

**West Liberty University
Board of Governors**

**Minutes
October 14, 2020**

Attendance:

Jack Adams, Kelly Baker, Michael Baker, Richard Carter, Linda Cowan, Jamie Evick, Rich Lucas, Kris Williams, Isabella Yakicic

Unable to Attend:

Joe Carey

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Scott Cook, Katie Cooper, Brian Crawford, Emily D'Aquila, Diana Harto, Mary Ann Edwards, Steve Greiner, Jason Koegler, Roberta Linger, Joe Rodella, Sara Sweeney

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

Chair Lucas called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Introductions

A. Swearing in New Board Member

Chair Lucas swore in new faculty representative to the Board Dr. Linda Cowan.

Chair Lucas read the attached Board Resolution of West Liberty University in Recognition and Profound Appreciation of Distinguished Leadership by Dr. Stephen Greiner into the minutes of the meeting. Dr. Greiner thanked the Board for the recognition.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Agenda Order

No changes to the agenda order.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the Full Board August 19, 2020, August 26, 2020*

Ms. Baker noted that in the August 19, 2020 minutes, it stated that there would be no new positions added, but there appear to be new positions on campus. In addition, for those employees who had time taken away from them, they deserve to have that time back before any new positions are filled. Chair Lucas deferred these statements to Human Resources.

On motion by Richard Carter and seconded by Kelly Baker, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of August 19 and 26, 2020.

B. Minutes of the Executive Committee September 30, 2020*

On motion by Jack Adams and seconded by Kris Williams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of September 30, 2020.

VI. Board Items*

A. Policy 60 – Information Technology Governance*

Ms. Hooper stated that Policy 60 – Information Technology Governance, authorizes the President the authority to establish and maintain a framework for the routine review and implementation of policies and procedures aimed at creating a rich, integrated, compliant, and secure electronic environment in which to educate students, engage in research, perform outreach services, and conduct the University's business. With this policy, we will be

repealing current Policy 49 – Computer Abuse, which will be incorporated into our upcoming policies for technical use.

On motion by Jamie Evick and seconded by Jack Adams, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve Policy 60 – Information Technology Governance.

B. Emergency Revisions and Notice of Intent for Revisions to Policy 32 – Sexual Harassment, Sexual Discrimination, and Other Unlawful Conduct*

Ms. Hooper stated that new Title IX regulations released in May went into effect August 14, 2020. Higher Education had to scramble to put together a high-level policy addressing Title IX and anything falling outside the scope of Title IX. Currently posted on the Board web site is an interim Policy 32, but the revised policy will go out for 30-day comment before coming back to the Board for approval. Ms. Hooper is working on the revisions with WLU's Title IX Director. A brief discussion followed with regard to the policy.

On motion by Kris Williams and seconded by Linda Cowan, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the emergency revisions and Notice of Intent of the stated policy.

C. Notice of Intent for new BOG Policy: Human Resources Administration and Employment Practices*

Ms. Hooper gave notice of intent to draft and make available to the campus community the Human Resources Administration and Employment Practices policy. This policy will enable the University to function in a proper and expeditious manner and will generally delegate to the President the authority to administer a system for all personnel matters through University Policies and Procedures. We are currently in the process of reviewing all University policies and procedures to ensure that each has authority under an existing Board policy. Several Board policies in this area are better suited as a University policy or procedure and this new proposed policy will assist the Board in eliminating redundant or outdated policies.

On motion by Rich Lucas and seconded by Jamie Evick, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the Notice of Intent of the stated policy.

VII. Reports

A. Provost (Crawford)

Dr. Crawford gave an update on the status of various programs at the HLC and HEPC levels. Hybrid instruction is still going well and continues through the fall semester, with spring and summer schedules looking similar for planning. The Behavioral Clinic on the fourth floor of Campbell hall has had some delays, but we hope to have approval from the fire marshal in a couple weeks. The Smart catalog is effectively complete with the bulk of the work done by Maureen Golick, Sara Sweeney, and Jeremy Larance. The catalog will result in greater accuracy and consistency for the students in the future.

