Proposed Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018

The Board of Trustees (BOT) Formal Session was called to order by Chair Rinvelt at 11:19AM on Wednesday, September 12, 2018. The meeting was held at the Bernhard Center in Rooms 157-159. Presiding were Chair Rinvelt, Vice Chair Bolger, and Trustees Chen-Zhang, Johnston, Kitchens, Miller, and Penn.

A motion to accept the September 12, 2018 BOT agenda was made by Trustee Miller, with a second from Vice Chair Bolger. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes as exhibited from the June 27, 2018 and the August 20, 2018 (Special Meeting – Teleconference) BOT meetings was made by Vice Chair Bolger, with a second by Trustee Chen-Zhang. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Faculty Senate President R. Gershon, Western Student Association (WSA) President J. Sanchez, and Graduate Student Association (GSA) President A. Pineda 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.

Associate VP Research S. Obare presented on transforming undergraduate experiences through research and creative scholarship.

Associate VP for Community Outreach B. Miller and Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communications T. Proudfoot next highlighted study results regarding the economic impact of Western Michigan University.

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

As Action Items, Director of Planning, Space Management, and Capital Projects D. Dakin recommended the Capital Outlay Priority List. A motion to accept the Capital Outlay Priority List was made by Trustee Miller, with a second by Trustee Kitchens. The motion passed unanimously.
Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board of Trustees K. Schuemann next proposed the BOT Meeting Dates for 2019. A motion to accept the BOT Meeting Dates for 2019 was made by Trustee Kitchens, with a second by Trustee Chen-Zhang. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Penn next presented the proposed Board of Trustee Proclamation for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Gamma Beta Chapter. A motion to accept the Proclamation for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Gamma Beta Chapter was made by Trustee Penn, with a second by Trustee Johnston. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Penn proposed another Board of Trustee Proclamation for Upsilon Gamma Chapter 50TH Anniversary Celebration. A motion to accept the Proclamation for Upsilon Gamma Chapter 50TH Anniversary Celebration was made by Trustee Penn, with a second by Trustee Johnston. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Penn proposed a third Board of Trustee Proclamation for MLK Academy Celebrating Program Founder, Dr. Roger Pulliam. A motion to accept the Proclamation for MLK Academy Celebrating Program Founder, Dr. Roger Pulliam was made by Trustee Penn, with a second by Trustee Johnston. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by Trustee Miller, with a second from Trustee Kitchens. The BOT unanimously approved the following Consent Items as exhibited: Personnel Report; Gift Report; Grant Report; Operating Cash Accounts; and Annuity and Life Income Funds.

During general public commentary Mr. H. Bates, Mr. R. Gaines, and Mr. K McCoy all spoke in gratitude for the Board proclamations.

The BOT meeting ended at 12:24PM following a motion to adjourn by Trustee Penn, a second by Vice Chair Bolger, and unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Kahler B. Schuemann
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Western Michigan University
Good morning and welcome! Thank you for being with us today at the first WMU Board of Trustees meeting of the new academic year. It's wonderful to see you all. The beginning of a new school year is always an exciting time.

Trustee Pickard
Unfortunately, I do have to start the meeting on a bit of somber note. Effective today, Trustee William Pickard he is stepping away from membership on this board. As you know, he is a proud, proud alumnus of WMU and a generous benefactor. And though he is unable to continue as a trustee, he is not at all withdrawing his ardent support of the University. We will still see him around, but we as trustees will miss the wisdom, mentorship and unique perspectives he brought to the board. His generous heart and gifts have been an inspiration to us all. Please join me in a round of applause thanking Trustee Pickard for his years of service.

His seat officially expires Dec. 31, 2020. The governor's office—which is responsible for appointing trustees—will name a replacement to fill out the term.

Moving forward with much lighter and brighter news, I'd like to share some of what trustees have been engaged in over the past summer and in the early days of the new academic year.

AFSCME contract
Last month, we were pleased to approve a new three-year contract with the Local 1668 and Council 25 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees—AFSCME—a union that represents employees who work in building maintenance and custodial capacities, dining services, landscaping, and in several other roles on campus. Our thanks to both negotiating teams for their hard work in reaching an agreement. Trustees approved the new contract at a special meeting Aug. 20.
**Student move-in**

More recently, I'd like to report witnessing a smooth move-in when our students descended onto campus and into their residence halls in late August. As an alumnus, I was part of the "Movers and Shakers" crew on hand to help students move their belongings into their rooms. "Movers and Shakers" were joined in this effort by Bronco Buddies—students, administrators, faculty and staff members. Thank you to all participants, some of whom are in this room.

