Proposed Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2019

The Board of Trustees (BOT) Formal Session was called to order by Chair Bolger at 11:12AM on Wednesday, June 26, 2019. The meeting was held in the Bernhard Center Rooms 157-159. Presiding were Chair Bolger, Vice Chair Chen-Zhang, and Trustees Behen, Edgerton, Johnston, Kitchens, Penn, and Rinvelt.

A motion to accept the June 26, 2019 BOT agenda was made by Trustee Penn, with a second from Trustee Kitchens. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes as exhibited from the April 24, 2019 BOT meeting was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second by Trustee Kitchens. The motion passed unanimously.

Remarks were provided by Chair Bolger – Attachment A followed by remarks from President Montgomery – Attachment B.

Faculty Senate President R. Gershon and Graduate Student Association (GSA) President C. Morris provided comments regarding their respective areas and their ongoing activities and initiatives relating to shared governance, promoting student involvement, and academic enrichment. See Attachment C for remarks by Faculty Senate President R. Gershon.

President Montgomery introduced E. Warr as a Greenleaf student scholar. Mr. Warr shared his personal success story and the opportunity provided through WMU and the Greenleaf Scholar program.

There was no indicated public interest in providing commentary regarding any Action Item.

As Action Items, Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley recommended Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020. A motion to accept the Tuition and Fees for 2019-2020 was made by Trustee Penn with a second by Trustee Behen. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley next proposed the University Budget for 2019-2020. A motion to accept the University Budget for 2019-2020 was made by Trustee Kitchens with a second by Trustee Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

Associate Provost C. Cheatham next advocated on behalf of the proposed list for Academic Tenure and Promotion. A motion to accept the list for Academic Tenure and Promotion was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second by Trustee Edgerton, and passed unanimously.
Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley next advocated for acceptance of the Michigan State Employees Association (MSEA) Labor Agreement. A motion to accept the Michigan State Employees Association (MSEA) Labor Agreement was made by Trustee Johnston and received a second by Trustee Kitchens. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley next proposed the Establishment of the WMU Business, Technology, and Research Park 2. A motion to accept the Establishment of the WMU Business, Technology, and Research Park 2 was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second by Vice Chair Chen-Zhang, and passed unanimously.

Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley next recommended a Lease Agreement Renewal between WMU and WMU AAUP. A motion to accept the Lease Agreement Renewal between WMU and WMU AAUP was made by Trustee Kitchens and received a second by Trustee Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President for Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley next proposed the Series 2019 General Revenue Bonds. A motion to accept the Series 2019 General Revenue Bonds was made by Trustee Rinvelt, with a second by Trustee Kitchens, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second from Trustee Rinvelt. The BOT unanimously approved the following Consent Items as exhibited: Curriculum Proposals; Personnel Report; New Western Michigan University Audit Committee Members; Heritage Hall Liquor License Request; Western Michigan University Board of Trustees Meeting Dates 2020; Operating Cash Investment Performance Report; Annuity and Life Income Funds Performance Report.

C. Weideman and M. Peterson both provided commentary during General Public Comments.

The BOT meeting ended at 12:35PM following a motion to adjourn by Trustee Johnston, a second by Trustee Penn, and unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Kahler B. Schuemann
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Western Michigan University
Good morning and thank you for joining today.

Good morning. Since we were last together, the Board—with the advice and counsel of President Montgomery and his senior leadership staff—has been discussing future trends in our enrollment as well as the current and future resource needs for our University so that we can continue to flourish in the current environment of higher education.

Today, we will be making these fiduciary decisions on our current tuition and our budget for the 2019-2020 academic year. We are making these decisions with a realization of the present and with an eye towards our future.

**Fiduciary responsibilities:**
Your Board is always in pursuit of strategic ideas and futuristic concepts that will enhance WMU's ability to provide the highest level of academics for us as a tier one university while maintaining an affordable tuition base for our students. We spend a great deal of time discussing these thoughts during our tuition setting and budget development.

**Asylum Lake:**
The tremendous amount of rain we have received this spring has caused havoc to a number of areas here at Western. The downpour this week caused some runoff into our Asylum Lake Preserve. I visited the area yesterday on my way into town and saw the very extensive new control the contractor is installing. President Montgomery and his staff and your board will continue to monitor the Preserve, as it is an extremely important treasure for our University.

**Plaudits:**
Before I turn to President Montgomery for his remarks, I would like to reflect on a bit of great news for Western. To set the stage, a little background story: For the past several years,
trustees from our 15 state universities have met for a few days each year to discuss issues of mutual concern. One of the major topics at these meetings has been the universities' role in improving and enhancing STEM instruction for our students. And, again, Western is leading the way on this important endeavor.

On behalf of the Board, I want to share with you all how honored we are to have, through Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy, vice president for research, and her team's dedicated leadership, three STEM research proposals that have advanced as contenders for the grand prize in the National Science Foundation Idea Machine competition.
University News

In early May, under blue skies and with favorable conditions for flying, we held a groundbreaking ceremony for the College of Aviation's new 67,000-square-foot Aviation Education Center at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek. There was a wonderful turnout and a lot of excitement for this new instructional facility.

The facility is critically needed as the College of Aviation experiences surging enrollment—35 percent in the past five years—and as the aviation industry demonstrates high demand for the exceptionally prepared professionals we produce as one of the top collegiate aviation programs in the nation. The excellence of our graduates is well known to top companies in the industry. **Within three months of graduating**, 89% of our aviation students are employed (FT-76%; PT-4%) or continuing their education (9%).

So, the expansion and renovation will allow the college to continue growing in a manner that will meet predicted market needs. We look forward to the project's completion, and we are grateful for the state's investment in it. The state and our students will experience a phenomenal return.

Speaking of groundbreaking—and as I can attest as one of the denizens of the Seibert Administration building—ground shaking, McCracken Hall has largely been dismantled. That project is slated for completion by the end of summer. There's a distance to go before it will be completely demolished, but we are thrilled to be making way for the new student center and dining facility to serve our students' needs.

In other recent news, we are experiencing change within senior leadership. Greg Rosine, who for years served as vice president for government affairs, retired last month. And attending his
final meeting before retirement is Bob Miller, our associate vice president for community outreach. Can we give a hand to both Greg and Bob?

I'd also like to take this opportunity to recognize a new team member—one who is familiar, but who hasn't been a part of the team for some time—Jeff Breneman. Jeff is our new vice president for government relations (Pending board approval a few minutes from now as part of the personnel report). He joins us on July 15.

Though Jeff has run his own public affairs firm for years and served for a period as deputy chief of staff for Congressman Fred Upton, he has the distinction of being WMU's very first VP responsible for legislative affairs in the late 1990s through the early 2000s. We are excited to have Jeff on the team again.

**Accolades**

I'd like to also take this opportunity to share a few accomplishments and accolades.

Congratulations to vice president for research, Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy, and College of Arts and Science dean, Dr. Carla Koretsky, for a special recognition they received recently. *Crain's Detroit Business* named each of them 2019 Notable Women in STEM. In addition to being leaders here at the University, they also are both scientists.

A professor of biological sciences, Dr. Kinzy is internationally known for her work in the areas of gene expression and protein synthesis. And Dr. Koretsky, a professor in the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences and the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, focuses her research in the areas of aqueous geochemistry and biogeochemistry. It's wonderful to see their scientific contributions recognized, which not only enhances their reputation as outstanding scientists but WMU's reputation, as well. We have exemplary professionals here going after discoveries that makes a difference for the world.

Another WMU scientist and his former student also were formally lauded for their good work. SafeSense, a helmet sensor company started by Dr. Massood Atashbar, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, and Dr. Binu Narakathu, our alumnus, was one of just 12 companies named a 2019 SmartZone Best Small Business Honoree at the annual Michigan Celebrates Small
Business Awards in East Lansing. When incorporated into a football helmet, the sensor technology they are working on measures the location and intensity of blows to the head. This an incredible innovation that could safeguard players from peewee sports to professional and it started right here.

And this Saturday, I know many of you will be at Miller Auditorium to witness what is always a special day on campus—commencement. We will graduate 1,349 students from nearly 40 nations during two ceremonies. With this summer commencement, the University is conferring 868 bachelor's degrees, 447 master's degrees and 34 doctorates. With a WMU degree in hand, these grads will be ready to make their own incredible contributions to the world as newly minted professionals. We know that some 90 percent of our new alumni quickly secure jobs—jobs that they are happy with—within months of graduation. Congratulations, in advance, to our graduates for earning their degrees and for what comes next.
ATTACHMENT C

REMARKS TO WMU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
June 26, 2019
Richard A. Gershon

*See Attached Slide Deck
Western Michigan University
Board of Trustees
June 26, 2019

Richard A. Gershon, President
Western Michigan University Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Executive Board
John Jellies, Vice President pro tempore
Osama Abudayyeh, Director
Janet Hahn, Director
Decker Hains, Director
Marilyn Kritzman, Director
William Rantz, Director
C. Dennis Simpson, Director
Sarah Summy, Director
WMU Essential Studies

