Proposed Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2019

The Board of Trustees (BOT) Formal Session was called to order by Chair Bolger at 11:14AM on Wednesday, April 24, 2019. The meeting was held in the Heritage Hall Ballroom. Presiding were Chair Bolger, Vice Chair Chen-Zhang, and Trustees Behen, Johnston, Kitchens, Penn, and Rinvelt. Trustee Edgerton was unable to attend the meeting.

A motion to accept the April 24, 2019 BOT agenda was made by Trustee Rinvelt, with a second from Vice Chair Chen-Zhang. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes as exhibited from the March 14, 2019 BOT meeting was made by Trustee Penn, with a second by Trustee Behen. 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, outgoing Western Student Association (WSA) President J. Sanchez with incoming WSA President L. Smith, and incoming Graduate Student Association (GSA) President C. Morris and graduate student Z. Renani 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 two student scholars, L. Brown and S. Ovalle, who shared personal stories of success.

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

As Action Items, VP for Student Affairs D. Anderson proposed the Student Room and Board Rates for 2019-2020. A motion to accept the Student Room and Board Rates for 2019-2020 was made by Trustee Behen, with a second by Trustee Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

Associate General Counsel J. Swartz next recommended the adoption of the Western Michigan University Conflict of Interest Policy. A motion to accept the Western Michigan University Conflict of Interest Policy was made by Trustee Kitchens, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.
Associate General Counsel J. Swartz also proposed an Updated Facilities and Space Naming Policy. **A motion to accept the Updated Facilities and Space Naming Policy** was made by Trustee Behen, with a second by Vice Chair Chen-Zhang. The motion passed unanimously.

Director at Facilities Management D. Dakin next recommended the approval of the Five Year Capital Outlay Plan. **A motion to accept the Five Year Capital Outlay Plan** was made by Trustee Kitchens, with a second by Trustee Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

VP for Student Affairs D. Anderson then proposed Naming South Neighborhood Housing - Arcadia Flats. **A motion to accept Naming South Neighborhood Housing - Arcadia Flats** was made by Trustee Vice Chair Chen-Zhang, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.

President E. Montgomery next presented the Board with an Honorary Degree Recommendation for Dr. Bojie Fu. **A motion to accept the Honorary Degree Recommendation for Dr. Bojie Fu** was made by Trustee Kitchens, with a second by Trustee Penn. The motion passed unanimously.

**A motion to approve the Consent Items** was made by Trustee Kitchens, with a second from Trustee Penn. The BOT unanimously approved the following Consent Items as exhibited: Curriculum Proposals; Personnel Report; and Lease Agreement Extension for Biggby Coffee Shop in the Bernhard Center.

M. Ray and W. Fields both provided commentary during General Public Comments.

The BOT meeting ended at 12:58PM following a **motion to adjourn** by Vice Chair Chen-Zhang, a second by Trustee Johnston, and unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Kahler B. Schuemann
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Western Michigan University
ATTACHMENT A

WMU Board of Trustees meeting remarks
Chair Jim Bolger
April 24, 2019

Good morning and thank you for joining today.

As mentioned at our last meeting your Board has three constitutional responsibilities:

First, To provide general supervision and policy oversight for the University;
Second, to control and direct all expenditures of university funds;
And Third, to evaluate and support President Montgomery ...

Since we last met your Board has been engaged in all three of these responsibilities.

In the area of policy oversight there are several agenda items we will be addressing such as our conflict of interest policy, our facility naming policy and actually naming a facility ...

In addition to these agenda items, as mentioned last month we are committed to fostering a safe and inclusive learning, living and working environment for all of our students, employees and visitors here at Western. One of the most important policies we can have to ensure that we create a safe educational experience for all Broncos is to make sure that our Title IX policies and procedures properly address incidents of sexual and gender-based harassment and violence. Under the leadership of our Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Felicia Crawford, our current policy is undergoing an extensive review and update. We thank everyone who has been engaged in this extremely important evaluation process.

Concerning fiscal oversight: two of our agenda items address this responsibility.
The setting of our room and board rates is one of these agenda items. We know that our students make a considerable investment when they choose to pursue a degree here at Western. We are committed to setting our pricing for Room and Board at a fair and reasonable rate.
VP Anderson will be discussing the decision points the Board concerned in establishing the 2019/2020 rates.

Additionally, Mr. Dakin will be presenting our Five Year Capital outlay plan.

How many of you know about the American Academy of Arts and Sciences? The Academy was founded in 1780 by John Adams and John Hancock as they believe that our new young republic should honor exceptionally accomplished citizens and engage them in advancing the public good.

President Edward Montgomery has been recognized for his outstanding leadership in being elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. To give you a sense of the distinguished company present President Montgomery is in, academy members range from Benjamin Franklin to Margaret Mead to Albert Einstein. His class of honorees include former First Lady Michelle Obama and Purdue University president and former Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. Congratulations ...

