

**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**Executive Committee
Minutes
November 16, 2016**

Executive Committee Members Present: Les DeFelice, Patrick Ford, Jim Stultz

WLU Administrators: Scott Cook, Brian Crawford, Stephen Greiner, Roberta Linger, John McCullough

Others: John Gompers, Jim Haizlett

1. Mr. DeFelice called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
2. Mr. Cook provided an enrollment update. There has been an increase in first-time freshmen, transfers, and graduate students. He pointed out specific changes of note, most of which are positive. Local high school graduating classes were up slightly, with a higher percentage coming to WLU.
3. President Greiner provided a brief report.
 - a. The Governor has enacted a 2% budget cut, which amounts to a reduction of \$159,127 to WLU. Our FY17 budget anticipated the possibility of a 4% mid-year cut.
 - b. Because of this recent reduction in state funding, we will have to reevaluate the possibility of a mid-year salary increase for employees. The results of this evaluation will be reported at the board meeting.
 - c. There was some discussion of the impact of the recent elections on higher education in the state and the possible future of the WV-Higher Education Policy Commission.
 - d. The President and Ms. Linger will be attending the WV-HEPC meeting on Friday 11/18.
4. Dr. McCullough presented a recommendation from the Honorary Degree Committee to award an honorary degree to Kylie Clark, a student suffering from a terminal disease. The student has approximately 15 credit hours to complete her regular degree but likely has only a few months to live. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Ford and seconded by Mr. Stultz. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Dr. Crawford reported on the status of the academic programs in development and new majors recently approved.
 - a. There was discussion of current graduate programs and the potential to develop other programs that would support the local economy.
6. President Greiner presented a report on the development of student housing, particularly the renovation of Boyd Hall and the possibility of a public-private partnership to build a new housing facility on campus. There was discussion of next steps and the role of the board in the process.
7. President Greiner presented the Academic Reorganization issue. He and Mr. Haizlett provided summaries of comments received from potentially affected faculty and administrators. Mr. Ford suggested that the President's Cabinet consider revising their proposal. After discussion, the committee recommended that the President and Provost meet with each of the colleges to determine the best course forward.
8. Ms. Linger provided a budget update.

9. Ms. Linger reported that the audit report will be delayed, as it was last year, because of delays at the state level in providing required inputs.
10. The President reported that there have been preliminary discussions on tuition and fees for next academic year. Estimates must be made earlier than in the past due to changes in the federal financial aid process dates. An estimated 3% increase in tuition in fees and no change to room and board costs is proposed for use in the award of financial aid.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Leslie DeFelice _____
Chair

James R. Stultz _____
Secretary