- WMU Essential Studies is the new required curriculum for undergraduate students, scheduled for implementation during the fall semester of 2020. The program is designed to support the University-wide set of Essential Studies Student Learning Outcomes, which can be traced across the curriculum.
  - Expand students’ understanding of human cultures and the physical/natural world.
  - Enhance intellectual and practical skills.
  - Exercise personal and social responsibility.
  - Exhibit integrative and applied learning.
- The overall program targets essential intellectual skills, identified as learning outcomes, by integrating and applying them in content courses.
WMU Essential Studies

- Phase One: student learning outcomes developed (2015-16)
- Phase Two: structure and design (2016-17)
- Phase Three: logistics (2017-18)
  - student guidelines
  - course guidelines
  - outcomes and rubrics
- Phase Four: course submission and review (2018-19)
  - 338 courses approved
  - 128 courses invited to resubmit
  - overall curriculum review (i.e. Curriculum Map)
- Phase Five: pilot (2019-20)
  - assessment of data
  - review of courses
  - Reverse curriculum mapping
- Phase Six: program launch (fall 2020)
WMU Honorary Degree Policy

The Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs in cooperation with the Faculty Senate is undertaking a major revision of the University’s current Honorary Degree policy.

The purpose of awarding an Honorary Degree is to recognize persons of exceptional scholarly, artistic, professional, or humanitarian achievement who exemplify the mission of Western Michigan University and whose career or lifetime accomplishments serve as models of University ideals and aspirations for its students, faculty, staff, and alumni.
WMU Honorary Degree Policy

In the past, only one type of Honorary Degree was awarded. In the future, it is hoped that we can award such degrees with a recognition towards the differences in achievement and contribution.

The following represents four suggested categories of Honorary degrees.

- Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa (L.H.D.), given to persons with outstanding achievement in the humanities.
- Doctor of Science, honoris causa (Sc.D.), given to persons with outstanding contributions to and service in the sciences.
- Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (Litt.D.), given to outstanding scholars in specific disciplines, exclusive of the sciences and humanities.
- Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (L.L.D.), given to persons with outstanding service to humankind at large, to learning, and/or institutions benefiting the public.
WMU Honorary Degree Nomination Guidelines

Nominations will be solicited annually by the Honorary Degree Scholastic Committee Chair in collaboration with the President's Chief of Staff. A call for nominations will be announced at the start of the academic year in September. The call will be issued via the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Faculty Senate Office, the Office of Development and Alumni Relations as well as being posted on the WMU home page.

Nominations will be directed through one of two distinct pathways depending upon the type of Honorary degree being conferred. Nominations with connection to the Doctor of Humane Letters, Doctor of Science, or Doctor of Letters will be routed through the Honorary Degree Scholastic Committee. Nominations affiliated with Doctor of Laws will be routed through the Honorary Degree Service Committee.
WMU Honorary Degree Nomination Guidelines

HONORARY DEGREE SCHOLASTIC COMMITTEE
The Honorary Degree Scholastic Committee will consist of seven board-appointed faculty, chosen by the President upon recommendation of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, who, in turn, will solicit such recommendations from the Faculty Senate Executive Board and other academic units on campus. These seven faculty members should demonstrate scholarly achievement in their chosen field as well as reflecting one of the three pillars of Western Michigan University and its core mission.

HONORARY DEGREE SERVICE COMMITTEE
The Honorary Degree Service Committee will consist of seven members, including a member of the Western Michigan University Board of Trustees, the Vice President of Development, The President of the Faculty Senate, President of the Graduate Student Association, and the President of the Alumni Association.

The Committee will review all complete nominations received and will make recommendations to the President no later than December 1.
WMU Honorary Degree Review Process

The Committee will review these recommendations and provide a written evaluation of each Candidate to the President and Board of Trustees. No more than three Honorary Degrees will be conferred in any given year. Nomination materials for Candidates who are not selected to receive an Honorary Degree may be held over and reconsidered annually for up to five years.

If a Candidate is selected for an Honorary Degree, both the nominee and the nominator will be informed by the President that the Board of Trustees has approved the nomination. Honorary degrees will be conferred at a WMU commencement ceremony for the College(s) that contributed to the evaluation of the Candidate. Honorary Degree recipients are expected to attend the commencement ceremony in person, unless travel is prohibited due to illness or other exceptional circumstances. Alternatively, the awarding of Degrees will be conferred within one year of the Candidate's selection and (if possible) coincide with another University event.
Thank you.