As I conclude my remarks, a word about a wonderful experience my wife Betty and I had a few weeks ago. We attended the Graduate Student Association Gala. We spent the evening with so many impressive and up-and-coming professional Broncos. On the ride home we discussed the fact that we are blessed to have such talented students here at Western. We know that these young adults will all contribute to making our world a better place and the entire Bronco community should take pride in the contributions that they have made in preparing our graduate for their future successes ... thank you all.
Opening
Good morning, and thank you all for being with us this today. We find ourselves in the final week of the 2018-19 academic year. As I look back, it’s been a remarkably productive year with a long list of achievements. Time does not allow me to go through them all—we have a full agenda—but I’d like to offer a few highlights.

• Rising as we speak is the first project in our South Neighborhood, an apartment-style student housing complex that will be ready to welcome students in the fall of 2020. Later in the meeting, trustees will act on the recommended name for that building. But I get to break a little news by revealing the official name of the campus neighborhood in which it is located. From here forward, what is now called South Neighborhood will be formally known as Hilltop Village.

Carrying through on a facilities theme, we also secured state funding for a down-to-the-studs revamp of Dunbar Hall, slated for completion in fall of 2022. Additionally, at our College of Aviation, a building renovation and addition project is soon to take off. We expect that to be done in 2020. And the creation of Business Technology Research Park, part two, is underway.

• Beside these developments, we have undertaken several other efforts to improve and strengthen the University, including the Strategic Resource Management model, the review of the Staff Compensation System and the Think Big branding initiative. And most important of all, we have made inroads with academic and co-curricular support measures designed to boost student achievement and persistence to graduation.

I am keenly aware that we have made considerable progress on these and other fronts solely due to the dedication of time, thought, and leadership from people across our campus. I appreciate all that you do to ensure that we offer a world-class education and educational environment for our students.
Commencement

Just days from now, we will be celebrating with thousands of students who have experienced that world-class education from WMU and are poised to take it to the world. More than 2,400 students are set to graduate Saturday during the University's 325th Commencement. We are proud of each one of these Bronco achievers, and we look forward to marking this special moment in their lives, their loved ones' lives and in the life of this institution.

Accolades:

Before I conclude, I'd like to share a few other accolades with you. WMU has three finalists in the National Science Foundation 2026 Idea Machine competition and, this also is breaking news, three more in our internal Bronco Big Idea competition, which was inspired by the NSF contest.

The National Science Foundation competition was created to help set the U.S. agenda for fundamental research in science and engineering. There were about 800 entries, 100 were judged and WMU has 3 of the 30 finalists invited to submit videos for the judging—10 percent!

The WMU finalists are:

- **Dr. Todd Ellis**, assistant professor in the Mallinson Institute for Science Education and Department of Geography, for his idea: The STEM Teaching and Learning Incubator

- **Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy**, vice president for research and professor of biological sciences, and **Dr. Lori Wingate**, director of research in our Evaluation Center, for their idea: #WhyNotMe: STEM diversity drivers

- **Dr. Bilinda Straight**, professor of anthropology and gender and women's studies for her idea: Reversibility: Future of Life on Earth

Their videos will be posted online soon, and we will update everyone so you can view and comment on the videos to help them advance to the final judging. After the video pitches and
public comment stage ends, a Blue-Ribbon panel will select 12 Big Ideas to invite for virtual interviews. From this pool of 12, the NSF leadership will announce up to four winning Big Ideas.

But that's not all. WMU had its own internal competition—Bronco Big Idea, with winners selected by a committee of junior faculty and graduate students. The winners were Dr. Todd Ellis, who receives a $6,000 research award; and two undergraduate students, Patrick Leny, a freshman interested in aerospace engineering, and Marsad Zoardar, a freshman studying computer engineering. Each receives a $1,000 scholarship and an additional $5,000 award to conduct research. To be eligible to win in the WMU competition, individuals had to submit their ideas both to the NSF 2026 Big Idea Machine and to the internal Bronco Big Idea competition.

Congratulations to all our big thinkers on their big achievement! Your scholarship helps raise the University's profile and, most importantly, adds value to our world.
ATTACHMENT C

REMARKS TO WMU BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 14, 2019
Richard A. Gershon

*See Attached Slide Deck
Western Michigan University
Board of Trustees
April 24, 2019

Richard A. Gershon, President
Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate Year-End Report

Faculty Senate Executive Board
Janet Hahn, Vice President
Suzan Ayers, Immediate Past President
Osama Abudayyeh, Director
Carla Chase, Director
John Jellies, Director
Marilyn Kritzman, Director
William Rantz, Director
C. Dennis Simpson, Director
Bret Wagner, Director
Western Michigan University
School of Choice

The Faculty Senate Executive Board has regularly met with President Edward Montgomery and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jennifer Bott, to discuss how the Faculty Senate can help shape the vision of WMU in terms of being a School of Choice.

This represents opportunities in terms of:

- Academic mission and course design
- Admission standards
- The role of graduate education at WMU
- WMU Essential Studies
- Intellectual skills
- Accessible technology
Western Michigan University
School of Choice

The Faculty Senate Executive Board has also met regularly with various senior administrators to discuss a variety of issues that pertain to the University’s physical infrastructure and day-to-day operations.

