

**West Virginia State University Board of Governors**  
**Erickson Alumni Center, Grand Hall**  
**May 11, 2018**  
**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Mr. Williams called the meeting of the West Virginia State University Board of Governors to order at 12:01 a.m.

**Present:** Mr. Buchanan, Ms. Dooley, Mr. Jones, Mr. Konstanty, Mr. Lipscomb, Mrs. Pitchford, Mr. Roberts, Dr. Smith, Mr. Swingle, Dr. Vaughan, and Mr. Williams. Several members of the administration, students, faculty, and staff were also present.

**2. Verification of Appropriate Notice of Public Meeting**

Mr. Williams announced the verification of appropriate notice of public meeting.

**3. Review and Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Williams said he wanted to move Item 8 under Item 5a. Ms. Dooley motioned for approval of the agenda as amended, and Mrs. Pitchford seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**4. Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Mrs. Pitchford motioned for approval of the minutes of the April 6, 2018 meetings. Ms. Dooley seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**5. Reports from Board Committees**

Policy Review Special:

Mr. Konstanty chaired the Committee and presented the report.

- The Committee discussed the proposed BOG policy on furlough and a briefing on the impact of House Bill 2542.
- The Committee asked the Mr. Melvin Jones and his staff to redraft the policy and bring it before the Committee before the June meeting for potential action.
- The Committee also asked Mr. Jones to work with outside counsel to develop a policy to address House Bill 2542 by the June meeting as well, if possible.
- Mr. Konstanty expressed that it would be appropriate for the Committee to continue to work through the policies, as it has worked closely in the past with faculty and staff in developing and revising policies.

**8. Other Matters**

Chair Williams distributed copies of a proposed workforce policy. An example of a policy from another institution was included in the Board book, and he drafted a version specific to the University. The proposed policy also included verbiage from WV Code §18b-7-3b. He felt the University should have a policy to address a workforce reduction. Chair Williams proposed that the policy be approved by the full Board and subsequently distributed for comments from the constituency groups and stakeholders. Mr. Konstanty said that the intent of the policy is to keep the designation of classified staff, as he interprets

the draft. However, it is the recommendation of the administration that was discussed in Committee is to eliminate classified staff.

Board discussion was held on House Bill 2542 and the flexibility it gives the institutions regarding classified staff. Mr. Jones shared information on recommendations by the administration relating to the legislation. One is to eliminate the classified staff delineation and have only faculty and staff. Another is to change the accrual of annual leave. A third is to have progressive discipline through Human Resources as a part of their rights. Mr. Jones said an election would be held for a staff representative on the Board that would be open to all staff. If the delineation were removed, any impacted policies would need to be revised to remove reference to classified staff. Mr. Williams said that the policy he is proposing would allow an opportunity for severance pay. Mr. Jones respectively stated that severance pay would be contrary to the reason for laying off or eliminating an employee due to financial reasons. He also explained that House Bill 2542 replaced a lot of existing legislation.

Mr. Swingle felt the Board should coordinate what Chair Williams is requesting, what the administration is recommending, and what the Committee and Board have been discussing relating to further into a cohesive recommendation. He said distributing a proposed workforce policy for comment would be redundant and could create confusion, especially since classified staff are already uncertain of that is going to happen with their classification. Chair Williams responded that he understood certain points, but asked what the harm would be in sending out the policy. Mr. Konstanty responded that there could be harm to the efforts to have transparency with the Board and the campus community. He felt that the policy, as distributed today, would go against the work that has been done in repairing trust. Stakeholders involved in this policy have also not been consulted. Mr. Konstanty asked that the record reflect that the Policy Review Special Committee had not dealt with furlough for eight months, as the group received the proposed policy in December. Chair Williams commented that it is not his intent to criticize any committee or its work. He said House Bill 2542 has been in existence for a year and a half and there has not been any action. Chair Williams moved that the Board approve distributing the proposed workforce policy for comment as presented today. The motion died for lack of a second. Chair Williams said he respected the will of the Board.

## **5. Reports from Board Committees continued**

### **Institutional Advancement:**

Mr. Williams chaired the Committee and presented the report.

- The Committee discussed gifts as of May 11.
- For the Comparative Gift Report, pledges are down about \$50,000 but outright cash gifts are up \$147,000 from last year. In-kind gifts increased almost 50 percent. Total giving is up approximately 10 percent over last year.
- The Foundation sold the Capital Center Theater and decided to utilize a portion of the proceeds from the sale to award grants for campus projects. The Foundation received more than 50 grant applications and awarded seven grants.
- The Committee received an update on several propels.
- An over of the National Alumni Association Conference was provided.

#### Recruitment and Retention:

Dr. Smith participated by conference call. As a result, Mr. Williams presided over the meeting and presented the report.

- The Committee received a report on the Enrollment Management and Student Affairs presentation given at the National Alumni Association Conference.
- Staff distributed 32 recruitment bags for the alumni chapters and provided information on recruitment fair guidelines.
- Alumni chapters will also have information to assist in telephone campaigns to students.

#### Finance:

Mrs. Pitchford chaired the Committee and presented the report.

- The Committee reviewed the budget year-to-date as of April 30. The target is 83.33 percent and the University is ahead of the target at 84.64 percent, with a total revenue of \$32.6 million. Expenses are at 81.3 percent of the target.
- The Committee reviewed the proposed fee schedule for 2018-2019 and voted to recommend approval as presented to the full Board.
- An update was provided on accounts payable.
- Auditors from Clifton Larson Allen will visit campus on May 21-22 for a preliminary audit.

#### Academic Policies:

Mr. Kelley was absent due to a scheduling conflict. As a result, Mr. Konstanty chaired the Committee and presented the report.