Moving is not typically a fun experience, but spirits were high. And I got to see my former home away from home in the Valleys, which brought back a flood of memories. I can report that my old residence hall is still well-maintained—and looked as though it hadn't changed a bit, inside and out.

**Broncos Night Out**

And did you know that the Grand Lawn of Heritage Hall is where the magic happens? At least that was the case when our very own Kahler Schuemann, chief of staff and secretary to the board, was among several "WMU celebrities" who displayed their talents for a Broncos Night Out event this summer. Kahler showed off his skills as an amateur magician. By his side, he literally had "trustee" assistance—me—and that of our new Provost, Dr. Jennifer Bott. Kahler doesn't have a stage name to my knowledge, but he has quite an act. Other performers included Warren Hills, our associate VP of Human Resources, Jim Middleton, director of the Sindecuse Health Center pharmacy, and two emeritus faculty members—Lewis Walker and Richard Cooper. Development and Alumni Relations did an awesome job organizing the event. I understand it was one of the largest crowds they have attracted at a Broncos Night Out—about 350 guests.

**Bronco football**

Trustees also have been witnessing the talents of Broncos on athletic fields. Several of us, for instance, have been present to cheer on our student-athletes during Bronco football games. Those are always exciting and the display of athleticism is truly inspiring—no matter the outcome.
Esports

And recently, we were afforded a behind-the-scenes view into a sport of a different kind while touring the esports arena in the Little Theatre. As you know, Esports@WMU is a project supported through the president's Transformational Initiatives Fund. It's not quite ready for public view, but renovations for the Little Theatre's use as the new esports arena began during the late summer. The space will be ready for club play in coming weeks. The facility features 36 gaming machines, including 12 competition computers at the front of the stage and on the back half of the stage, 24 computers for practice play.

The facility can seat up to 190 spectators, who will watch the action on two large projection screens. The screens will project the game play, the players' faces, gamer tags (their nicknames) and the schools each player is affiliated with. I can’t wait to be in that audience.

Student accolade

My time is short, but I also want to offer a student achievement accolade: Junior Maddie Cordell of LaGrange Park, Illinois, has been awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. Maddie is using her scholarship to study in Italy this fall. She's majoring in accountancy and says that as a business student, she highly values the chance to gain a better understanding of the world and to grow as an individual. The Gilman scholarship is awarded to less than 1,000 undergraduate students nationally. Well done, Maddie.

President's evaluation

Before I turn the mic over, I'd like to make you aware of some important upcoming Board of Trustees news. The board will be evaluating the president later this semester. Along with setting the University's financial direction and selecting the chief executive, evaluating the president's performance is a key responsibility of the board. And, in the spirit of improvement, we will be conducting this presidential appraisal a little differently than we have in the past.

Traditionally, to gather perspectives on the president's leadership and the state of the University, we have sought input through a Faculty Senate survey. We will continue that practice, but we will also be garnering input from senior staff as well as from the Western Student Association and Graduate Student Association.
We believe getting a broader perspective on the president’s leadership and on how the University is functioning as a whole will produce a more robust and certainly more comprehensive evaluation. This performance review involves highlighting areas of strength, identifying areas that may need improvement, as well as setting goals for the upcoming year. We look forward to the process and we thank, in advance, all of those who will participate. Our bottom line objective is to move the University forward.
Good morning. Thank you, Trustee Rinvelt. I concur with your comments about the beginning of the academic year. It’s always an energetic period on campus and full of promise.

Trustee Pickard

I would like to join you in recognizing Dr. William Pickard. He has served on this board for more than two years, but his connection and appreciation for WMU goes back decades to when he was a student on campus. After graduating, he went on to achieve great success as a champion of young people and of education, as a business leader and as a philanthropist. He is well known for leading a life of accomplishment and for enthusiastically giving his time, his knowledge and his treasure to causes and organizations he believes in, including WMU. This University has benefitted greatly from his benevolence.

Over a span of three decades, Dr. Pickard’s many gifts and commitments to WMU have totaled more than $3.5 million, including a gift in excess of $3 million for the Hall-Archer Pickard residence halls. Those halls were named to honor 50 years of friendship between Dr. Pickard, former trustee Dennis Archer and the late trustee Ron Hall. He also has created several scholarship funds and grants. We are grateful for Dr. Pickard’s generosity, and though he is stepping down from the board, we know that he remains committed to WMU and its mission. He understands the power of higher education and has been a tireless advocate for young people. We look forward to his continued friendship.

Success at WMU

When classes resumed last month, I’m happy to report that we started the year just as we should have—with student success. After months of hard work and a massive cross-organizational effort, we were excited to launch our new Success at WMU program. From day one, more than 4,000 first-year and transfer students were engaged in this initiative that
immediately connected them to campus and began to orient them to college life. Along with Esports@WMU, which Chair Rinvelt spoke about, Success at WMU springs from our Transformational Initiatives Fund.

The program is an amalgamation of great ideas from across campus, all focused on student achievement. Under the program, each student has a peer mentor and is a member of a peer mentoring group. We see this effort as supporting our retention goals and efforts to ensure students persist to graduation. It’s not enough to attract and enroll students; we must help our students become degree completers so that they experience all the benefits that come with earning a WMU degree.

New administrator
And since last we met in this room, we have welcomed to campus two new senior leaders— Dr. Jennifer Bott, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Candy McCorkle, vice president for diversity and inclusion. In July, Provost Bott came to us from Ball State University, where she was the Bryan Dean of the Miller College of Business.

Long experienced in higher education leadership, she has a wealth of experience in strategic planning, program development, budgeting, shared governance, fundraising and growing enrollment.

Dr. McCorkle, a proud alumna of WMU, joined us in early August. She was previously director of diversity and inclusion at Alma College.

She comes with a track record of developing and implementing programming to promote diversity and inclusion in higher education, of facilitating diversity education for faculty, staff and students, and collaborating to create policies and practices that foster inclusiveness. Again, welcome to campus, Dr. McCorkle and Provost Bott.

Delta-College of Aviation partnership
Speaking of new talent and new opportunities, last month I met some of the aviation professionals involved in a new partnership that will greatly benefit the aspiring pilots in our College of Aviation. WMU has partnered with Delta Air Lines in its newly launched Delta Propel
Career Path Program, an initiative designed to identify and mentor the airline’s next generation of pilots. WMU aviation students accepted into the program will be put on a fast-track to becoming Delta pilots. The company expects to hire more than 8,000 pilots to staff the thousands of daily flights it operates around the world. Among them will be Broncos.

**ISM program recognized**

Another WMU unit that has garnered national attention is our integrated supply management program in the Haworth College of Business. It landed at No. 8 on Gartner's list of Top U.S. Supply Chain Undergraduate Programs. This distinction places WMU within the top tier of programs nationwide, and it is the third consecutive time we placed in the top 10 for this list. This standing put us where we should be—among elite programs around the country.

**Accolades**

WMU is an institution of not only elite programs, but elite people. As we speak, Athletic Director Kathy Beauregard is in New York City. As announced by the Sports Business Journal early last month, Kathy has been selected as a member of the 2018 class of "Game Changers: Women in Sports Business." This award honors female executives in leadership and decision-making roles throughout the sports industry. In a special edition issued Monday, the Journal recognized the impact of 35 women in this year's class.

Today, these leaders are being honored in New York before more than 450 industry executives. The Journal notes that Kathy has been involved with the Broncos in several capacities for nearly 40 years; this is in her 22nd season as Athletic Director. She is the longest-serving athletic director in the MAC and is just one of nine female Athletic Directors at the 128 Football Bowl Subdivision schools. We have seen many successes on and off the field under Kathy's leadership. In total, WMU has won 57 MAC championships, a CCHA championship in hockey, and 34 teams have made NCAA Tournament appearances. The WMU football team has been invited to six postseason bowls during her tenure, including our Cotton Bowl appearance. Across all sports, Broncos have produced numerous award winners. Kathy has herself been the recipient of many awards, as well. They're too numerous to name, but among them is the Gerald R. Ford Sportsman of the Year Award, presented by the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame. Please congratulate Kathy.
Student Accolade
Kathy is all about her student-athletes, and I know she is proud, as we all are, of their achievements off the field, too. Bronco gymnasts achieved the second-highest grade point average in the nation for the 2017-18 academic year. As a team, they carried a 3.793 GPA, marking the seventh straight year WMU has finished in the top 10 nationally. Individually, 14 Bronco gymnasts earned Scholastic All-America Awards. And WMU once again had the highest GPA among Mid-American Conference institutions, marking the seventh straight season leading the league. Bravo Broncos!

