

Draft

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Room 510, H.F. Robinson Building

June 2, 2017

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University met in regular session on June 2, 2017 in room 510 of the H.F. Robinson Building. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Broadwell.

ATTENDANCE

The following members of the Board were present: Mr. Broadwell, Mrs. Kaemmerling, Mrs. Coward, Mr. Kinney, Mr. Messer, Mr. Drake, Mr. Fetzer, Mr. Keener, Mr. Lupoli, Mr. Townsend, Mrs. Battle, and Ms. Spalding.

Others present: Chancellor Belcher, 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, Mr. Parrish, Staff Senate Chair; Dr. Yang, Faculty Senate Chair; Dr. Wargo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Byers, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance; Provost Morrison-Shetlar; Dr. Miller, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Mr. Fowler, Chief Information Office; Ms. Lewis, Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Engagement; Sergeant Jacob Deal, University Police; Mr. Studenc, Director of Communications and Public Relations; Ms. McNeil, Women's Leadership in Action participant; Ms. Kays, Smoky Mountain News; Ms. Smith, Sylva Herald; Mrs. Collins, Assistant Secretary to the Board.

Mr. Broadwell gave an invocation to the board.

ROLL CALL

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

SWEARING IN OF NEW TRUSTEE

Ms. Spalding was sworn in as the Student Government representative of the Board of Trustees by Mrs. Collins.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Mr. Broadwell read the following: "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 Broadwell reminded the board that the meeting was being streamed live to conference room 540.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Broadwell moved that the minutes of February 24, 2017 Regular Board meeting of the full board, the minutes of April 18, 2017 special telephone meeting of the full board, and the minutes of April 24, 2017 Special Telephone Meeting of the full board be approved. Mr. Fetzer made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Drake seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Chancellor Belcher welcomed everyone including new trustees. He spoke about enrollment numbers soaring, even though NC Promise has not started. The University is preparing for enrollment growth. North Carolina is a rapidly growing immigration state. The UNC system must take care of these needs. According to the UNC Strategic plan, we need an increase in enrollment with rural and low-income students. We must grow to accommodate, without sacrificing quality. There are a number of faculty, staff and beds that are needed. WCU needs an enhanced partnership with Jackson County. We need to embrace a proactive approach of how to make this work. We must make increased enrollment a reality. WCU must harness the potential in NC Promise program. Who are we to limit their futures and ambitions. A major issue in next year is that WCU will be updating the strategic plan. We have grown and matured, success metrics have improved, moved from reactionary to proactive strategic approaches. He is very proud of the plan and what it has enabled. There are three factors prompting this update: 1) It is time to review and update the plan, as in considering whether initiatives that have not begun shall be continued. 2). The SACSCOC Reaccreditation feedback motivates us to encourage focus of consistency on assessment. 3). The UNC Strategic Plan gives clear indications as to what our strategic plan should accommodate. They are nicely aligned to our own trajectory. What WCU needs to be is for our students, our region and our state. The Provost office will be working on this over the coming year.

Preparations are underway for the lab school, which was mandated in 2016 to begin in 2017. WCU and ECU will be starting lab schools in Fall 2017. Our relationship with Jackson County schools has helped us make this a reality in a short amount of time. The Catamount School will be held on the campus of Smoky Mountain High School for 6,7, and 8 grades. This provides an opportunity to support and strengthen the K-12 environment. Other highlights from this year include: For the 12th consecutive year, placed in top 10 at NCUR Student success leads to post-graduate success. We had an excellent reaffirmation visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Ron Rash was named a Guggenheim fellowship recipient. One of only two awarded to NC recipients. Three Fulbright Scholars, Mimi Fenton, Paul Worley, and Turner Goins. Noble Hall is now finished, and we are now working on plans for the upper campus residence hall, lower residence hall, and garage. We are in Kiplinger's, in top 100 best valued, for the third year in a row and also as an environmentally friendly institution. We hit and passed 190 new endowed scholarships. Susan and Randall Ward gave a \$1million gift. Track won the SoCon championship. We were honored by Blue Ridge Outdoors

Magazine. We will always have challenges, but we will persevere none the less. WCU is in the business of changing lives.

COMMENTS FROM CHAIR

Mr. Broadwell talked about students who have stories, and the importance of education and changing their future. He thanked everyone who attended the Legislative reception in Raleigh. Mr. Fetzer and Mrs. Coward will be joining the Board of Governors soon. Carolina Public Press held a forum last week in Asheville. Chancellor Belcher participated along with the Presidents of AB-Tech and UNC-Asheville. Mr. Broadwell presented Mr. Fetzer with a gift from the Trustees and WCU. Mr. Fetzer said a few words. Mrs. Kaemmerling presented Mrs. Coward with a gift and said a few words of thanks. Mrs. Coward gave her thanks and even stated that, "Dr. Belcher is a mixture of Luke Skywalker, Yoda and Hans Solo". Mr. Messer presented Mr. Drake with a gift and spoke a few words. Mr. Drake said a few words of thanks for his time on the board. Chancellor Belcher spoke a few words about Mr. Broadwell and presented him with a gift. Mrs. Kaemmerling presented Mr. Broadwell with a gift from the board: a WCU Catamounts jacket and a book. Then Ms. Lewis presented Mr. Broadwell with a medallion from the Foundation board. Mr. Broadwell gave his thanks and comments.

Mr. Broadwell then encouraged the board to read the UNC Strategic Plan. He gave his congratulations to the Nursing program on receiving a \$1 million grant.

REPORT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Townsend made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve changes to 4.0 section of faculty handbook resolutions. There were 2 changes. It was approved unanimously. (FACULTY HANDBOOK RESOLUTIONS ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB C-2)

Mr. Townsend reported that Dr. Causby had provided information on the 2017 Bonus Leave Payout Program allowing employees the option to participate in cashing out some or all of existing bonus leave, reducing financial liability for the university. A substantial portion of funding for the program will come from the state with seven out of 16 universities participating. (PAYOUT PROGRAM ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB C-3).

Mr. Townsend reported that Provost Morrison-Shetlar provided an update on the following items: SACS-COC Reaffirmation: We have received the report from our accreditation body and have until August to respond. We were found in compliance with all core and federal standards. We have a few items to improve upon and look forward to our official reaffirmation at the annual SACS-COC meeting in December. Strategic Initiatives: the UNC system has undergone a strategic planning process with nine metrics the system must meet. We have been working closely with GA to determine for which five of the nine metrics we will be responsible. Administrative Search Updates: Effective July 1, 2017, we have a new dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions, Dr. Kim Winter. Effective May 15, 2017, Dr. Arthur Salido is now the Executive Director of Community and Economic Engagement and Innovation. NC Promise continues to excite us for the significant impact it will have on our institution, community and students. The budget is currently under discussion at the legislature. The State Board of Education has approved the WCU Lab School. WCU is emerging as the lead in the development of Lab Schools regarding the legal process and curriculum.

Mr. Phil Cauley, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Enrollment provided an update on Academic Standing for Freshman Class. Items to celebrate, a 91.37% retention rate from fall to

spring; the area of concern within that is the number of students below a 2.0. There is a great deal of work done to support these students toward success and graduation. (ACADEMIC STANDING ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB C-4).

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND TRUSTEESHIP

Mrs. Kaemmerling made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the revisions to the bylaws. The revisions were approved unanimously. (BYLAW REVISIONS ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB D-2). **Mrs. Kaemmerling made a motion to approve the Foundation board directors slate. It was approved unanimously to reelect three current members and new members.** (FOUNDATION BOARD SLATE ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB D-3). **Mrs. Kaemmerling made a motion to approve the Board of Visitors slate. It was unanimously approved.** (BOARD OF VISITORS SLATE ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB D-4).

Mrs. Kaemmerling asked Katherine Spalding to give her SGA report to the full board. (SGA REPORT ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS). Ms. Lori Lewis presented a Comprehensive Campaign Update (COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN UPDATE ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB D-5). Ms. Lewis also shared Division staff updates, including information on currently open searches, and a review of Division priorities, including the name change to Advancement which becomes effective July 1. The total campaign commitment as of May 16th is \$30,557,355 which is 61.1% attainment of the \$50 million campaign goal. Then Ms. Meredith Whitfield, Director of External Relations, provided a Legislative Update to the committee. Ms. Whitfield shared key components from the Senate and House budgets including information on the full funding of enrollment growth, faculty/staff salary increases, funding for NC Promise, and funding for first phase of a steam plant renovation. She reported that the next step is conferencing of the budget with leaders from the Senate and House. Currently, it looks very promising that full enrollment growth funding and funding for NC Promise will make it through conference. Final salary increases, funding for the steam plant, and the total amount of repair and renovation funding will be points of negotiation. Ms. Claire Collins shared the Board of Trustee Meeting Schedule for 2017-18 with the committee. (THE SCHEDULE ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB D-6). Please note the important dates of the regular Trustee meetings, the Planning Retreat scheduled for November 28-30, prior to the December board meeting; Commencement, which is scheduled for December 16th and May 11-12th; and the AGB conference which is scheduled for April 22-24th in San Francisco. Ms. Collins will add the Board of Governors meetings and redistribute the schedule.

REPORT OF FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mr. Drake made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the amendments to the Compliance Plan. It was approved unanimously. (COMPLIANCE PLAN ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TABS E-2 and E-2A). **Mr. Drake made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the completed audit plan for 2016-17 and proposed Audit plan for 2017-18. It was approved unanimously.** (AUDIT PLANS ARE ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TABS E-3 AND E-3A). **Mr. Drake made a motion on behalf of the committee to approve the upper campus residence hall design. It was approved unanimously.** (DESIGN ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS IN TAB E-4).

Mr. Drake summarized a report from Chief of Police Ernie Hudson, who provided the committee with an overview of the operations of the Western Carolina University Police Department. The briefing included the organizational structure of the department which highlighted the emphasis of assigning the vast majority of personnel to the patrol section for response to community calls for service. He also provided the committee with information regarding the volume of education and training that WCU officers receive to meet the high service level expectations of the community. WCU officers receive 3 times the amount of training that the state mandates. Mr. Drake then introduced Sergeant Jacob Deal, who was the recipient of Police Officer of the Year from the UNC system. He was the first recipient of this award.

Mr. Drake reported that Mr. Byers provided the committee with a status report on the Master Plan and several major projects. He reported that progress toward the 152 recommendations in the master plan are tracked by the Master Plan Committee. While many recommendations from the Master Plan have been accomplished or have seen progress, others may evolve as circumstances dictate. He gave a status update on the following projects:

- a. **Noble Hall** – Student housing has completed first year in service and all retail space is now open
- b. **Brown Hall** – opening Summer 2017
- c. **Parking Lot 73** - Opened this year – 500 spaces
- d. **Natural Science Building Replacement** – In design until spring 2018. Utility work began in May. Project completion in 2021.
- e. **Medical Office Building** – Developer and primary tenant are negotiating Letter of Intent.
- f. **Upper Campus Residence Hall** – Design presented to BOT for approval. Construction to start in spring 2018 and opening in August 2019.
- g. **Strategic Classroom Renovations** - completed in Reid for the career Center and planned for this summer in Forsyth and Coulter.
- h. **Parking Garage** – Awaiting approval from legislature for self-liquidating debt. Designer selection to begin this summer. Targeting 2020 opening.
- i. **Lower Campus Residence Hall** – Approved for advance planning by Board of Governors in May. Targeting 2020 opening.
- j. **Steam Plant** – Working with UNC-GA and legislature for funding. Have proposed doing the project in phases.
- k. **Indoor Practice Facility** – Project approved by Board of Governors in May. To be funded from gift receipts.

COMMENTS FROM FACULTY SENATE CHAIR

Dr. Yang gave his report on the Faculty Senate. (ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

COMMENTS FROM STAFF SENATE CHAIR

Mr. Parrish gave his report on Staff Senate. (ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS) He thanked the Board for what they do and how he enjoyed getting to know the board and see what they do for WCU.

COMMENTS FROM ALUMNI PRESIDENT

Ms. Lewis gave the report for Mrs. Pate who was not able to attend. (ON FILE WITH MINUTES MATERIALS).

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Kaemmerling made a motion to go into closed session 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; Jamie Davis v. Western Carolina University; 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. and 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 consult with our attorney. Mr. Fetzer seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Chairman Broadwell asked Mr. Browning to remain for closed session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Drake moved to return to open session. Mrs. Kaemmerling seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Drake made a motion to adjourn. It was unanimously seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.