



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 2022 – 9:30 a.m. Stewart Library
Hetzel Hoellein Room 321 | Hybrid Meeting

Trustee Members:

Ms. Kearston Cutrubus (Chair)
Ms. Karla Bergeson (Vice Chair)
Mr. Brent Bishop
Ms. Amanda Covington (via Zoom)
Ms. Louenda Downs
Ms. Karen Fairbanks
Mr. Ben Ferney
Mr. Don Salazar
Mr. Keith Titus

Excused:

Mr. Curtis Funk
Vice President Brett Perozzi

Weber State University Representatives:

Dr. Brad Mortensen, President
Dr. Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Affairs
Dr. Ravi Krovi, Provost
Dr. Bret Ellis, Vice President for Information Technology (via Zoom)
Dr. Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Adrienne Andrews, Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Ms. Sherri Cox, Secretary to the Board
Mr. Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Laine Berghout, Faculty Senate Chair/Professor/Chemistry
Dr. Gail Niklason – Staff Association Council Chair/Executive Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Ms. Stephanie Hollist, Deputy General Counsel
Mr. Rich Hill, General Counsel (via Zoom)

Mr. John Kowalewski, Executive Director, Marketing & Communications
Dr. Matthew Mouritsen, Dean of Goddard School of Business & Economics
Dr. Julie Snowball, Assistant Vice President, AVP Regional Partnerships
Dr. Branden Little, Professor of History, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Guests:

Ms. Jesselie Anderson, Board Member, Utah State Board of Higher Education (via Zoom)
Mr. Geoffrey Landward, Deputy Commission of Higher Education & General Counsel at Utah System of Higher Education
Ms. Steffine Amodt, Presidential Leadership Fellow
Mr. Alex Yoder, Presidential Leadership Fellow
Ms. Ashley Potokar, President-Elect WSUSA 2022-23

Public Attendees:

Mr. Jeremy Shinoda, Ogden City Diversity Commissioner (via Zoom)

Press:

No press were present

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by Ms. Karla Bergeson, Vice Chair. She welcomed all in attendance and asked for identification of any potential or perceived conflicts of interest after viewing the agenda. Hearing none, Vice Chair Bergeson then continued through the agenda.

Full Board Agenda Items

Meeting Minutes Approval

a. January 25, 2022:

Meeting minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on January 25, 2022, were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

b. Executive Committee – February 25, 2022

Meeting minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on February 25, 2022, were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

ACTION: Upon a motion by Ms. Louenda Downs to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting and the Executive Committee meeting on February 25, 2022, with a second by Ms. Kearston Cutrbus, the motion passed unanimously.

Information

Tuition and Fee Rates for FY 2022-23

Vice President Norm Tarbox discussed Tuition and Fee Rates for FY22-23 that are being presented to the Utah Board of Higher Education for approval on March 24, 2022, pending approval from the Board of Trustees. Dr. Tarbox showed a presentation outlining the need for and rate increases being proposed for tuition and fees. WSU is comparable and lower than most institutions. WSU's tuition and fees are significantly lower than our peers from other states. WSU's top goals are to (a) maintain affordability at WSU and (b) solve our own issues before seeking additional resources. Inflationary costs are staying the same with other institutions.

The university is proposing a tuition increase of 2.66% and a fees increase of 2.32% and believes this is the lowest possible option to cover the needs of the required legislative match for compensation. Differential tuition for the PA program was also discussed. The program will cover its own costs and be the most expensive program on our campus. A tuition schedule needs to be adopted. The PA program will be the least expensive of any PA program offered in the state.

Vice President Tarbox reported on the Truth in Tuition Hearing with student leadership. WSUSA President Ben Ferney spoke about the many questions students had. Seeing the big picture from the legislative and WSU perspective helped the students have a better

understanding of tuition and fees which led them to be supportive of the increase. The tuition increase will help to cover the 5.75% salary increase for faculty and staff, including a 6.7% health and 1% dental insurance benefit.

ACTION: On a motion to approve the tuition increase of 2.66%, the fees increase of 2.32% and to approve the tuition schedule and fees attached for the PA program made by Ms. Kearston Cutrubus, with a second by Mr. Ben Ferney, the motion was unanimously approved.

College Liaison Report:

Trustees Amanda Covington, and Don Salazar, serving as liaisons to the Goddard School of Business and Economics, introduced Dr. Matthew Mouritsen, dean. Dean Mouritsen gave a review of the college along with a presentation that included the strategic initiatives of (a) building bridges to the Goddard School, (b) transforming the learning environment, (c) high tech: Integrating & expanding technology, analytics, & critical thinking across the curriculum, and (d) high touch: Connecting students to our curriculum & communities. There are approximately 1,900 students in the Goddard School. Over half are ages 25-34 and 27% are first-generation students. Most are working full-time. Dean Mouritsen emphasized that students must feel that they belong, even before they enroll. This is the focus of high touch: Connecting students to our curriculum and communities.

Challenges discussed included funding and getting the students and faculty out in the community.

Special Topic – Dual Enrollment:

Dr. Julie Snowball gave a presentation on modes of dual enrollment, which includes concurrent enrollment/early college/transfer articulation. The importance of dual enrollment includes opportunities: (a) for high school students to have a college experience, (b) to increase the matriculation rate of high school students to WSU, (c) to foster relationships and support of regional school districts partners, and (d) increase the access for first-generation and BIPOC students. Challenges discussed included: (a) buy-in from faculty and awareness, (b) finding qualified high school instructors to deliver content and onboard training, and (c) providing adequate numbers of advisors. Dr. Snowball shared concurrent enrollment rates by districts, which did not reflect NUAMES student data correctly. She answered questions about the size of the districts and the amount of courses students are taking. An ethnicity chart was shown which demonstrated the need for increasing enrollment among underserved students. Early college and NUAMES participants are increasing in numbers and enrollment. Technical college enrollment numbers are few, and their partnerships are valuable. The top ten degrees offered include UTECH credit. Changes need to be made to more effectively implement enrollment. Dr. Snowball is committed to improvement in this area.

Faculty Presentation – Saving Nations: American Humanitarianism and U.S. Foreign Policy

Since World War I:

A faculty presentation was given by Dr. Branden Little, from the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences on his sabbatical project. Dr. Little has been working approximately 75 hours per week and working on a book for 10 years. He discussed why and how the United States is the country to best assist and rebuild other countries. He shared the history of Herbert Hoover and his efforts to develop an international assistance “band of crusaders” who helped Belgium from starving during WWI. The framework was created to use in other countries. Strategic and humanitarian efforts prevented countries from turning communist. Over 50 million people were fed after WWI in other countries due to these efforts. After WWII the United States embraced perpetual interventionism to combat communism. Hoover and his deputies were central figures in this 50-year transformation of US foreign policy. With the conflict currently taking place in Ukraine, this information is a topic of interest.

Weber State University Reports**President’s Report:**

President Mortensen took a moment to share information from Georgetown University during his report. He also introduced two Presidential Leadership Fellows Mr. Alex Yoder, and Ms. Steffine Amodt, who were in attendance.

Alumni Report:

Trustee and Alumni President, Curtis Funk, had no additional comments on the Alumni Association Report.

Staff Association Council (SAC) Report:

Staff Association Council (SAC) Chair Gail Niklason mentioned that SAC leadership met with President Mortensen to discuss staff salary changes.

WSUSA Report:

Trustee and WSUSA President, Ben Ferney introduced Ms. Ashley Potokar, who is the newly elected WSUSA president for 2022-23. She has been serving as the vice president for student leadership.

Upcoming Events:

Upcoming events were listed for review without discussion.

Business Committee**ACTION Items: Trustee Don Salazar**

Trustee Don Salazar, Business Committee Chair, turned the time over to Vice President Norm Tarbox, who presented the following action items for review and approval:

- a. **Financial Reports and Quarterly Audit Report**
 - 1. **Financial Reports (Dec. 2021, Jan. 2022)**
 - 2. **Quarterly Audit Report**

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Financial Reports and Quarterly Audit Report made by Mr. Brent Bishop, with a second by Ms. Louenda Downs, the motion was unanimously approved.

- b. **HR Policies**

Vice President Tarbox discussed the following HR policies:

- 1. **PPM 3-9, Alternate Work Arrangements.** This policy was created for remote work due to the pandemic. The policy is being applied and is in practice.
- 2. **PPM 3-15, Abusive Conduct and Respectful Work Conditions.** Clarification has been given to this policy.
- 3. **PPM 3-31, Staff Grievances.** Clarification has been given to this policy.
- 4. **PPM 3-40, Retirement Programs.** Cleanup was given to this policy to keep things updated.
- 5. **PPM 3-68, Released Wellness Time Guidelines**

ACTION: On a motion to approve the HR Policies by Ms. Louenda Downs, with a second by Mr. Ben Ferney, the motion was unanimously approved.

