

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Room 510, H.F. Robinson Building

March 2, 2018

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University met in regular session on March 2, 2018 in room 510 of the H.F. Robinson building. Chair Kaemmerling called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Kaemmerling, Mr. Kinney, Mr. Messer, Mr. Haskett, Ms. Dugan, Mr. Townsend (via telephone), Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Schlosser, Mr. Lupoli, Mrs. Boliek, Mrs. Battle, and Ms. Spalding.

Also present: Acting Chancellor Morrison-Shetlar, Ms. Woody, Business Officer; Ms. Mathis, Administrative Support Associate; Mr. Browning, General Counsel; Mr. Chancey, Associate General Counsel; Dr. Causby, Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Ms. Dockendorf, Staff Senate Chair; Dr. Railsback, Faculty Senate Chair; Mrs. Pate, Alumni Board President; Dr. Wargo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Byers, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance; Acting Provost Burton; Dr. Miller, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Mr. Fowler, Chief Information Office; Ms. Lewis, Vice Chancellor for Advancement; Mr. Eaton, Athletic Director; Dr. Schwab, Associate Provost; Ms. Gaetano, Internal Audit; Mr. Studenc, Director of Communications and Public Relations; Mr. Robinson, Board of Visitors Chair; Mr. Hall, Sylva Herald; and Mrs. Collins, Assistant Secretary to the Board.

### **ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Collins called the roll of the Board members in attendance. A quorum of the board was present.

### **ETHICS STATEMENT**

Chair Kaemmerling read the Ethics Statement as follows: "As Chair of the Board of Trustees, it is my responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees' meeting. If any Board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board of Trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time."

### **No conflicts of interest were disclosed.**

Chair Kaemmerling reminded the board that this meeting was being streamed live to the auditorium on the first floor of H.F. Robinson building.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Kaemmerling asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2017 board meeting. **Mr. Messer made motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Battle seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.**

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Chair Kaemmerling called for a motion to go into closed session. Mr. Kinney made a motion to go into closed session to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary award or scholarship; to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial appointment, of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; and to consider and give instructions concerning an existing lawsuit titled: Michelle Bretz v. Western Carolina University; Gloria Patterson v. Western Carolina University; Travis Williams v. Western Carolina University, Chancellor David Belcher, Joe Walker, et al; In Re: NCAA Grant in Aid Anti-trust lawsuit; In Re: NCAA Student Athlete Concussion Injury Litigation; Carcano, et al. v. McCrory, et al.;\_United States v. North Carolina, et al., Marc Matthews, EEOC Charge No. 430-2017-01581; Marc Matthews, Veteran's Employment and Training Service (VETS), Investigation No. NC-2017-01581; and Michele Haws v. Western Carolina University, (Office of Administrative Hearings, 17 OSP 07498). **The motion was seconded by Mrs. Battle and Mr. Messer. Chair Kaemmerling asked Acting Provost Burton, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Eaton, and Mr. Browning to remain for closed session. Dr. Wargo also stayed for closed session.**

### **OPEN SESSION**

**Chair Kaemmerling asked for a motion to return to open session. Mrs. Battle made a motion and Mr. Kinney seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.**

