

**Meeting Minutes**  
**West Virginia State University Board of Governors**  
**Full Board**  
**Via Zoom**  
**February 3, 2021**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Jones called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

The clerk called the roll. Members present were Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Davis, Mr. Flores, Mr. Gray, Ms. Harper, Mr. Jones, Mr. Kelley, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Vaughan. Members absent were Mr. Payne, Mrs. Pitchford, and Mr. Raines.

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

Mr. Jones verified the Appropriate Notice of Public Meeting.

**IV. Community Conversations**

Mr. Jones said the meeting was being held in accordance with West Virginia Code to provide an opportunity to discuss ways to collectively enhance operational efficiencies and effectiveness across the university community. Each group was allotted time on the agenda to participate in community conversations.

Dr. Jessica Barnes-Pietruszynski, Faculty Senate Chair, provided an update on the current work of the Faculty Senate. Additionally, she and fellow faculty members discussed concerns, including but not limited to:

- Long-term plans for the university;
- Low enrollment in academic programs;
- Budget concerns;
- Academic departments being understaffed;
- Lack of timely communication and processing of paperwork; and
- Low faculty morale.

Ms. Robin Tabor, Staff Council Chair, shared questions and concerns on behalf of staff, including but not limited to:

- Budget process and paperwork delays;
- Feeling a lack of transparency and communication from the administration;
- Staff feel overworked and undervalued; and
- Procedure for covering staff absences due to illness when there are limited human resources in that office or area.

Mr. Zedan Martin, Student Government Association (SGA) President, shared information on projects that the SGA is working on. He and some of his fellow students shared questions and concerns, including but not limited to:

- COVID-19 vaccines for students;
- Students not being permitted to attend sporting events;
- Concerns about a contact and resources for international students;
- Mentorship opportunities for students and administrators; and

- Mental health resources for faculty to help them cope during the pandemic.

Administrators and Deans answered all of the questions and addressed concerns that were expressed during the sessions. If additional questions or concerns arise, faculty, staff, and students were asked to inform their respective leader so that the information can be shared with President Pride and the board.

**V. Adjournment**

With there being no further business, Dr. Smith motioned for adjournment. Dr. Vaughan seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Vacant\*  
Secretary

Approved:



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Charles E. Jones  
Chair

\*The board member's term expired and was subsequently filled. An election for Secretary was listed on the February 4, 2021 meeting agenda.