Fall convocation
And finally, please join us this Friday for Fall Convocation, where you will hear more about the exemplary work and accomplishments of our faculty and staff. Set here in the Bernhard Center, Fall Convocation is a recognition of faculty and staff excellence in teaching, research and service. The day also includes my State of the University address. At 9 a.m., the celebration begins with our teaching and learning bash and at 11 a.m., the awards ceremony features five sets of University-wide honors. The State of the University address starts at 11:45 a.m. Immediately following the address, lunch will be served in the South Ballroom. Please join us.
Thank you for the opportunity to be among you today.

The Faculty Senate Councils

During the summer as well as the beginning of the fall semester, the FS Executive Board has been tasked with finalizing the charges for our various councils and committee. The real work of the Faculty Senate lies in its 6 councils as well as its many committees and taskforces, including:

- International Education Council (IEC)
- Undergraduate Studies Council (USC)
- Graduate Studies Council (GSC)
- Campus Planning and Finance Council (CPFC)
- Research Policies Council (RPC)
- Extended University Program Council (EUPC)

Special committees include but are not limited to:

- The Professional Concerns Committee (PCC)
- Western Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee
- Committee on University Strategic Planning (CUSP)
- Centers and Institutes Committee

As you can see from the diverse set of councils and committee structures, the WMU Faculty Senate covers a broad range of subject pertaining to the academic mission and life of this University. This coming academic year the Faculty Senate and its councils will be focusing on the implementation of WMU Essential Studies, the University budgeting model revision, advancing perspectives on interdisciplinary academic programs as well as the specific charges pertaining to each council and committee.

Yesterday, I met with the Undergraduate Studies Council. Tomorrow I will be meeting with the RPC to deliver their charges. In meeting with each of the councils, my task is to give them their respective set of charges for the coming year while discussing the purpose and value in having them look at the various set of identified issues. And likewise, to encourage them to add anything additional to their list – if they see something that the FS Executive Board has not considered.

Meeting with Deans

Over the summer, I made it a point to meet with each of the deans that comprise the University. My goal was to better understand their academic priorities and to use some of that information in helping to shape the Faculty Senate Council charges for the coming year.
As I mentioned in my earlier remarks to you, WMU has now entered into the third phase of the WMU Essential Studies (WES) project where the focus is on implementation. During the summer, the members of the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee have worked hard to ensure that the necessary pieces for the submission process would be in place by the start of the fall 2018 semester. This past Monday marks the beginning of the submission process for WMU Essential Studies. As they say, we went live. The first point of information is the WMU Essential Studies homepage.

A second important link is WMU Essential Studies Interactive Tutorials, which includes an interactive model to determine where various faculty courses fit-in, student learning outcomes assessment templates, a step-by-step guide to the submission process and an electronic submission user guide are all available at:

Also, we will be offering six workshops for faculty and professional staff scheduled on various dates from September – November. So here’s something for you. For this coming Friday’s first workshop— we now have 54 registrations out of a possible 60 slot openings.

In addition, WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee is prepared to meet individually with larger groups (by request).

As I said in my letter to the faculty of this University.

As we begin the course submission process, I would respectfully remind everyone that this undertaking is new for all of us. Will there be bumps in the road? Yes. But I would also remind you that we’re in this together. The Faculty Senate Executive Board has set a submission deadline of December 31st for all course submissions.

At the same time, the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee fully recognizes that we may need to adapt the schedule if our proposed deadlines prove untenable. It’s also important to remember that the submission process is ongoing.

You’ll recall that I said to you that today’s WMU student needs to be more than just their major. The 21st century WMU student should be equally conversant whether its understanding the challenges associated with climate change, or exploring intellectual property rights in the digital age, or understanding the political and social challenges associated with U.S. immigration policy. Hence, we - the WMU Faculty Senate and the University at large, have committed ourselves in the next two years to reinventing general education now to be called WMU Essential Studies.
First Meeting of the Faculty Senate

The first fall Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28 in room 208/209 of the Bernhard Center at 5 p.m. As always, we invite you to join us.

Closing

On behalf of the WMU Faculty Senate, Thank you for your time and consideration. I’ll be happy to answer any questions that you might have.