### **ACTING CHANCELLOR'S COMMENTS**

Dr. Morrison-Shetlar discussed Chancellor Belcher's medical leave and celebrating his legacy at last night's Lead the Way celebration. She is excited about moving the university forward. She is meeting with legislators and working with the UNC System office and Board of Governors. She appreciates the support of the Board of Trustees. The university is in a very good place. Enrollment numbers for Fall 2018 continue to look strong. WCU has received over 19,000 applications. WCU is fully committed to providing a high-quality education: There are higher GPAs and test scores among applicant pool. Dr. Vital Annantapula received a fellowship. Last year 45 grant proposals resulted in 40 awards, including undergraduate research. We have made a quantum leap forward on faculty scholarship. Staff have been recognized with awards across UNC system. We received CASE awards for Diversity Dialogues and the Catamount Club book. Our students are inspiring us. This fall we will offer a new bachelor's in integrated health, and a Doctorate in Psychology. Student actors/actresses from stage and screen will provide simulated experiences for health and human sciences by acting as patients. Student athletes – largest number retaining a GPA of 3.5. Dr. Morrison-Shetlar thanked Randy Eaton and Stacey Miller for helping the athletes be students first. Softball had highest team GPA in entirety of Division I. WCU athletics is tracking the incoming 2012. Track and field are the defending SoCon champions. We have a wonderful reputation as a military friendly university and Best Outdoor Adventure college. Board of Governors approved to issue bonds of \$48 million for upper campus residence hall. Construction will begin in late spring/early summer. We are in the

planning stage of increasing parking on campus through structured parking. We will also be constructing a radio tower on Cullowhee Mountain that will also serve Jackson County EMS, with potential for broadband, cell and TV.

US News and World report consistently ranks WCU among top regional universities. Online bachelor's degree as 47<sup>th</sup>. College of Business as best school to earn a MBA. WCU moved from 98 to 58 in value for in-state students. Legislative priorities with our agenda: faculty and staff compensation, renovation of steam plant, summer funding for NC promise and increased funding for repair and renovation. We hosted Speaker Tim Moore and Rep. Chuck McGrady on campus. We continue to be leaders around NC promise. We are moving full steam ahead with lead the way campaign. The goal was moved from \$50 million to \$60 million and we moved up the deadline to spring 2019. The Campaign Steering Committee offered to match donations of up to \$33,000 by end of business today. As of this morning faculty and staff participation is at 42.5%. (goal was 25%). Kevin Vasquez and Roland Johnson offered to match after 750 donors and we have reached 1,165 donors. Dr. Morrison-Shetlar explained the current campus climate. On Martin Luther King Day, racial slurs were yelled from a dorm room and other incidents have followed. Those who have experienced these injustices have been in talks with leadership. WCU does not condone violence, racism, or intolerance. Members of leadership are engaging our students in dialogue. We will have challenges, but we will take them on and be successful. Discussion followed about enrollment and NC Promise with Dr. Miller. Mr. Haskett had questions about racial incidences. Were any of these related or individual incidents. Mr. Kinney thanked Acting Chancellor and Acting Provost for what they are doing. Mrs. Kaemmerling thanked Dr. Miller for what Student Affairs is doing.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

Mrs. Kaemmerling stated that her life has been consumed with the Chancellor search since December. She encouraged trustees to keep up on website. She thanked Mr. Roberts and Mr. Messer for serving on the search committee. She gave gratitude to Mr. Kinney for his assistance as co-chair. She went over the timeline. The leadership statement will be posted online. She thanked marketing and public relations for their assistance. They are waiting for approval from President Spellings on the leadership statement. She then went over the process moving forward. The committee will meet after campus visits and send forward three unranked candidates to the Board of Trustees for approval and then to President Spellings.

## **REPORT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Lupoli made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the recipient of the Catherine Brewer Professorship as discussed in Closed Session. It was approved unanimously. Mr. Lupoli made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve candidates for Tenure and Promotion as discussed in Closed Session. Eleven members were in favor and one member opposed. The motion carried. Mr. Lupoli made a motion of behalf of the committee to approve a contract for the Women's Soccer Head Coach. It was approved unanimously. Mr. Lupoli made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the HR**

**Annual Summary Report (REPORT ON FILE IN MINUTES MATERIALS – TAB C5). It was approved unanimously.**

Mr. Lupoli then gave his report from the committee meeting on Thursday May 31. (REPORT ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

### **REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND TRUSTEESHIP COMMITTEE**

Mr. Kinney gave the report of the committee. (REPORT SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION ITEMS ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS). One item was approved in closed session.