B. Enrollment (Cook)

Mr. Cook noted that these numbers were presented to the Executive Committee a few weeks ago. We are in the middle of registering early entrance students so there is currently no accurate count for the semester. As of two weeks ago, we have 2,227 students, 34 less than this time last year. Freshmen and transfer numbers are down, with gains in graduate and continuing students. Housing is down 120+ over last year.

C. Staff (Baker)

Ms. Baker stated that there were no issues to bring to the Board from Staff Council.

D. Faculty (Cowan)

Dr. Cowan noted that she did not have a report, but made the following statement: "I would like to commend Dr. Greiner for his service to the University, especially above and beyond his planned retirement date. I thank him for his five years of commitment to, and leadership of, West Liberty University. Thank you, Dr. Greiner".

E. SGA (Yakicic)

Ms. Yakicic stated that the SGA is trying to find ways to use funds they have since they are not able to hold their normal activities. Treasurer Maxwell Fiedorczyk continues to make plans for ways to improve the University, such as a community garden to be located near the Commons. A directory outside of Main Hall near the fire pit, which is in the WLU Master Plan, is another project SGA hopes to fund, along with the possibility of a type of online WLU Marketplace. They are working to bring other ideas to the Cabinet.

F. Foundation (Hill)

Ms. Hill stated that the Foundation was seeking funds to support the development of a teletherapy booth in partnership with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Greater Wheeling. The Schenk Foundation has agreed to fund the partnership with NAMI, and will include the use of their downtown location. They will see teletherapy clients once a week and collaborate in other ways, for which WLU has already established an affiliation agreement. To make services more accessible to community members, WLU offers teletherapy as an option for adult individual therapy. The plan is to locate the booth at the NAMI offices in downtown Wheeling and staffed by a WLU work study student. The project will be announced publicly in the near future.

VIII. President's Report

Dr. Greiner stated that West Liberty University moved up in three categories in the U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges publication. WLU moved up seven places in the Regional Universities South, two spots in the Social Mobility category, and two spots in the Top Public Schools slot. WLU is the highest ranked West Virginia public school in all three categories.

College Raptor, a leading college planning platform that helps families discover college matches driven by AI algorithms to find the best colleges at the best price, selected West Liberty University as a 2021 Hidden Gem in a recent announcement.

Construction of the Behavioral Health Lab and the Speech Pathology and Audiology Lab are being finalized and the weight room renovation is ongoing and should be completed this fall.

Kudos to Linda Cowan for arranging a live-streamed musical concert "Sounds of the World," featuring West Liberty University instrumental ensembles, were held at Oglebay on October 3. The concert included music from the Marching Hilltoppers, under the direction of Dr. Gretchen Pohlman, along with the sounds and dancing of the African Drum and Dance Ensemble 17 and the distinctive sound of the WLU Steel Band, both under the direction of Dr. Mitchell Greco.

Joe Rodella recently joined the state of West Virginia's initiative to support virtual learning for all students, K-12 and higher education, by adding a Wi-Fi hot spot on campus. Located at the Beta Hall parking lot, students can come to campus for access to virtual classroom work. The equipment was provided by the State of West Virginia.

Topper Station now has on demand lectures which students have access to even after the class is over. So far, there are 125 different classes participating with 40 professors, and 1,200 uploaded lectures. As of last week 85,000 hours of classes have been watched by students for the fall term, with the primary users being in the sciences, education, and arts and communication.

IX. Finance Report (Linger)

Ms. Linger stated that the finance report is as of September 30, 2020. We have not seen a tremendous decrease in revenue, with a slight decrease in undergraduate and graduate looking about the same at this time last year. The greatest impact is in residency, down about \$560,000 from this time last year. The state appropriation of \$9.1 million was not cut and we have received the first two full allotments. The expense side is running at about what is expected, with utilities running below the benchmark. Other expenses include COVID, with some uncertainty in the spring.

X. Information Gathering

None.

XI. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 9, 2020

XII. Adjournment

On motion by Jack Adams and seconded by Richard Carter, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Richard Lucas _____
Chair

Jack Adams _____
Secretary