

Minutes  
Weber State University  
Board of Trustees  
February 3, 2015

**Trustee Members:**

Ms. Louenda Downs  
Mr. Joseph Favero  
Mr. Alan E. Hall, Chair  
Mr. Nolan Karras  
Mr. Andre Lortz  
Mr. Scott Parson  
Dr. Jeff Stephens  
Mr. Kevin Sullivan, Vice Chair

**Excused:**

Ms. Karen Fairbanks  
Mr. Steve Starks

**Weber State University Officials:**

Dr. Charles A. Wight, President  
Dr. Norm Tarbox, VP for Administrative Services  
Dr. Mike Vaughan, Provost  
Dr. Brad Mortensen, VP for University Advancement  
Dr. Jan Winniford, VP for Student Affairs  
Dr. Bret Ellis, VP for Information Technology  
Dr. David Ferro, Dean, College of Engineering, Applied Science and Technology  
Dr. Craig Oberg, Faculty Senate Chair  
Dr. Eric Amsel, Faculty Senate Vice Chair  
Mr. John Kowalewski, Executive Director, University Communications  
Ms. Debbi Murphy, Chair, Staff Advisory Committee  
Ms. JoAnne Robinson, Executive Assistant, President's Office

**Press Present:**

Ms. Becky Wright, Standard Examiner

Welcome

- I. Meeting convened at 9:30 a.m.
- II. Chair Alan Hall welcomed those present.

Minutes

- III. 

On a motion by Scott Parson and seconded by Jeff Stephens, the minutes of the December 2, 2014, Board of Trustees meeting were approved unanimously
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On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Kevin Sullivan, the minutes of the December 2, 2014, Business Committee and the Personnel and Academic Policy Committee were ratified unanimously.
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President's Report

- IV. President's Report - President Wight gave a report covering the following items:

(2015 Carnegie  
Community  
Engagement  
Classification)

- 1. Weber State University has received the esteemed 2015 Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The distinction is an acknowledgment of WSU's longstanding commitment to the greater Ogden community, the region, the state and the world as well as its dedication to teaching students through community-engaged learning.

(Week of Service)

- 2. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Weber State University hosted *WSU Remembers: MLK Week of Service*, a week of community service in Ogden and surrounding areas. The week was hosted by the Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL).

(Martin Luther King Human Rights Commission)

3. Governor Gary Herbert appointed WSU's assistant to the president for diversity, Adrienne Andrews, to serve on Utah's Martin Luther King Human Rights Commission, a group dedicated to a conscious effort of promoting diversity, equity and human rights.

(WSU Professor Selected as Director of Sigma XI)

4. Zoology professor Jonathan Clark has been selected to a three-year term as director of the Northwest Region of Sigma XI, the scientific research society.

(Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival)

5. The WSU production of *Wit*, written by Margaret Edison and directed by WSU performing arts professor Tracy Callahan, has been invited to the regional Kennedy Center American Collegiate Theatre Festival in Los Angeles in February.

(Utah Nurses Association Honors WSU Professor)

6. The Utah Nurses Association honored Susan Thornock, School of Nursing chair, with the Centennial Award for Established Nurse Leader at their annual convention.

(Fire-Training Maze)

7. The South Davis Metro Fire Agency has a new state-of-the-art fire-training maze thanks to Weber State University engineering technology students. A team of students designed the maze and obstacles as a senior project.

(Multicultural Youth Conference)

8. Weber State University's 20<sup>th</sup> annual Multicultural Youth Conference drew hundreds of under-represented students, from grades nine to 12 in January. Workshops focused on skills needed for college success, including financial literacy and planning, writing for scholarships, student leadership in college, cultural diversity and community involvement.

(LGBT Resource Center)

9. The new LGBT Resource Center opened on January 27. The center will offer training for students, faculty and community members to help people better understand the LGBT community and its unique challenges and terminology.

(15<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Music Festival)

10. The Center for Diversity and Unity held the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Music Festival "Make a Joyful Noise - Food for the Soul," on January 26, serving more than 1000 guests in the Val A. Browning Center for Performing Arts.

WSUSA President's Report

(Legislative Session)

(Convocations)

(Student Elections)

(Student Fees Recommendation Committee)

(Crystal Crest Awards)

(Martin Luther King, Jr. Week)

Alumni President's Report

(Membership)

(Emeriti)

The detailed report is attached to these minutes.

V. President Joseph Favero gave a report covering the following topics:

1. Student leaders across Weber State campus and the State of Utah are preparing to attend a number of events on Capitol Hill during this year's Legislative Session. Senator Urquhart and Representative Grover will be presenting a resolution that they have co-sponsored on the topic of tuition.
2. The grandson of Nelson Mandela, Ndaba Mandela, will be coming to speak as part of the WSUSA Convocations on Tuesday, February 10.
3. Gearing up for Student Elections beginning in March has sent an exciting surge of energy across the student association.
4. Presentations to the Student Fees Recommendation Committee officially kicked off this past week, promising many long discussions to come.
5. Nominations for Weber State's Crystal Crest Awards are currently being accepted up until February 11.
6. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week was a big success for areas of both Diversity and Community Engagement.

The detailed report is attached to these minutes.

VI. President Andre Lortz gave a report covering the following topics:

1. The December Dowdle unveiling event was spectacular. With over 250 people in attendance the atmosphere was one of great excitement. A program with artist Eric Dowdle was the highlight of the night. He spoke of his great respect and admiration of Weber State University.
2. The Emeriti Alumni Council helped welcome students back to the Spring 2015 semester by answering questions and providing directions at various locations

(Weber Historical Society)

on the Ogden campus. Volunteers from the Emeriti Alumni Council assisted the Community Involvement Center reorganizing the Weber Cares food pantry used by WSU students.