Ms. Spalding gave her report for the Student Government Association (REPORT ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS). She addressed the racial issues on our campus and across the system. A joint statement will be released by SGA – to promote respect and do not support hateful speech. Initiative updates: restructuring, financial literacy fair, USI courses, SGA week after Spring Break. Campaign week for elections. Held a Town Hall meeting in November, work with ICA to have further town halls. Working on website and continue collaborating with faculty and staff senates. Events in April for sexual assault awareness. Walter Turner and Kevin Koett – report on student involvement. They will host the Association of Student Government on campus on March 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>. Open house is also on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Kinney talked about the memo on areas of delegated authority from the Board of Governors. (MEMO ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS). This is to determine if the trustees should be delegated more authority and what should go back to BOG from BOT. Kaemmerling and Kinney will work with leadership to craft a memo to go back to BOG. They encouraged input from all trustees by April 1<sup>st</sup>. He encouraged the board to send them to Dr. Wargo. Summary of IT report by Mr. Fowler. IT was recognized for Customer Satisfaction Elite Top 50. Summary of Ms. Lewis's advancement report. (PRESENTATION ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

### **REPORT OF FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Messer gave a summary report. He asked for a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the Audit Charter and Internal auditor charter. (CHARTERS ON FILE IN MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB E3 A-D). It was approved unanimously.** Ms. Gaetano gave a summary of the charters. **Mr. Messer made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the four suggested sites for future structured parking development. It was approved unanimously. (APPROVAL IN MINUTES MATERIALS- TAB E4).** **Mr. Messer recommended on behalf of the committee to acknowledge acceptance of the audit financial statements. (STATEMENTS IN MINUTES MATERIALS – TAB E2). It was approved unanimously.** **Mr. Messer recommended on behalf of the committee to approve the Millennial Campus designations and authorize administration to seek from board of governors, the following properties: Cullowhee mountain property, Norton Road, Noble Hall, Brown Mountain. (APPROVAL IN MINUTES MATERIALS – TAB E5). It was unanimously approved.** Also, included in the summary was the annual review of Financial Statements. He thanked Mr. Steinbicker and team for their work. He gave a summary on the new construction summary. (REPORT S ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

### **FACULTY SENATE INFORMATION REPORT**

Dr. Railsback reported on the campus climate issues. He talked about how faculty senate can respond in a positive way. They are working on more curriculum to address these issues. He spoke about support of Homebase. (REPORT ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

#### **COMMENTS FROM PRESIDENT SPELLINGS:**

She thanked the board for their service to this institution. Today was a day of reflection and celebration as we dedicate the Apodaca Science Building. She thanked Mrs. Kaemmerling and Mr. Kinney on their roles as co-chairs of the Chancellor Search Committee. Yesterday was her two-year anniversary of her Presidency. She talked about the BOG memo on authority of the Board of Trustees. In a couple of weeks, she will give the first state of the university address. She encouraged the board to mention support from system office on survey to board of governors.

#### **STAFF SENATE INFORMATION REPORT**

Ms. Dockendorf talked about the Staff senate survey. They will be sharing a presentation with groups across campus. Staff senate will help out at Community Table next week while students are gone. Staff Senate will award three scholarships, they have 16 applicants this year. Elections for Staff Senate will start on March 15<sup>th</sup>. (REPORT ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

#### **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INFORMATION REPORT**

Mrs. Pate talked about the Lead the Way campaign event the evening before. 15 Alumni clubs participated all over the state during the event. She thanked WCU for letting students participate. She gave an overview of the Catamounts for life campaign and decades videos. The Office of Alumni affairs is engaging with students at graduation. Upcoming activities: election season in early March. Student alumni shadowing programs – Atlanta, Asheville and Charlotte. Soccer reunion with Brad Bradshaw. Annual Purple and Gold reunion on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Battle invited everyone to participate in the FOA gala, Saturday April 28, 2018.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Kaemmerling asked for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting.**

**Mr. Kinney made a motion and it was seconded by Mrs. Battle. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.**