



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2023
BOARD ROOM, 3RD FLOOR FALCON CENTER
1201 LOCUST AVENUE, FAIRMONT, WV
TEAMS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Chair Rusty Hutson convened the Fairmont State University Board of Governors meeting on June 15, 2023, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 3rd Floor Falcon Center, at 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia, and via Teams.

Note: With this meeting being conducted in person and via Teams, there was no way to ascertain all other participants but the following Fairmont State Board of Governors members and Fairmont State University administrators, staff, and faculty participating via Teams or present included:

At the request of Chair Hutson, Emily Swain, Executive Assistant to the Interim President and Board of Governors, conducted a roll call of the Board of Governors. Present for the meeting were board members Rusty Hutson, Jennifer Kinty, Dr. Gina Fantasia, Jason Henderson, and Deborah Prezioso. Wendy Adkins, Richard Austin, Jay Puccio, and Jason Pizatella were present via Teams. David Goldberg and Kevin Rogers were absent.

Others present were Interim President Dr. Dianna Phillips and Interim President's Executive Leadership Team members Greg Bamberger, Athletic Director; Ken Fettig, Vice President for Student Success; and Christa Kwiatkowski, Vice President for Finance and Administration/CFO; and Dr. Timothy Oxley, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Others present included Alicia Kalka, VP of Enrollment Management, Dr. Heath Howard, Director of Institutional Research; Spencer Flanagan, Interim Director of the Falcon Center; Rhonda Kuhn, Controller; and Rae Dyer, President Fairmont State Foundation.

B. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to approve the agenda. Jason Henderson seconded. The motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2023 AND MAY 10, 2023

Deborah Prezioso made a motion to approve the April 20, 2023 and May 10, 2023 minutes. Chairman Hutson seconded. The motion passed.

III. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Interim President's Report

Dr. Dianna Phillips announced that several grants have been received by the institution in recent months.

Dr. Michael Davis and Dr. Dianna Phillips have begun putting together a transition plan. David Goldberg will represent the Board of Governors on the transition team.

Dr. Dianna Phillips expressed her thanks to staff, faculty, and Board of Governors during her tenure as interim president.

Chairman Hutson thanked Dr. Dianna Phillips for her work over the last year and for stabilizing the institution during her tenure.

Jon Dodds echoed Chairman Hutson's remarks.

B. Foundation Update – Rae Dyer

Ms. Rae Dyer, Fairmont State Foundation President, reported Foundation funds are trending upward. They are looking forward to working with incoming president Dr. Davis to expand fundraising efforts.

Ms. Rae Dyer provided an update on fundraising efforts in planning and underway.

Ms. Rae Dyer reported work is being done to better collaborate and build processes between the institution and the Foundation.

Chairman Hutson noted he will work with the incoming president on a fundraising tour.

IV. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Wendy Adkins, Chair)

Ms. Wendy Adkins, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, advised that the Academic Affairs Committee met on May 22, 2023. Ms. Adkins thanked Dr. Tim Oxley

for his work as interim Provost over the last year. She asked Dr. Tim Oxley to provide a report.

Dr. Tim Oxley provided an overview of the M.S. in Environmental Science program. This will be a 30-hour, hybrid program geared toward working professionals.

Dr. Tim Oxley noted this has been approved by the Graduate Council and has a high external demand.

Ms. Wendy Adkins made a recommendation accept the following:

A. Approval of Intent to Plan—M.S. in Environmental Science. Ms. Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

V. ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Jason Henderson, Chair)

Mr. Jason Henderson, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, advised that the Athletic Affairs Committee did not meet last month, and asked that Mr. Greg Bamberger provide an update.

Mr. Greg Bamberger provided an update on spring sports. The men's tennis team won the MEC championship. The women's tennis team participated in the NCAA regional tournament for the first time in school history. Additionally, their coach was named National Coach of the Year. Women's softball also had a very good season.

Mr. Greg Bamberger advised a new head athletic trainer will begin July 1, 2023.

Mr. Greg Bamberger advised that fall sports athletes return the first and second week of August.

VI. BYLAWS COMMITTEE (Deborah Prezioso, Chair)

Ms. Deborah Prezioso, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, advised the committee met May 23, 2023. Ms. Prezioso advised the committee reviewed policies related to the relationship with Pierpont.

Ms. Cailey Murray provided an overview of the policies reviewed.

Ms. Deborah Prezioso made a motion to accept the following:

A. Vacate Policy 30, "Separate Academic and Faculty Personnel Policies," and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.

B. Vacate Policy 42, "Consensual Romantic or Sexual Relationships," and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.

- C. Vacate Policy 44, “Financial Partnership,” and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.
- D. Vacate Policy 45, “Shared Courses,” and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.
- E. Vacate Policy 46, “Mission Statement Review,” and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.
- F. Vacate Policy 49, “Joint Operating Agreement for Academic Programs,” and request to open policy up for 30-day comment period.

Dr. Gina Fantasia seconded. The motion passed.

VII. ENROLLMENT, HOUSING & STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE

The Enrollment, Housing & Student Life Committee met on June 5, 2023. Mr. Ken Fetting, Vice President for Student Success provided an update.

Mr. Ken Fetting provided an update on Enrollment numbers based on a new model of projections created by Dr. Heath Howard.

Mr. Ken Fetting reported we are expecting an increase for fall returning students.

Dr. Heath Howard provided an update on context and trends that are considered for projected enrollment models.

Overall, enrollment is likely to remain flat for the Fall 2023.

Mr. Ken Fetting noted lead indicators for enrollment are positive for this year.

Submitted applications are up over 500 from last year.

Mr. Ken Fetting noted that Admissions and Recruitment are hosting an event for transfer and readmit students.

Mr. Ken Fetting provided an update on retention efforts, primarily focused on account holds. Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski noted that there is an appeal process for students with holds to resolve the accounts so they can register. Dr. Dianna Phillips noted the Falcon Student Corps will hopefully help alleviate financial concerns for students with the most need.

Mr. Ken Fetting provided an update on Financial Aid efforts as related to enrollment. He noted that the 2024-2025 FAFSA will be overhauled for easier use.

Mr. Ken Fetting reported the new, and first, social worker has started.

Mr. Ken Fetting provided an update on Housing. To date, occupancy is trending up.

Chairman Hutson commended the Admissions team for their work.

Mr. Jon Dodds posed a question about the effectiveness of the metro rate. Mr. Ken Fetting reported that model is in use but will soon be restructured to better suit the needs of students.

VIII. FINANCE COMMITTEE (Jennifer Kinty, Chair)

Ms. Jennifer Kinty, Chair of the Finance Committee, advised that the Finance Committee met on June 6, 2023. Ms. Kinty asked Christa Kwiatkowski to provide an update.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski provided a summary of the March and April financials, which were provided in the board packet.

Chairman Hutson noted that expenses are well controlled, however revenue must be increased.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty made a motion to accept the following:

A. Financial Reports for the periods ending March 31, 2023 and April 30, 2023.

Mr. Jason Henderson seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski provided an overview of the FY2024 Budget. Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski noted there are several adjustments in the budget related to enrollment revenue and fee increase. It also includes increases in salary and benefits and additional positions. Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski noted the budget includes an additional appropriated use of reserves for strategic initiatives. Dr. Dianna Phillips provided an overview of strategic initiatives.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty made a motion to accept the following:

A. FY 2024 Unrestricted Education & General Budget. Dr. Gina Fantasia seconded.

The motion passed.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty made a motion to accept the following:

A. FY 2024 Unrestricted Fund Manager Budget. Mr. Jason Henderson seconded.

Motion passed.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty made a motion to accept the following:

A. FY 2024 Auxiliary Budget. Dr. Gina Fantasia seconded. Motion passed.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski provided an overview of the FY2024 salary increase request, which will vary based on salary tiers. The State of WV has provided an additional funding for the bulk of this measure.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty noted the importance of merit-based raises for employees. Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski noted Dr. Dianna Phillips has begun a trial program for merit-based raises for staff. Faculty already have an established process for promotion and tenure. It was noted this increase is essentially a cost-of-living raise mandated by the state.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty made a motion to accept the following:

A. Approval of across-the-board raises. Ms. Deborah Prezioso seconded. Motion passed.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski provided an overview of the FY2024 capital projects request.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkoski reported that nine requests will be submitted to the state for just over \$30 million.

Mr. Jason Henderson made a motion to accept the following:

A. Approval of State Institutions of Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Grant Requests. Mr. Jon Dodds seconded. Motion passed.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkoski provided an overview of project requests. She reported some of the items on the internal request are also on the grant request. If funded, those would be removed from the internal request.

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to accept the following:

A. Approval of E&G Capital, Infrastructure and Auxiliary Request. Ms. Deborah Prezioso seconded Motion passed.

Ms. Christa Kwiatkowski provided an overview of the academic year 2023-2024 fee adjustment for Dual Enrollment. The state will now reimburse higher education institutions for offering dual enrollment courses. The group discussed the benefit of dual enrollment leading to matriculation of students to Fairmont State. The state will now pay dual enrollment tuition for students in the pilot program. The group discussed the role Fairmont State must have in the conversation around this program and shaping the direction of higher education.

Mrs. Deborah Prezioso made a motion to accept the following:

A. Academic Year 2023-2024 Dual Enrollment Fee Adjustment Request. Mr. Jason Henderson seconded. The motion passed.

X. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Hutson advised that the Executive Committee met June 7, 2023 and discussed the president's contract.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Huston advised the contract has been signed. The contract will need to be approved by WVHEPC after approval by the Board of Governors.

Mr. Jason Henderson made a motion to accept the following:

- A. Approval of Michael Davis's contract in its current form. Ms. Jennifer Kinty seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Jason Pizatella thanked Ms. Cailey Murray for her work on executing the contract.


Mr. Jon Dodds announced that JROTC cadets are being trained at the Aerospace Center. He extended an invitation to the Board of Governors to attend the graduation ceremony on July 28th.

Chairman Hutson recommended the same officers remain for the Board of Governors through the transition. There will be a special board meeting held virtually for a later date. Kevin Rogers, through the Nominating Committee, will lead the meeting.

The Board of Governors thanked Mr. Richard Austin for his service as Student Representative. Mr. Richard Austin thanked the Board of Governors for the experience and opportunity.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jason Pizatella made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jon Dodds seconded. The motion passed.



Rusty Hutson 07-05-2023 FSU Board of Governors' Chair
Date



Jason Pizatella 7/5/2023 FSU Board of Governors' Secretary
Date