- The Committee received program review reports on sociology and history, which will be presented to full Board later on agenda.
- The Committee voted to recommend to the full Board that the sociology program continue at the current level, with the condition of a follow-up report on assessment due in December 2019.
- The Committee voted to recommend to the full Board that the history program continue at the current level.

### **6. Reports from the University President**

President Jenkins welcomed everyone in attendance. He acknowledged Mr. Roberts, who would be graduating on May 12 with three degrees. President Jenkins asked the Board to join him in congratulating and thanking Mr. Roberts for his service as the student representative on the Board. He said Mr. Roberts has been an engaged student on campus, serving as SGA president and in other areas. President Jenkins also recognized Mr. Swingle, whose term on the Board expires on June 30. He said Mr. Swingle has been a great asset to the Board during his eight years of service, as well as being an alumnus and avid supporter of the University. As Mr. Swingle will be out of town during the June meeting, President Jenkins asked the Board to join him in congratulating and thanking Mr. Swingle.

President Jenkins shared highlights of several campus events and initiatives. The new scholarship portal went into effect this year. The portal is a “one-stop shop” to scholarship opportunities for current and prospective students to view all scholarships for which they are eligible. On April 21, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cares Day took place and the number of

participants exceeded from last year, with more than 350 volunteers and 34 worksites. President Jenkins announced that the University received the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) accreditation for our Yellow Jacket Early Enrollment Program. The University is the only higher education institution in the state with this accreditation and one of only 107 in 23 states. Provost Jayasuriya and Dean Carney were recognized for their work in leading the effort to obtain this distinct honor. President Jenkins reported that the University received notification from the Higher Learning Commission that the Master of Science in Sports Studies was approved. The program, along with engineering, will be rolled out in fall 2018. President Jenkins acknowledged several students for recent honor and awards. Criminal justice major Daniel Riggs won first place in the Paper Competition at the West Virginia Criminal Justice Educator's Association Conference. Communications major and current Miss State Senaia Harris has been selected as a participant in the coveted Leadership Fellows Institute of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is in a group of only 20 fellows, selected from over 1,000 undergraduates. Umer Rizwan graduated with a BS in Biology last May and is graduating with an MA in Biotechnology after completing the Biotechnology Master's program in one year.

President Jenkins said that during the National Alumni Conference, he joined alumni Dr. Lateef Saffore, Ylonne Swails, Fred Jackson, and members of the University's admissions office for a visit to Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta. During the visit, there were 26 on-site applications and 21 on-site new admits. Four of those students will be participating in the summer bridge program being launched this summer, and we had several alumni commit to sponsoring students for the program.

President Jenkins recognized the softball team for winning the 2018 MEC Championship. The women's tennis team was also the 2018 MEC Champions and advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 in Surprise, Arizona. The University received more than \$2 million in capacity building funds from National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), and President Jenkins thanked Dr. McMeans for his leadership. For Commencement on May 12, President Jenkins reported that more than 230 graduates would cross the stage, with an overall class GPA of 3.2. President Jenkins reminded that rehearsal for the platform party would take place at 3:00 p.m., or immediately following the Board meeting.

a. University Reports Forwarded by Board Committees

Item 6.a.i: President Jenkins deferred to Mr. Konstanty regarding next steps on the proposed furlough policy. Mr. Konstanty said it is the recommendation of the Policy Review Special Committee that the University reengage outside counsel to redraft the policy and bring it back to the Committee and full Board for the June meeting. Mrs. Pitchford so moved, and Ms. Dooley seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Williams asked if there was another recommendation relating to the proposed workforce policy. Mr. Konstanty said the Committee recommends that the administration work with outside counsel to draft a policy in accordance with House Bill 2542 and be consistent with the proposed furlough policy. Mrs. Pitchford so moved, and Ms. Dooley seconded the motion. The motion carried.



Item 6.a.ii: President Jenkins said, as recommended by the Finance Committee, he brings before the Board for approval the proposed 2018-2019 Tuition and Fee Schedule, which includes the previously approved five percent increase. Mrs. Pitchford moved that the Board approve the 2018-2019 Tuition and Fee Schedule as presented. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Item 6.a.iii: President Jenkins said, as recommended by the Academic Policies Committee, he brings before the Board for consideration the program review for the Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. The Committee voted to recommend that the program continue at the current level and removed the request for a follow-up report on assessment due in December 2019. Ms. Dooley motioned for approval by the Board of the program review for the Bachelor of Arts in Sociology as recommended by the Committee. Mrs. Pitchford seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Item 6.a.iv: President Jenkins said, as recommended by the Academic Policies Committee, he brings before the Board for consideration the program review for the Bachelor of Arts in History. The Committee voted to recommend that the program continue at the current level. Mr. Buchanan motioned for approval by the Board of the program review for the Bachelor of Arts in History as recommended by the Committee. Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**7. Executive Session under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to Discuss Legal, Personnel and Property Matters**

Mrs. Pitchford motioned for approval to go into executive session, under the authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss legal, personnel, and property matters. Ms. Dooley seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

A motion to arise from executive session and reconvene into regular session was made by Mrs. Pitchford, and Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The motion carried. Chair Williams asked for the record to reflect that the Board only discussed items related to the topics listed and no motions or votes were taken.

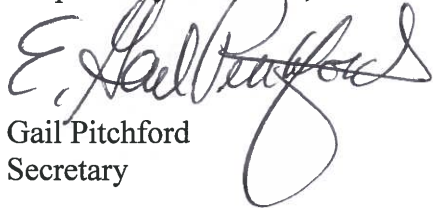
**8. Next Meeting Date**

June 14, 2018

**9. Adjournment**

With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gail Pitchford  
Secretary

Approved:



Mr. Leon Vincent Williams

Chair