

**West Liberty University  
Board of Governors**

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**Minutes  
April 15, 2015**

Attendance:

Beverly Burke, Joe Carey, Richard Carter, Sandra Chapman, George Couch, Les DeFelice, Patrick Ford, Brian Joseph, Patrick Kelly, Evan Newman, Frank Noble, Ann Thomas

Administration/Faculty/Staff:

Keely Camden, Scott Cook, Linda Cowan, John Davis, Mary Ann Edwards, John Gompers, Jim Haizlett, Aaron Harper, Susan Herrick, Matthew Inkster, Robert Kreisberg, Jeremy Larance, John McCullough, Corey Reigel, Sylvia Senften, Judy Stechly, Jim Stultz, Ronnie Warrington, Jack Wright, Tracy Zang

Visitors:

Isabelle Harrar, Bill Wilmoth

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

Chair Couch called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., welcomed members of Faculty Senate, and a quorum was established.

**II. Introductions**

None

**III. Public Comments**

Two individuals, Dr. Susan Herrick, Professor of Sociology, and Jim Haizlett, Associate Professor of Art, gave public comments.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Minutes of the Full Board 02/04/15, 03/02/15, 03/11/15**

**On motion by Sandra Chapman and seconded by Les DeFelice, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the full Board of February 4, March 2, and March 11, 2015.**

**B. Minutes of the Executive Committee 02/18/15, 04/01/15**

**On motion by Brian Joseph and seconded by Richard Carter, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee of February 18 and April 1, 2015.**

**V. Agenda Order (Board may move to change order of consideration)**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

**VI. Rules**

**A. Revision to Policy 2: Presidential Appointments, Responsibilities, and Evaluation – Eliminate Presidential Sabbaticals – Recommended for Removal: Section 6: Professional Leave.**

**As recommended by the Executive Committee and on motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Richard Carter, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve and ratify the revisions to Policy 2.**

**B. Title Change to Policy 32: Sexual Harassment, Sexual Discrimination, and Other Unlawful Conduct.**

Chair Couch noted that the title change to “Harassment, Discrimination, Sexual and Domestic Misconduct, Stalking, and Retaliation” would help to expand and clarify the policy.

**On motion by Sandra Chapman and seconded by Ann Thomas, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve and ratify the revisions to Policy 32.**

## **VII. Reports**

None

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

Dr. McCullough gave a summary of accomplishments and activities to the Board, most of which are self-explanatory, reflecting the vitality of the faculty and staff at West Liberty (see attached report). Chair Couch thanked Dr. McCullough for once again serving as Interim President at WLU.

## **IX. Finance Report**

### **A. Approval of FY 2016 Budget/Tuition and Fees**

Mr. Wright addressed the Tuition & Fees Operating Budget Capital Budget FY16 contained in the board packet. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the possible idling of Shotwell Hall and College Hall, along with the top two floors of Beta Hall and the Annex. With regard to the Hilltopper for Life fee, this has been discussed at the Finance Committee meeting and there have been discussions regarding potential changes in the structure and use of the fee. Chair Couch indicated that there will be a number of changes in regard to alumni relations in the coming year.

Pre-registration numbers for the summer are up but continue to run behind for the fall semester. Demographics will continue to decline for another two years, but some things are being done that could help those enrollment numbers grow.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Sandra Chapman, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the FY16 Operating Budget for West Liberty University.**

## **X. Board Items**

### **A. Honorary Degree**

Dr. McCullough stated that Kris Williams, class of 1986 with a magna cum laude degree in Accounting and Chief Operating Officer at the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh, will be the Spring 2015 commencement speaker. Kris also serves on the WLU Foundation Board.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Ann Thomas, 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 2015 commencement to Kristina K. Williams.**

### **B. Program Reviews**

The Board is asked to approve the five-year program review for Biology, Dental Hygiene, Nursing, and Graphic Design with continuation at their current levels of activity. It is also asked to approve the five-year program review of English, with continuation of the program at the current level of activity, but with corrective action focused on further development of the program's assessment plan. Mr. Ford, who worked with the Program Review Committee on behalf of the Board, briefly discussed the review process. The model used by the Committee is one WLU should be proud of and is commendable.

**On motion by Bev Burke and seconded by Ann Thomas, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the program review recommendations.**

### **C. Early Childhood Special Needs and Reading Specialist Certifications**

Dr. Keely Camden spoke to the Early Childhood Special Needs and Reading Certifications. The Early Childhood Special Needs will be at the undergraduate level (Bachelor of Arts) and the Reading Specialist track will be within the Master of Arts in Education (M.A.Ed.). Vacant positions were reworked to allow for the additional courses for the programs with no new faculty members. A discussion followed with regard to Orton-Gillingham and other training, marketing, and demand for the programs.

**On motion by Patrick Kelly and seconded by Les DeFelice, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve teaching certifications in Early Childhood Special Needs and Reading Specialist Certifications.**

**D. Nominating Committee**

Chair Couch stated that the Nominating Committee will consist of Richard Carter and Brian Joseph. 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 Sandra Chapman and seconded by Les DeFelice, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the Nominating Committee membership as stated.**

**E. Renewal of University Place I Lease**

Mr. Wright noted that this is the second year of an existing lease, which the parties agree to renew. Last year's lease was renewed at a 3% increase; this year is 1.5% with no other changes to the lease. A brief discussion followed with regard to the new building.

**On motion by Brian Joseph and seconded by Les DeFelice, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve authorization of 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 (nee Chatham Street), West Liberty, West Virginia, effective July 1, 2015.**

**F. Presidential Search Committee Recommendations**

Chair Couch noted that State Code dictates that the Board be part of the search committee, along with additional representation. The committee list was distributed to board members, with the following additional members listed:

- Jim Frum, Jay Duffy – Alumni
- Rich Lucas, Tom Reinbold – Foundation Board
- Katie Cooper – Additional Classified Staff
- Scott Cook – Non-Classified
- Evan Newman – Student
- Linda Cowan – Faculty Senate
- Dean – To Be Determined
- BOG Classified Staff Representative – To be Determined
- BOG Faculty Representative – To be Determined

The first meeting of the Committee will be held on April 28, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. At that time a chair will be elected and begin the process to search for a new president.

**On motion by Les DeFelice and seconded by Pat Ford, it was unanimously adopted by the West Liberty University Board of Governors to approve the 2015 Presidential Search Committee.**

**G. Faculty Senate**

Dr. Linda Cowan, Faculty Senate Chair, noted that it is in WV State Code that the Faculty Senate is required to meet with the Board yearly. A discussion followed with regard to WLU's challenges and how the Board plans to respond to some of the challenges. The Senate then asked about WLU's strengths moving forward; a discussion followed. It was then discussed if the Board feels WLU is in crisis.

Other members of Faculty Senate in attendance voiced concerns and opinions. Mr. Gompers discussed the reasoning behind the agreement with President Capehart. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the agreement and possible buildings being idled. Dr. Cowan noted that Faculty Senate meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in #202 Arnett Hall for anyone wishing to attend.

Chair Couch noted with regard to the presidential search; the HEPC has some required steps to take with the Committee and advertising. Additional representation for the constituent groups

was added to make sure there was better representation. The Board hopes to begin the process quickly and have a new president in place by January 1, 2016.

**III. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, June 10, 2015**

**IV. Adjournment**

**On motion by Patrick Kelly and seconded by Richard Carter, it was unanimously adopted that the meeting adjourn at 7:25 p.m.**

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

Sandra Chapman \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary