



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

March 21, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

Miller Administration Betty Hess Lampros Boardroom 321  
3850 Dixon Parkway, Ogden, UT 84408 | Hybrid Meeting

### **Trustee Members:**

Ms. Kearston Cutrubus (Chair)  
Ms. Karla Bergeson (Vice Chair)  
Mr. Brent Bishop  
Ms. Amanda Covington  
Ms. Louenda Downs  
Ms. Karen Fairbanks  
Mr. Rob Higginson  
Ms. Ashley Potokar  
Mr. Keith Titus  
Mr. Don Salazar

### **Weber State University Representatives:**

Dr. Brad Mortensen, President  
Dr. Ravi Krovi, Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Dr. Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement  
Dr. Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Affairs  
Dr. Jeff Hurst, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs  
Ms. Stephanie Hollist, General Counsel  
Ms. Sherri Cox, Executive Assistant and Board Secretary  
Mr. Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Ms. Aubrey Lord, Staff Advisory Council Chair, Administrative Associate  
Mr. Jason Francis, Faculty Senate Chair, Assoc. Professor/Health Sciences Librarian (via Zoom)

Mr. John Kowalewski, Executive Director, Marketing and Communications

Dr. Deborah Uman, Dean, Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities

Mr. Steve Nabor, Senior Associate Vice President/CFO/Economic Development

Dr. Dave Ferro, Dean, College of Engineering, Applied Science and Technology

Mr. James Taylor, Executive Director of Innovation, Commercialization, SPR

Mr. Brandon Stoddard, Instructor/Director, Hall Global Entrepreneurship Center

Ms. Hillary Wallace, Creative Director, Wildcat Marketing (via Zoom)

**Excused:**

Ms. Adrienne Andrews, Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion & Chief Diversity Officer

Dr. Bret Ellis, Vice President for Information Technology

**Public Attendees:**

Dr. Julie Hartley, Utah Board of Higher Education, Associate Commissioner of Academic Education

**Press:**

No press were present

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:47 a.m. by Vice Chair Karla Bergeson who 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 proceeded with the meeting agenda.

**Full Board Agenda Items**

**Meeting Minutes Approval:**

- a. **February 2, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Meeting minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on November 17, 2022, were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.
- b. **February 28, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting**  
Meeting minutes from the Executive Committee meeting on February 28, 2023, were reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

***ACTION:*** Upon a motion by Trustee Louenda Downs to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting, and the February 28, 2023, Executive Committee meeting, with a second by Trustee Amanda Covington, the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Vice President Screening Committee Trustee:**

Chair Kearston Cutrubs discussed the need for a trustee to participate on the screening committee for the Vice President of Student Access and Success position as per PPM 1-5b. Trustee Rob Higginson has been nominated by the chair of the trustees to be approved to fill this role.

***ACTION:*** Upon a motion by Trustee Don Salazar to appoint Trustee Rob Higginson to serve on the search committee for the Vice President of Student Access and Success position, with a second by Trustee Brent Bishop, the motion passed unanimously.

**Revised Weber State 2022-2023 USHE Performance Indicators:**

President Brad Mortensen discussed the revised Weber State 2022-2023 USHE performance indicators. The indicators are to be used in the performance funding formula in the 2024 legislative session to determine our potential funding allocations. After collecting data from performance indicators for the 2021-22 fiscal year, USHE determined that Weber State's

performance exceeded the goals for the 2022-23 current year's indicators for percentage of high yield awards and timely completion metrics. USHE has recommended that we revise our 2022-23 performance indicators to be higher than the levels reached in 2021-22 and to implement into our five-year strategic plan performance indicators of timely completion at 36.75% and 80.3% for high yield awards. Final action on this will be taken by the Utah Board of Higher Education at their meeting on March 24, 2023.

***ACTION:*** Upon a motion to approve the revised Weber State 2022-2023 USHE performance indicators by Chair Kearston Cutrbus with a second by Trustee Keith Titus, the motion was approved.

### **Information**

#### **College Liaison Report:**

Trustee Keith Titus, serving as a liaison to the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities, gave a brief report and introduced Dr. Deborah Uman, Dean of the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities. Dean Uman gave a review of the college including the addition of new staff and faculty, faculty awards, student achievements and upcoming performances. College highlights were shared, along with a revised mission statement. Trustees were encouraged to attend events at the Browning Center. Trustees can assist the college by sharing a message about the value of arts degrees in the world. Trustee Titus stressed that “as soon as we as a civilization discontinue focusing on the arts and humanities, it signals a degradation of our society. STEM is important but STEM doesn't touch our souls. Something in the arts and humanities is that connection to our humanness. We as an institution owe it to this college to continue to support it for what it does for our civilization as a whole. STEM is important. It certainly moves us forward with regards to innovation, but it doesn't really lift our souls.”

#### **Special Topic – Economic Engagement and Network for Innovation and Community Engagement (NICE) Update:**

Mr. Steve Nabor, Dean Dave Ferro, and Mr. James Taylor discussed the major elements in economic engagement and the Network for Innovation and Community Engagement (NICE) over the past year. There are two target areas in the AMPLIFIED Strategic Plan for economic development, (a) the entrepreneurial ecosystem and (b) the defense/aerospace ecosystem. There is a program in place to do an assessment for Davis and Weber counties

addressing the strengths and gaps in their ecosystems. The Rosie Project was discussed along with educational partnerships between WSU, HAFB, and other local companies.

**Faculty Presentation – Goddard School of Business & Economics:**

Mr. Brandon Stoddard gave a faculty presentation on the “Wildcat MicroFund”. His presentation included information about the entrepreneurial program offered to entrepreneurs to assist with launching, building, and growing their business ideas to move their businesses forward. Funded by grant money, this program is making a positive impact on the community and economy.

**Weber State University Reports**

**President’s Report:**

President Mortensen acknowledged the new format for the president’s report which is now being formatted by Marketing and Communications. President Mortensen talked about the legislative review summary and funding concerns. No approval is needed by the trustees for tuition rates due to the tuition freeze issued by Governor Cox. The president also acknowledged the new gateway monuments being built at the entrances to campus.

**Alumni Association Report:**

Trustee Rob Higginson discussed the Alumni Association report and the introduction of alumni to the new Computer and Engineering building at Davis campus. The WSU alumni golf tournament will be held this summer to help support scholarships and promote WSU.

**Staff Advisory Council Report:**

The Staff Advisory Council (SAC) report was reviewed in the packet without discussion.

**WSUSA Report:**

Trustee Ashley Potokar shared a brief report on WSUSA events and shared that she will continue in her role as WSUSA president following recent election results. She is excited about the new cabinet she will work with during the 2023-24 school year.

**Upcoming Events:**

Upcoming events were reviewed without discussion.

## 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 proposed the following action items:

**a. Program Name Changes:**

Provost Krovi discussed the following program name changes which included reflecting what is commonly accepted in industry trends and terminology, the type of students in the programs, and better-capturing program outcomes.

1. **Apprenticeship (AAS) to Construction Apprenticeship (AAS)**
2. **Network Management Technology (Minor) to Cybersecurity and Network Management (Minor)**
3. **Network Management Technology (AAS) to Cybersecurity and Network Management (AAS)**

4. **Network Management Technology (BS) to Cybersecurity and Network Management (BS)**

5. **Nurse Executive Graduate Certificate to Leadership & Management Graduate Certificate**

Nurse Executive Graduate Certificate to Leadership & Management Graduate Certificate is missing the word “nurse” in the new title and needs to be added.

6. **Doctor of Nurse Practice (DNP): Leadership Emphasis to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Executive Leadership Program Emphasis**

This program has two tracts that reflect the type of work students are prepared for. DNP has 87 majors and is a large program with high student demand.

**b. Program Changes:**

Provost Krovi discussed the following program changes:

1. **Diagnostic Medical Sonography (BS)**

The change in this program is removing the vascular emphasis and replacing it with the cardiovascular emphasis. This will allow students to do more clinicals at hospitals and clinics.

2. **Queer Studies**

This program is being transferred from the provost’s office to the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences with no administrative changes.

**3. Women & Gender Studies**

This program is being transferred from the provost's office to the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences with no administrative changes.

***ACTION:*** Upon a motion by Trustee Brent Bishop to approve the six program name changes, pending the addition of the word nurse to item 5, Nurse Executive Graduate Certificate to Leadership & Management Graduate Certificate, and the three program changes, with a second by Trustee Karen Fairbanks, the motion passed unanimously.

**c. New Certificates of Proficiency:**

Provost Krovi discussed the following program changes:

**1. Arizona Limited Practical Technologist in Radiology (PTR)**

This specialty program is being conducted to meet the shortage of technologists in Arizona driven by market demands. WSU will send instructors to Arizona to teach the program.

**2. Cardiology Technician**

There are new courses in this program that stack into the AS degree. This program has high market demand and equipment is being gifted in kind from IHC.

**3. Ethics**

This certificate is focused on critical thinking and incorporates philosophy, political science, criminal justice, and cyber ethics in the courses.

**4. Product Design and Development**

The Product Design and Development Certificate of Proficiency is less intensive than the minor at only 15 credits which will help with student success.

**5. Therapeutic Dance**

This certificate is 27 credits with high market demand. Therapeutic dance is designed for cognitive benefits and the aging population.

**d. New Emphases:**

Provost Krovi discussed four new emphases in graduate programs.

**1. M.Ed. Educational Technology**

This emphasis will teach new technology, developing apps and data science for tech-savvy students.

2. **M.Ed. Inclusive Early Childhood Education and Care**  
This emphasis will focus on early childhood teachers, children and families from a diversity of backgrounds, and connects well with eHSI.
3. **M.Ed. Sport Coaching Leadership**  
This emphasis teaches development of leadership in coaches of all ranks, including awareness, ethics, etc.
4. **Master of Arts in English: English Education**  
This emphasis focuses on how to teach the English language and will assist teachers with English literature instruction in high schools.

e. **New Minors:**

1. **Product Design & Development**  
The Product Design and Development Minor uses courses from the product design and development major and is more computer-intensive rather than math intensive.
2. **Middle School Mathematics Teaching**  
The Middle School Mathematics Teaching Minor is designed for teacher certification for math instruction and is an endorsement for education majors.

***ACTION:*** Upon a motion by Trustee Covington to approve the five new certificates of proficiency, four new emphases, (with a caveat for Provost Krovi to share measurements next year), and two new minors, with a second by Trustee Downs, the motion passed unanimously.

f. **New Graduate Certificates:**

1. **Occupational Health Nursing**  
This is a 15-credit certificate that originated from the Rocky Mountain Occupational Center for Environmental Health agreement. WSU is adding the undergraduate programs needed with equally divided courses between the UofU and WSU. It is a nice collaboration of shared resources with scholarship money available to assist students. The certificate will be awarded by Weber State University.
2. **Advanced Pediatric Imaging**  
This course teaches how to use equipment specifically for younger patients with unique issues for imaging or ultrasound.



**g. New Administrative Unit – Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning**

This replaces our existing teaching and learning forum. The focus of the center is on pedagogy and onboarding of new faculty, and the development of communities of practice. It expands teaching and learning opportunities.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion by Trustee Downs to approve the new graduate certificates and the new administrative unit – Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, (with a caveat that information listing markers for success be shared) with a second by Trustee Bishop, the motion passed unanimously.

**h. Program Reviews:**

Provost Krovi discussed two program reviews including data, funding, and cost information. The state board will play a bigger role in the program review process.

**1. Manufacturing Engineering Technology**

The Manufacturing Engineering Technology program review was initiated through an accreditation process. More clarity is being provided for classes needed, and more documentation in CatTracks has been implemented.

**2. Mechanical Engineering Technology**

The Mechanical Engineering Technology program is not as math intensive as the Engineering Technology program. The review showed that despite having 100+ majors, enrollment has been declining over the years. The challenge is the viability of the program and how it differs from the regular manufacturing program. Integration of a capstone experience has been discussed.

**i. Course Fees:**

Provost Krovi discussed course fees and shared documentation from all the colleges showing the net increase of revenue of course fees, which has been reviewed by a course fee committee of stakeholders from campus, colleges, and students.

**j. Department Chair Recommendations:**

Department chair recommendations included five new department chairs with the remaining faculty continuing.

**k. Emeritus Faculty Recommendations:**

Faculty were presented for emeritus status. Paul Crow was left out last year and has been added to this list.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion to approve the program reviews, course fees, department chair recommendations and emeritus faculty recommendations by Trustee Downs with a second by Trustee Higginson, the motion passed unanimously.

**1. Information Items:**

**1. Academic Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – February 2, 2023**

**Business Committee**

**ACTION Items: Trustee Don Salazar**

Trustee Don Salazar, chair of the Business Committee, thanked Trustee Bishop for starting the Business Committee meeting on his behalf. He recommended that the water conservation report be shared with the trustees. He then turned the time to Vice President Norm Tarbox, who reviewed the following action items:

**a. Action Items:**

- 1. Financial Reports (December, 2022 and January, 2023)**
- 2. Quarterly Audit Report**
- 3. Quarterly Investment Report**

Vice President Tarbox discussed the facilities use policies that are related to minors on campus to help the university manage events.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion by Trustee Higginson to approve the three action items, financial reports, quarterly audit report and quarterly investment report, with a second by Trustee Salazar, the motion passed unanimously. Trustee Bishop commended Vice President Tarbox and his team on the fine job they do.

Trustee Salazar presented the following consent calendar items for approval:

**b. Consent Calendar Items:**

1. **Monthly Investment Reports (December, 2022 and January, 2023)**
2. **Personnel Reports (January and February, 2023)**
4. **Early Retirement**

*ACTION:* Upon a motion by Chair Cutrbus to approve the Consent Calendar items, with a second by Trustee Salazar, the motion was approved.

**c. Information Items:**

1. **Business Committee Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2022**
2. **Water Conservation on Campus**
3. **WSU Financial Composite Index**

Information items were reviewed without any discussion.

**Announcements / Observations / Questions:**

- a. President Mortensen welcomed and acknowledged the attendance of Dr. Julie Hartley, Associate Commissioner of Academic Education for the Utah Board of Higher Education.

**Adjourn**

Without any further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.