz, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve authorization for the President of West Liberty University, in accordance with the laws of the State of West Virginia and the rules and regulations of the Higher Education Policy Commission, to enter into a lease renewal of the apartment building located at 140-142 Van Meter Way and 551 Van Meter Way (nee Chatham Street), West Liberty, West Virginia, effective July 1, 2016.**

**F. Nominating Committee\***

Chair Couch had stated in the Executive Committee meeting that the Nominating Committee was to consist of Mr. Carter, Ms. Thomas, and Mr. Haizlett. With a replacement to the Board being named for Ms. Thomas, Mr. Stultz will serve on the Committee. Nominees for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary to the WLU Board of Governors will be put forward at the June meeting.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Rhonda Tysk, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the Nominating Committee membership as stated.**

**XI. Information Gathering**

Mr. Haizlett noted information in member's packets with regard to the capital campaign held at West Virginia State University. With an original fundraising goal of \$12.5 million, the campaign has raised \$19.6 million, with the following campaign goals:

- Academic Program & Faculty Support - \$6.5 Million
- Student Success - \$500,000
- Capital Improvements - \$6 Million
- Information & Technology - \$1 Million
- Scholarships - \$3 Million
- WVSU Fund - \$1 Million

**XII. Possible Executive Session**

Mr. Carter asked for a motion to move to executive session, asking that Dr. Crawford and Dr. McCullough remain for the session.

**On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Les DeFelice, pursuant to WV Code §6-9A-4, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to move to executive session at 6:45 p.m.**

The Board exited executive session at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened. Chair Couch reported that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

**XIII. Actions Emanating From Executive Session**

None.

**XIV. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, June 8, 2016**

**XV. Adjournment**

**On motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

George Couch \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Patrick Ford \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary