



PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 2, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Zoom

PRESENT:

Dr. Brad Mortensen, President

Dr. Ravi Krovi, Provost

Dr. Bret Ellis, Vice President for Information Technology

Dr. Brett Perozzi, Vice President for Student Affairs

Ms. Adrienne Andrews, Vice President of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (via Zoom)

Ms. Sherri Cox, Executive Assistant

Mr. Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Dr. Laine Berghout, Faculty Senate Chair/Professor/Chemistry

Dr. Gail Niklason, Staff Advisory Council Chair (via Zoom)

Ms. Stephanie Hollist, Deputy General Counsel

Mr. Steve Nabor, Senior Associate Vice President for Financial Services and CFO

EXCUSED:

Dr. Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement

Dr. Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Brad Mortensen, who welcomed all in attendance.

Agenda Items**Legislative Update**

President Mortensen gave a legislative update on the funding approved by the Appropriations Committee. A 5.75% salary increase was approved for labor market and a performance-based increase for employees. WSU is working through the details on how to roll the increase out to employees. Discussion included the living wage and a percentage vs. dollar amount for employees. The tuition situation still needs to be reconciled. WSU anticipates receiving the following: (a) Performance funding - \$3 million (b) Enrollment growth - \$400,000 (c) Engineering Initiative – a portion of the \$5 million for USHE (d) Health Professions – a portion of the \$2 million for USHE (e) Full funding for the renovation of the McKay Education Building - \$27 million. (f) The legislature is appropriating \$20 million to WSU to partner with Ogden City and Catalyst Campus out of Colorado to build a secure defense tech facility in downtown Ogden. After brief discussion, President's Council agreed it would be better to hold the Legislative Update virtual rather than a hybrid meeting.

Meeting Minutes Approval (February 4, 2022):

Meeting minutes from February 4, 2022, were reviewed by the President's Council. The minutes were approved.

SAC Elections:

Vice President Brett Perozzi turned time to Gail Niklason to discuss upcoming SAC Elections. An information meeting will be held March 7. There are openings available in every area but IT this year. A recommendation is needed from the Vice President of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for a staff member to serve on SAC.

Early Retirement Request:

Steve Nabor presented an early retirement request for approval by President's Council for Brent Coleman. Questions about early retirement funding from E&G accounts for non-E&G positions came up. Discussion included reasons this is difficult. Ideas may be researched for having funds set aside to cover early retirement costs for non-E&G positions moving forward.

Approval: The Early Retirement Request for Brent Coleman was approved to move to the Board of Trustees.

* It was noted that Provost Ravi Krovi started his meeting business at 10:30 a.m.

Program Reactivation:

Provost Krovi discussed the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences program that

has been deactivated and is now being reactivated as a minor in Naval Science. This program is supported off-campus by the University of Utah.

Program Name Changes:

Provost Krovi discussed two program name changes from the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities and recommended approval:

1. French for Translation & Global Industry (BA).
2. Photography/Video Emphasis, Art (BFA)

Program Discontinuation

Provost Krovi discussed and recommend the discontinuance of the AAS Electrical Engineering Technology program as demand has decreased for the program.

Organizational Changes

Provost Krovi discussed organizational changes for moving the Electronic Engineering Technology (BS) program to the Noorda Interdisciplinary Center. The undergraduate degree program has not been doing well, but courses are still needed for other programs. Electronic Engineering Technology (BS) is moving to a new area in the Noorda Interdisciplinary Center to house the program.

Certificates of Proficiency

Provost Krovi discussed two certificates of proficiency from the College of Engineering, Applied Sciences & Technology with a request for approval:

1. Advanced Hybrid & Electric Vehicle
2. Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Maintenance.

Emphases

Provost Krovi discussed three emphases with a request for approval from the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities:

1. Communication (BA) Social Media and Data Analytics
2. Communication (BS) Social Media and Data Analytics
3. Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts: Generalist, Acting/Directing, Design/Technical Management

Approval: The previous agenda items, Program Reactivation, Program Name Changes, Program Discontinuance, Organizational Changes, Certificates of Proficiency, and Emphases were approved to move to the Board of Trustees.

New Programs

Provost Krovi discussed two new programs:

1. Biomedical Engineering is a new B.S. degree and has more diversity than other programs. Courses and faculty are already in place for the new program. The design of this Biomedical Engineering fills a gap in the state. Utah State University and the University of Utah programs are focused on biological engineering. WSU's program is engineering-based with some

- biology included and still meets ABET accreditation standards.
2. Master of Science in Data Science connects the College of Science, the College of Engineering, Applied Sciences & Technology, the College of Arts & Humanities, and Dumke College of Health Professions. It incorporates skills and competencies needed for data mining. The goal is to use the deep tech funding received from the legislative appropriation to work with colleges to develop an MOU to prevent intermingling and include assessment instructions.

Approval: The two new programs, B.S. in Biomedical Engineering and Master of Science in Data Science were approved and will move to the April or May Board of Trustees meeting pending completion of peer reviews facilitated by USHE.

Minor

Provost Krovi discussed a new minor in Screenwriting from the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities. The program presents an opportunity for improving employment possibilities.

Post Baccalaureate Certificates

Provost Krovi discussed three post baccalaureate certificates:

1. Computational Data Science & Machine Learning
2. Regulatory Affairs is a 24-hour credit certificate targeted to healthcare and pharmaceutical device development. The department is giving the program a try for three years to see how it does at attracting enrollment.
3. The Taxation program by the Goddard School of Business & Economics is a 15 credit taxation certificate targeting professionals that need additional accreditation. The course may benefit students, lawyers, or attorneys who need education about new tax codes.

MCJ Program Review

Provost Krovi discussed the Master of Criminal Justice program review, which went very well. The program consists of 7-8 faculty and 49 students. Recommendations included establishing an advisory board to see how the program fits industry needs. New faculty would strengthen the program, however, hiring is an issue. A seven-year review period was suggested.

Emeritus Faculty Requests

Provost Krovi discussed two Emeritus Faculty Requests. Qualifications include approval by your department. Emeritus status grants faculty the ability to continue their affiliation to the university.

Department Chair Recommendations

Provost Krovi discussed Department Chair Recommendations. Three recommendations are from the College of Science: (a) Michele Culumber - Department of Microbiology (b) Ron Meyers - Department of Zoology,

and (c) Sandra Fital-Akelbek - Department of Mathematics. Two recommendations are from the College of Engineering, Applied Sciences & Technology: (a) Jessica Slater – Automotive Technology, and (b) Rick Orr – Manufacturing & Systems Engineering.

Approval: The previous agenda items, Screenwriting Minor, Post Baccalaureate Certificates, MCJ Program Review, Emeritus Faculty Requests and Department Chair Recommendations were approved to move to the Board of Trustees.

*It was noted that Provost Krovi's agenda items took 42 minutes of the meeting time.

Policies and Procedures

The following Policies and Procedures were discussed and recommended for Approval by Bret Ellis (PPM 10-2), Steve Nabor, and Stephanie Hollist:

- 1. PPM 10-2, Acceptable Use Policy.** Bret Ellis discussed that this is an update of the policy as we are complying with the Utah Board of Higher Education's policy.
- 2. PPM 3-9, Alternate Work Arrangements.** Steve Nabor and Stephanie Hollist discussed the remaining policies. PPM 3-9 is a new policy that outlines the format to set up arrangements for working remotely since COVID-19. Eligibility criteria are listed. Discussion included questions on sections 5.2, 5.4, and 5.6.

*It was noted that Steve Nabor praised the Policy Office on the policy on policies program which allows the policies to be updated and changed much better and more efficiently.

- 3. PPM 3-15, Abusive Conduct and Respectful Work Conditions.** The definition of abusive content is given in this policy. Questions were discussed as to whether or not adding electronic methods of abuse are necessary. Clarification will be added to the policy to address this.
- 4. PPM 3-40, Retirement Programs.** Non-substantive changes to the wording were made.
- 5. PPM 3-68, Released Wellness Time Guidelines.**
- 6. PPM 3-31, Staff Grievances.** Clarifications in this policy were made, including pulling older data to streamline the processes making it easier to follow and reflect the new law when the state law goes into effect May 5, 2022.

Approval: The six Policies and Procedures were approved to move to the Board of Trustees pending non-substantive adjustments.

Board of Trustees Draft Agenda – March 22, 2022

President Mortensen discussed the Board of Trustees Draft Agenda for the March 22, 2022, meeting. The following changes need to be made:

- 1. Tuition and Fees Rates for FY22** needs to be added in Action Items #1 following

- the meeting minutes.
2. Course Fees will need to be added to section xiii.
 3. Department Chair Appointment needs to have an “s” added to it as there are more than one being recommended.
 4. The PPMs approved today will need to be added to the agenda under the Business Committee section.
 5. PPM 1-13 needs to be removed for additional editing.

Upcoming Events:

Upcoming events were provided for reference in the packet without discussion.

Other:

No other items were discussed during President’s Council

Adjournment:

Without any further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.