- c. **Consent Calendar**

The consent calendar items were reviewed by the Board of Trustees without discussion.

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Consent Calendar by Mr. Keith Titus, with a second by Ms. Kearston Cutrbus, the motion was unanimously approved.

- d. **Information Items**

Information items were passed during the Business Committee meeting. No discussion took place during the full board meeting.

Academic Policy Committee

ACTION Items: Trustee Louenda Downs

Trustee Louenda Downs, chair of the Academic Policy Committee turned the time to Provost Ravi Krovi, who reviewed and proposed the following eight action items together:

- a. **Action Items:**
 1. **Program Reactivation – Naval Science**
 2. **Program Name Changes**
 - a. **French for Translation & Global Industry (BA)**
 - b. **Photography/Video Emphasis, Art (BFA)**
 3. **Program Discontinuance – AAS Electrical Engineering Technology Program**
 4. **Organizational Changes – Electronic Engineering Technology (BS) to Noorda Interdisciplinary Center**
 5. **Certificates of Proficiency**
 - a. **Advance Hybrid & Electric Vehicle**
 - b. **Data Analytics Essentials**
 - c. **Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Maintenance**
 6. **Emphases**
 - a. **Communication (BA) Social Media and Data Analytics**
 - b. **Communication (BS) Social Media and Data Analytics**
 - c. **Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts: Generalist, Acting/Directing, Design/Technical/Management**
 - d. **Master of Arts in English: Creative Writing**
 - e. **Master of Arts in English: Literature**
 7. **Minor**
 - a. **Screenwriting**
 8. **Post Baccalaureate Certificates**
 - a. **Computational Data Science & Machine Learning**
 - b. **Regulatory Affairs**
 - c. **Taxation**
 - d. **Technologist in Microbiology**

ACTION: On a motion to approve the eight action items: (a) program reactivation-Naval Science, (b) program name changes, (c) program discontinuance, (d) organizational changes, (e) certificates of proficiency, (f) emphases, (g) minor in Screenwriting, and (h) post baccalaureate certificates made by Ms. Louenda Downs, with a second by Mr. Curtis Funk, the motion was unanimously approved.

- b. **Tenure Document – Dumke College of Health Professions**
 Provost Krovi discussed the Dumke College of Health Professions tenure document that includes: (a) a statement on equity, diversity and inclusion, (b) clarification on degree requirements, and (c) requirements and documentation for teaching, etc.

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Dumke College of Health Professions Tenure Document made by Ms. Louenda Downs, with a second by Mr. Don Salazar, the motion was unanimously approved.

c. PPM 11-1, Graduate Programs

Provost Krovi discussed PPM 11-1, Graduate Programs, which lists guidelines for starting a graduate program while completing an undergrad program.

ACTION: On a motion to approve PPM 11-1, Graduate Programs made by Ms. Louenda Downs, with a second by Mr. Ben Ferney, the motion was unanimously approved.

d. Program Review – Master of Criminal Justice

Provost Krovi discussed the Master of Criminal Justice program review, which went very well. Recommendations include establishing an advisory board to see how the program fits the industry needs.

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Master of Criminal Justice program review made by Ms. Kearston Cutrbus, with a second by Mr. Ben Ferney, the motion was unanimously approved.

e. Appointments

- 1. Department Chairs**
- 2. Emeritus Faculty**

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Department Chairs and Emeritus Faculty Recommendations made by Ms. Louenda Downs, with a second by Ms. Kearston Cutrbus, the motion was unanimously approved.

f. Fiscal Year 2022-23 Course Fee Proposals

Provost Krovi discussed the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Course Fee Proposals. Recommendations came through research and explanation of the purpose of fees for courses. Descriptions will be added in banner as transparency to students is important. Provost Krovi is proposing a review every 3 years.

ACTION: On a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Course Fee Proposals made by Ms. Kearston Cutrbus, with a second by Mr. Ben Ferney, the motion was unanimously approved.

g. Information Items

- 1. Information items included the Academic Policy Committee meeting minutes from January 25, 2022, which were approved.**

Other

Trustee Keith Titus commented that the extra days given to review the packet were appreciated.

Adjourn

With no other business or items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 am.