

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of the Meeting
August 24, 2018

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 8:00 a.m. at Macomb Campus in the Grand Ballroom. Chair Carolyn Ehlert Fuller presided. Trustee Early moved to convene to open session. Trustee Savala seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Trustee Roger Clawson	Yes
Trustee Lyneir Cole	Absent
Trustee Cathy Early	Yes
Trustee Carolyn Ehlert Fuller	Yes
Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Todd Lester	Yes
Trustee Yvonne Savala	Yes

Motion carried.

ATTENDANCE

The following trustees were present:

Trustee Roger Clawson
Trustee Cathy Early
Trustee Carolyn Ehlert Fuller
Trustee Justin Brown
Trustee Todd Lester
Trustee Yvonne Savala
Trustee Lyneir Cole (Arrived at 8:19 am on the phone)

Also present for the open meeting of the Board of Trustees:

President Jack Thomas
Legal Counsel Elizabeth Duvall
Board Treasurer and Interim Vice President for Administrative Services William Polley
Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathy Neumann
Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives Joe Rives
Vice President for Student Services Ron Williams
Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter

PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Joanne Jones Curtis, faculty: Concerned about the university pulling funding from the public radio station, Tri States Public Radio. Upset with the way the decision was made and communicated and asks for a reversal.

*Becky Parker, resident of Macomb: Expressed distress over the pulling of funding for the radio station.

*Paul Plagenz, Director of Development, WIU-QC: As a long-time supporter of public media he would like to offer his assistance to raise funds to allow Tri States to become self-sufficient.

We can and must have healthy dialogue. Nevertheless, we will not always agree and sometimes difficult decisions still must occur. Because of budgetary influences beyond our control, we have been cut to the bare bone and will have to cut more. We know that each reduction hurts. They affect people. I ask, what would you have us do? Where are we to cut? This is what we face each and every day. I understand and president of this university, it is my responsibility to make the tough calls.

I am reminded of the story of the minor league baseball umpire who was criticized constantly by a fan sitting high in the stands. The fan loudly criticized every call the umpire made through five innings. Finally, the fan said, "I've watched you make every call wrong for five innings. Finally, you got it right." The umpire said, "This appears to be the first time you've heard of the need for changes."

The point of this narrative is that everyone has their own unique perspective. As the umpire on the field, I have been told on multiple occasions by multiple University groups—not just the Board, but by our own University constituency groups—to right the ship, chart the course, and make the calls. But when we do attempt to right the ship, chart the course and make these calls, we are criticized and people react as if this is the first they have heard of the need for changes.

Again, as I stated at the assembly, we must all do our part to focus on all the wonderful things that have taken place at our University recently. We should highlight and share the positive aspects of our University and the accomplishments of our outstanding people.

It is my pledge as President, on behalf of my leadership team, we will continue to communicate and do so in a positive and constructive manner. We will invest in our programs and services that will further place WIU on the leading edge and position our university for growth. We will continue to provide a world-class, high-quality, and well-rounded educational experience. We take pride in the academic excellence, value and affordability that we provide. We will work with the appropriate constituencies to implement innovative academic restructuring.

We are beginning to witness the success of our innovative thinking and efforts. As Interim Director of Admissions Jason Woods recently reported, enrollment trends for fiscal year 2019 are outperforming the expectations from this past March. This is good news.

While we expect to have more new students than originally predicted, we are still projected to deficit spend again this year, assuming we receive no additional state funding. Our expenditures exceeded revenues by approximately \$4 million. This is not sustainable.

Yesterday, our Budget Director, Letisha Trepac, sent a letter to the University community outlining measures to help the University decrease the amount we will deficit spend this year. I am repeating Ms. Trepac's words: "We can invest more resources into growing our way to prosperity. Decreasing expenditures must be accompanied by increasing revenue. We must grow enrollment, and increase retention and graduation rates. We must enhance and diversify our revenue streams. I will be going to Springfield in the coming weeks to continue advocating for increased funding, including appropriated funds, deferred maintenance and capital projects."

Trustee Lyneir Cole	Yes
Trustee Cathy Early	Yes
Trustee Ehlert Fuller	Yes
Trustee Todd Lester	Yes
Trustee Yvonne Savala	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolution No. 18.8/1: Presidential Assessment and Contract

A motion was made by

2. Hosting a conference with Antioch, UoP, GC, and other institutions to see how they
3. Military Recruiter approved for Macomb Campus
4. Retention Office approved for Macomb Campus through Stanes Foundation gift
5. Dr. Rives and Ms. Paulsen, with the help of the literature review of Debbie Kepple-Mamros, have commenced a cooperative education and internship review committee.
6. Simpkins Hall programming study on track and Holabird & Root are contracted to do study
7. Development Funding Officer reporting line change was made from Athletics to Foundation

President Thomas announced the following:

Dr. Joe Rives has had a title change (with no additional salary compensation) to Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives.

Director of Honors College will have a title change (without additional salary compensation) to Dean of Honors College.

FINANCE

Report No. 18.8/2 Foundation Report

(Vice President Brad Bainter)

Foundation and Development

Endowment has a value of \$56 million

Total Foundation assets are now \$65 million

Planned Giving inventory is over \$40 million

Gifts and pledges now total over \$13.7 million

Reported on FY18 Foundation funds usage.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SERVICES

Report No. 18.8/3 University Marketing Plans and Metrics

(Director of Marketing Suzi Pritchard and Assistant to the Senior VP, Strategic Planning and Initiatives Debbie Kepple-Mamros)

Marketing Initiatives

Increasing Enrollment

Strengthening the Brand (value, affordability, safety of campuses)

QC Goals

Key Performance Indicators

Real-time data indicates a trend for an increase in enrollment beyond March 2018 projections. Veterans and service members are increasing in numbers (100 new students).

Report No. 18.8/8 Review of Low-Enrolled Programs
(Interim Provost Kathy Neumann)

Interim Provost Neumann gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining terms and metrics for low enrolled programs and a review of enrollment of the various programs at all levels. Faculty Senate has begun populating the Academic Review Committee with a timeline for early December for completion.

AUDIT

Report No. 18.8/9 Overview of Internal Audit and Consulting Services
(Director of Internal Auditing Mike Sartorius)

Mr. Sartorius discussed the internal audit processes. Trustee Early highlighted how Internal Auditing has the potential to increase efficiencies and in turn positively impact the budget.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Savala commended Paul Plagenz for offering his expertise.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held September 27-28, 2018 on the Macomb campus in the Union Capitol Rooms.

ADJOURN ACTION

Chair Ehlert Fuller called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 10:45 am. A motion was made by Trustee Lester and seconded by Trustee Clawson. All were in favor and none opposed.

Carolyn Ehlert Fuller, Chair
Kerry McBride, Business Administrative Associate to the Board

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