3. The Weber Historical Society presented “The ABC Television Network”. WSU faculty member, Tracey D. Smith is writing the official history of the ABC Television Network.

(Student Alumni Association)

4. One of our best student crowds this year for a men’s basketball game was on January 26. There were over 60 students and guests that attended the dinner prior to the game. They all did a fantastic job cheering at the game and plan to continue their efforts.

The detailed report is attached to these minutes.

Faculty Report

- VII. Dr. Craig Oberg, Chair of Faculty Senate, gave a report outlining major concerns currently being addressed by Faculty Senate.

1. Faculty Compensation: To compensate relatively lower salaries paid to WSU faculty compared to faculty in sister USHE institutions (notably UVU), faculty senate and administration agreed a few years ago to increase faculty pay after successful tenure and promotion decisions. But this excluded more senior faculty from such performance-based increases.
2. Academic freedom and student due process: Faculty are concerned that their academic freedom to run classes as they see fit is being undermined by overly complicated and unnecessary procedures for students to complain and exercise their due process rights.
3. Inconsistencies in policies and practices across colleges: Although acknowledging that different colleges may have unique policies and practices, those that are university wide should be implemented consistently according to best practices.

4. Concerns about Developmental Mathematics: Faculty want input on the curriculum and rigor of the program. Some are concerned the program is insufficient to prepare students for the demands of some majors and some are concerned the program is too demanding, resulting in a hurdle to graduation.
5. Concerns about General Education: Faculty are concerned that the General Education program is too large and ineffective in its mission

Scott Parson asked about the Developmental Math program concerns. Dr. Eric Amsel explained that the Board of Regents is looking at this issue, but the students generally don't show a lot of learning. We seem to be giving them the same experience where they failed to learn in high school. There is an opportunity to look at this challenge. Dr. Oberg added that options are being explored, like flipped classes and alternative pathways for students who don't need the same math.

Louenda Downs asked for more information on the academic freedom problem. Dr. Amsel explained how long the fundamental due process claim period can currently be extended.

Dr. Oberg stated that some majors need specific major-created general education requirements.

Chair Alan Hall asked if faculty talks to employers to ask what key things students need to satisfy employers. Dr. Amsel replied that those type of questions are included in interdisciplinary discussions and work groups. They understand that good general education generally turns into good employees.

Scott Parson encouraged faculty to foster learning agility.

The detailed report is attached to these minutes.

Committee Reports  
Business Committee)

- VIII. Business Committee - Scott Parson outlined the following matters discussed and acted upon during today's Business Committee meeting: (For a detailed report of actions taken,

see the attached Business Committee minutes for February 3, 2015.)

There are four items for approval.

1. Audit Committee Report
2. Quarterly Construction Report
3. Quarterly Athletic Report
4. Property Purchase - funded by existing property fund

On a motion by Andre Lortz and seconded by Louenda Downs, the following items were approved unanimously:

- Audit Committee Report
- Quarterly Construction Report
- Quarterly Athletic Report
- Property Purchase

(Personnel and Academic Policy Committee)

Personnel & Academic Policy Committee - Kevin Sullivan outlined the following matters discussed and acted upon during today's Personnel and Academic Policy Committee meeting: (For a detailed report of actions taken, see the attached Personnel and Academic Policy Committee minutes for December 2, 2014)

The committee had six items for approval

1. Pre-Major in Chinese, Associate of Arts Degree
2. Pre-Major in American Sign Language, Associate of Arts Degree
3. Institutional Certificate in Spanish - will be submitted to the Board of Regents for their approval
4. International Business Economics, Bachelor of Science - will be submitted to the Board of Regents for their approval
5. PPM 3-25, Faculty Sabbatical Leave
6. PPM 8-26, Advance Notice of Termination or Reduction in Status

Trustee Nolan Karras stated that he was concerned that in PPM 3-25, faculty are only required to return to the university for one or two semesters following their sabbatical. Scott Parson asked if we could look back and

see how often this has been a problem. Kevin Sullivan recommended they watch to see if it becomes a problem. Chair Hall requested that Mr. Sullivan provide follow-up on this issue.

On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Scott Parson, the following items were approved unanimously:

- Pre-Major in Chinese, Associate of Arts Degree
- Pre-Major in American Sign Language, Associate of Arts Degree
- Institutional Certificate in Spanish
- International Business Economics, Bachelor of Science
- PPM 3-25, Faculty Sabbatical Leave
- PPM 8-26, Advance Notice of Termination or Reduction in Status

Richard Richards

IX. Scott Parson stated he wanted to acknowledge the passing of Richard Richards. He was a former chair of the WSU Board of Trustees and great supporter of Weber State University. The Richard Richards Institute for Ethics was created and named in his honor. President Wight added that Mr. Richards was passionate about ethics.

Questions

X. There were no questions.

Next Meeting Date

XI. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on March 17, at the Davis campus.

Adjourn to Executive Session

XII.

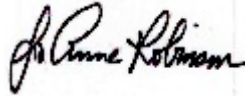
On a motion by Louenda Downs, seconded by Andre Lortz and approved unanimously by roll call vote, the meeting was adjourned to executive session at 10:20 am, for the purpose of a discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.



Reconvene to Public  
Meeting and Adjourn

XIII. The Board reconvened in open session at 10:40 am. Chair Alan Hall reported that no action was necessary at this time as a result of the executive session. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Minutes submitted by:



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JoAnne Robinson, Secretary  
WSU Board of Trustees



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Charles A. Wight, President  
Weber State University