

Minutes
West Virginia State University Board of Governors
September 20, 2012

Call to Order. A regular meeting of the West Virginia State University (WVSU) Board of Governors (BOG) was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman Rowe. Members present were: Mrs. Millie Booker; Dr. Tom Guetzloff; Mr. William Lipscomb; Mr. Larry Salyers; Dr. Ann Smith; Mr. Tom Susman; Mr. Gary Swingle; Dr. John Thralls; Mr. Scotty White; and Mr. L. Vincent Williams. Dr. Brian Hemphill, President of West Virginia State University, was present along with members of the administration, faculty, and staff.

Approval of Agenda. Mr. Swingle moved that the agenda be approved as written. Mr. Susman seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes. Dr. Thralls said the regular BOG minutes should reflect that a motion was made, seconded and passed to come out of Executive Session. With that correction made, Mr. Susman moved that the minutes be approved as written and Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Announcements from the Chair. Chairman Rowe commended the Board for its diligence during the transition period; welcomed Dr. Hemphill to his first Board meeting; mentioned the new vice presidents; and introduced the new BOG student representative.

Reports of Board Committees.

Institutional Advancement Committee – Chairman Rowe said their session was good; there is a new plan to have more people involved in fund raising; and there will be a year-round effort to raise funds.

Academic Policies – Dr. Thralls informed the Board that there would be an action item regarding the Compact Plan; one year remains in the current Compact; everyone will be involved in the accreditation; and there are reorganization activities within Academic Affairs.

Recruitment and Retention – Mr. Lipscomb said Vice President McCarthy gave a PowerPoint presentation that was full of information and figures; the number of Kanawha County freshmen attending WVSU is down; transfers are up; pending and incomplete applications have the ability to go up; feeder schools are increasing; there is a new one-stop center and welcome center where parents and prospective students can visit the Admissions Office; school counselor and advisory council in the high schools; the Military Student Service Center opened last week; students' cell phones need to be in the database; trying to stabilize retention; student referral program; academic advising and exit interviews; Once a week for fifteen weeks, Dr. Stuart meets with students who do not meet the automatic admission requirements to keep abreast of what they are doing; new plans will be unveiled later in the year.

Audit – Mr. Williams told the Board the Deloitte & Touche audit will be occurring. There are other audit needs ongoing, so there is no current cash audit lined up.

Finance – Mr. Salyers said the committee discussed the potential bond refinancing of one bond and one note that is outstanding with the University. The committee is recommending full authority to the president and Mr. Jones to proceed with the bond refinancing and is recommending to adopt the Research and Development Corporation agreement. Chairman Rowe announced that he received a notice from the Legislature signed by the four senators from Kanawha County approving a request for an architectural study for the restoration of the historic Hale House in Malden. We received \$5,500.

Report from the University President. President Hemphill said he is very proud of the faculty and staff and was especially happy to see so many participating in the State Stride; the students want to start a new organization called “Stride Nation”; made several introductions: Dr. Donna Simon, Interim Vice President for University Relations and Operations and Chief of Staff and Board Liaison; Ms. Kitty McCarthy, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs; Ms. Pat Schumann, Vice President for University Advancement; and Mr. Melvin Jones, Vice President for Business and Finance; the University Advancement staff and the Foundation staff will merge and offices will be located in East Hall after Homecoming; he will deliver the State of the University Address October 3 at 10 a.m. in Ferrell Hall Auditorium; on September 25, Dr. Claudia Rankin, Program Director of HBCUs at the National Science Foundation, will lecture on the importance of STEM at 12:30 p.m. in Hamblin Hall Auditorium; on November 16, WVSU will host the Regional Workforce Conference on campus addressing ways that primarily undergraduate institutions, and WVSU in particular, can help meet the industry and educational needs of central West Virginia.

Dr. Hemphill discussed the 2011-2012 University Compact Report. Dr. Thralls moved to approve the year four update of the Compact as written with the understanding that the IPED data may be added to the document and changes made. Dr. Smith seconded the motion. Dr. Guetzloff abstained from voting. The motion passed.

Mr. Salyers moved to approve the bond refinancing resolution with an amendment that would eliminate any variable rate option. Mr. Williams seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the affiliation agreement between the Research and Development Corporation and WVSU. Mr. Salyers seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Enrollment – Fall 2012 has overall 610 new students; of the 293 first time, full-time freshmen in fall 2011, 162 returned this fall, which is a significant loss; 2,748 fall enrollment (head count). The numbers are not finalized until October 15, 2012.

Fundraising Campaign – The Campaign has been suspended; Campaign Steering Committee is still in place. Eric Coleman is the chair; Diane Strong is the co-chair. Walter Johnson and Dayton Carpenter have been added to the Steering Committee. Two or three more people are to be added. The Campaign will be silent for twenty-four months, and then it will go public.

Regents Bachelor of Arts Degree – The program has been moved to the College of Professional Studies. There are 1,500 former WVSU students who have 100 or more hours completed. They will be contacted to finish their degree.

The Self-Study – The process is underway and Dr. Hemphill feels good about the Self-Study for fiscal year 2014-15.

The three graduate programs—Master in Social Work, Master in Public Administration, and Master in Education in Multicultural Instructional Leadership—are in various stages of completion.

Fiscal Year 2013 budget update – 9.67% of the budget has been spent this year; additional budget cut of 3.5%; if enrollment and retention increase, some funds may be released back to the various departments; faculty, tenured-track faculty, and classified staff are to be held harmless.

Auxiliary Report – Dining Services contract is up to be renewed; the bookstore will see a reduction in revenue due to the loss of students; there is a hiring freeze in place.

Fleming Hall – Work is to begin on before October 1. PJ Dick is the contractor.

Residential Hall – The project slowed down; it needs a buy-back clause because without one the revenue stream would have been given away for thirty years. The bid opening was on September 18; 3 proposals are being reviewed; a financial review of proposals is ongoing; residential hall will have suites with baths, an Honors floor, state-of-the-art technology, and grab-and-go food service.

Legislative Audit – There are minor issues, but there are no threats to the University.

Other Matters – WVSU received a \$500,000 STEP grant for STEM student recruitment; Dr. Carter has a new office in the Capitol Center; The Board Retreat will be held on Friday, September 21 at 8:30 a.m. at BrickStreet; and the next Board meeting on November 1, 2012.

Adjournment: Dr. Guetzloff moved to adjourn and Mr. Swingle seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Susman