

Minutes
PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
August 4, 2021
9:00 am MA 319 and Zoom

PRESENT:

Dr. Brad Mortensen, President

Dr. Ravi Krovi, Provost

Dr. Bret Ellis, Vice President for Information Technology

Dr. Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement

Dr. Brett Perozzi, Vice President for Student Affairs

Ms. Adrienne Andrews, Assistant Vice President for Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer

Ms. Sherri Cox, Executive Assistant to the President

Dr. Laine Berghout, Professor/Chair/Chemistry

Dr. Gail Niklason, Staff Advisory Council Chair

Mr. Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Ms. Stephanie Hollist, Deputy General Counsel

Mr. Rich Hill, General Counsel

Ms. Amy Hajdas, Marketing Strategist, Marketing and Communications

Mr. John Kowalewski, Executive Director, Marketing and Communications

Mr. Dane LeBlanc, Director of Public Safety

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

Mr. Ron Smith, Director, Accounting Services, Controller

Mr. Jed Spencer, Executive Director, Financial Aid Scholarships

Mr. Matt Zacher, Creative Director, Marketing and Communications

EXCUSED:

Dr. Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Services

Meeting Minutes
Approval (July 7, 2021)

Strategic Plan Name and
Branding

Northern Utah Venture
Fund Intergovernmental
Agreement

1. The meeting convened at 8:59 a.m. President Brad Mortensen welcomed attendees
2. Meeting minutes from the July 7, 2021, meeting were approved.
3. Vice President Betsy Mennell, John Kowalewski, Amy Hajdas, and new creative director Matt Zacher discussed the new strategic plan name and branding. “AMPLIFIED A 5-year Plan For Growth” was introduced as the new name with the expectation that it will be memorable for stakeholders and campus alike. The process involved developing three different names, and was then narrowed down to this final concept. The committee felt that it encompasses all the elements of the strategic plan and that people will relate to and like it. The mountain imagery reflects the university’s marketing and branding focus. Departments can use it in their marketing. There are icons associated with five different task force areas. This will be introduced to the trustees at their Planning Retreat Orientation Meeting on Monday, Aug. 9, and at the Back to School Breakfast on Aug. 23.

Rich Hill discussed the Northern Utah Venture Fund Intergovernmental Agreement, which was designed to assist startup businesses with second layer funding where they need additional assistance. It is unique to Utah as no one has done this in the state before through an intergovernmental agreement. It will be a cooperative effort between Weber State University, Weber County, Davis County Council of Governments, Ogden City, Ogden-Weber Technical College, and Davis Technical College, who have joined together and signed an interlocal agreement to supply funding through investor funding and grants. The WSU MBA program will be evaluating potential companies for investors to recommend. A Northern Utah Development Foundation, a governmental non-profit corporation, will be established, which is a public organization. The Attorney General’s office will provide counsel for this organization and an outside professional will likely be hired to manage the fund. This is separate from the university’s financial system and not a part of the legal reporting entity to the university. Partnering entities are all submitting a one-time \$25,000 capital contribution as a startup.

Approval

The Board of Trustees approved this in concept earlier. Legal Counsel is now ready to move this forward to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Approval was given to move the Northern Utah Venture Fund Intergovernmental Agreement forward.

HEERF Allocations

4. Jed Spencer discussed fall enrollment and the HEERF CARES funding disbursements going directly to students. The allocations model is based on expected family contribution (EFC), or a proxy for that based on the alternative financial needs analysis students can complete. The model being used was described in detail according to the financial needs of the student and the credit hours taken. A disbursement schedule was outlined, along with an adjustments schedule. Those requesting additional funding will be asked to supply tax returns. One of the requirements is that funding must be given to the most needy students. This would include those that qualify for Pell Grants, or their EFC is lower than the costs of tuition, fees, housing, and supplies, etc. Students taking 1 credit will qualify for funding.

Approval

The HEERF allocations model was approved.

Vaccination Incentives

5. Steve Nabor, Dane LeBlanc, and Ron Smith discussed vaccination incentive ideas. A requirement for receiving funds from HEERF III includes supporting the efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. Different incentive options were discussed, including: \$100 gift card for unvaccinated students who receive the vaccine, parking passes, and food awards. Other ideas discussed included a prize drawing for all students who were previously vaccinated. There would be many logistics to consider if an incentive were to be put in place. It was decided additional discussion would be needed.

Dane Leblanc discussed working with Weber-Morgan Heath Department in organizing vaccination clinics which will be run on several dates in August and through student orientation. Between dates of vaccinations, symptomatic testing will also be offered. USHE is asking us to continue this testing, contact tracing, and do what we can to promote student vaccinations. After Sept. 1, symptomatic testing and vaccinations will be run out of the student health center. Non-asymptomatic testing will

not be offered, as that needs to be done through local health providers. Communication needs to go out to notify those who have received the first shot they can come get a second, even if it has been a few months since their first. Faculty, staff, and community will be offered vaccinations as well. Discussion included working with Davis Health Department to coordinate for Davis Campus and NUAMES students. Communication methods were discussed including A-frames around campus, and digital messages.

ICAR (Sparrow Hawk)
Demolition Fund

6. Steve Nabor discussed an ICAR (Sparrow Hawk building) demolition fund. Money is in place for a demolition fund for the building as it deteriorates as part of the 50-year land lease. A quasi-endowment needs to be established for this. Approval is being sought for the quasi-endowment establishment. Interest of investment needs to be left for demolition of the building, There are still a few details to work through regarding boundaries, etc. There is \$244,000 in the fund.

Approval

The establishment of a quasi-endowment for the ICAR (Sparrow Hawk building) Demolition Fund with a starting balance of \$244,000 was approved.

USHE Performance
Metrics

7. President Mortensen discussed USHE Performance Metrics. USHE has asked us to adopt six areas that tie into the strategic plan and statewide attainment goals. Chaz Steimel and his team have analyzed data and proposed some goals to approve for Weber State. WSU's growth rates differ slightly than state-wide growth rates. We have adopted USHE's goals for 2a and 2b on the chart and are offering reasonable alternate goals for other categories as we still need growth to meet the system's goals.

Approval

USHE Performance Metrics goals were approved to move to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Department Chair
Recommendation

8. Ravi Krovi proposed a Department Chair recommendation for Molly Sween, who received votes and recommendation for a 3-year appointment by the dean and provost.

Approval

The Department Chair recommendation of Molly Sween was approved to move to the Board of Trustees for approval.

PPM 9-5, Faculty Responsibilities to Students

9. Provost Krovi discussed changes to PPM 9-5, Faculty Responsibilities to Students, including addition and clarification of office hours for face to face or virtual meetings, and addresses and clarifies response time to students in the syllabus. Messaging may need to be included about incomplete grades which will be addressed at faculty orientation.

Approval

PPM 9-5, Faculty Responsibilities to Students was approved to move to the September Board of Trustees meeting for approval.

Board of Trustees Agenda

10. President Mortensen discussed the Board of Trustees agenda for the August 9 Planning Retreat Orientation Meeting. Stephanie Hollist will draft a script for the Nomination Committee business. For the special discussion topics to consider, Brett Perozzi will condense his list, and retention and completion will be added to Academic Affairs list.

Other

11. Other items for discussion by the President's Council included:
 - a. Brett Perozzi learned that the Talent Search Trio Grant was not reappointed. This affects over 500 students. This program has been at WSU for around 15 years. Institutional decisions will need to be made on how to proceed.

Upcoming Events

12. Upcoming Events were included in the packet without Discussion.

Meeting Adjourn

13. Without any further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.