This represents opportunities in terms of:

- Strategic Resource Model budget
- WMU’s relationship with the City of Kalamazoo
- South Neighborhood campus redevelopment project
- Accessible technology
- Student safety on campus
- Student mental health issues
WMU Faculty Senate Meetings

- The Faculty Senate meets each month during the academic year to discuss various topical ideas central to the University as well as voting on action items related to the University curriculum and academic policies.
- In addition to comments made by President Montgomery, Provost Bott and myself, this year the Faculty Senate has hosted a number of topical issues during its regular meetings including:
  - Student Mental Health
  - Student Safety Issues on Campus
  - Economic Impact of WMU on Kalamazoo
  - Accelerating Research, Creative Activities, and Innovation throughout WMU
  - Creating Inclusive Classrooms
  - Virtual Reality Lab
The WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee held four retreats to review the WMU Essential Studies course submissions.

This committee represents an important next phase to the WMU Essential Studies review process since it determines courses and their location within the larger WMU Essential Studies structure.

An estimated 333 courses have been submitted and reviewed with several courses now being updated and submitted for a second review.

Courses that have been approved will be part of an overall program review by the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee at a May 10 retreat. The planned review will organize the approved courses according to the 12 course categories to ensure sufficient space based on enrollment to maximize student success toward graduation.
On November 6, the Faculty Senate launched the faculty appraisal for President Montgomery.

There was a response rate of 210 faculty.

The revised survey was 20 questions in length, down from the previous 38. The completed survey results were presented to the Board of Trustees and the President on November 30.
The International Education Council

The IEC is working with the Haenicke Institute for Global Education to develop a new Global Classroom initiative, which has the potential to transform cross-cultural student interaction at WMU. The global classroom concept takes advantage of current videoconferencing technology to bring shared classroom experiences between a WMU course and a possible counterpart from another university.
The Instructional Technology Committee undertook to visit all colleges to evaluate their current classroom technology and teaching labs. They met with faculty and staff to determine needs to remain up to date as well as for the near future. These sets of visits were just completed the first week in April, and the committee will be reporting to AITC at its May meeting on current and future needs for classroom and teaching lab technology.
MOA-18/05: Creation of Undergraduate GPA Revision Policy

On Thursday, December 6, 2018, the Faculty Senate approved MOA-18/05, which is intended to give WMU undergraduate students a second chance with respect to changing majors to another department or college. This policy initiative is about second chances and long-term student success at Western Michigan University.

GPA Revision Features:

• A student can change majors to another department with an expectation that up to three courses may be removed from the student’s GPA calculation.
• GPA revision only applies to student who are in their first three semesters at WMU.
• All grades will remain on the official transcript but will not be calculated into the GPA or credits earned.
• GPA revision applies only to courses within the student’s previous major. It does not apply to future WMU Essential Studies except for courses that count for both WMU Essential Studies and the major.
MOA-18/09: Creation of Service Learning Course Approval Procedures

At the November 1, 2018 Faculty Senate meeting, the Faculty Senate approved MOA-18/09. Service Learning is putting academics into the community. Service learning can be defined as a mutually beneficial endeavor in which students work in the field to address community identified needs.

In the MOA, the Undergraduate Studies Council recommended creation of a formal procedure for approving service learning courses.

The MOA was approved by the University administration on December 17, 2018.
Memoranda of Action In Development

MOA-18/06: Honors Upon Graduation
On February 7, 2019, the Faculty Senate approved MOA-18/06. This policy will allow all students seeking a WMU degree to be eligible for the honors designation, including previously excluded transfer students. The MOA was forwarded to the University administration on April 16, 2019.

MOA-19/02: Adding a Major or Minor to a Previously Awarded Degree Policy
This policy establishes a clear process for students wishing to add an additional major or minor to a previously awarded WMU degree. An increasing number of students are attempting to add a major/minor to their previously awarded degree due to the creation of several new majors and minors in recent years.

MOA-19/04: Creation of Student Expectation Attendance Policy
This policy provides guidance regarding extended leave of absence from classes and coursework. Situations might include, but are not limited to, bereavement, illness, and short-term military obligations.
Extended University Programs Council and Elearning Standards

- The Faculty Senate Executive Board, on behalf of the Extended University Programs Council, has recommended for implementation a new set of Elearning Standards.

- The goal is to have an agreed upon set of standards for EUP when working with faculty in the development of new on-line courses. This is intended to formalize the process in terms of responsibilities for both EUP as well as faculty and their respective departments.
Ad Hoc Committee for Interdisciplinary Academic Study

• Currently, Western Michigan University is home to several different types of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary programs that span both colleges and departments across campus.

• The Faculty Senate Executive Board will establish an ad hoc committee to examine the current practices of interdisciplinary academic study at WMU and evaluate both obstacles and opportunities going forward. This committee will be charged with understanding the different types of interdisciplinary academic programs that currently exist at WMU. As part of its final report, the committee would be asked to provide examples of best practices of current programs here at WMU and elsewhere. The committee will also be asked to provide a set of recommended strategies with the goal of helping to advance interdisciplinary academic study at WMU.
Thank you.