



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2013, 9:00 A.M.
BOARD ROOM, 3RD FLOOR FALCON CENTER
1201 LOCUST AVENUE, FAIRMONT, WV

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Chairman Ron Tucker convened a meeting of the Fairmont State University (FSU) Board of Governors on December 12, 2013, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 3rd Floor Falcon Center, 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia.

At the request of Chairman Tucker, Judy Biafore conducted a roll call of the Board of Governors. Present for the meeting were board members Chris Courtney, Holly Fluharty, Bob Mild, John Myers, Mark Pallotta, Ron Tucker, John Schirripa, Bryan Towns, Frank Washenitz, and Dixie Yann. Members Bryan Foley and Shirley Stanton were absent. Also in attendance were President Rose and President's Council members Rick Porto, Ann Booth, Van Dempsey, Kaye Widney, and Chris Lavorata, Athletic Director, Tim McNeely, Assistant Vice President of Facilities, Tom Tucker, and Construction Manager, Stephanie Slaubaugh. FSU ACCE Representative, Sherry Mitchell and Will Armistead, President of the Fairmont State Foundation, also attended.

B. Public Comment

Chris Courtney reported that no one had signed up for public comment.

C. Approval of Agenda

Bryan Towns made a motion to approve the agenda. Mark Pallotta seconded. The motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2013

Bob Mild made a motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2013, and Dixie Yann seconded. The motion passed.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- A. Chairman Tucker commented that another semester is about to end and it is time to honor graduates. The commencement ceremony will be this Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the Feaster Center where over 200 students will receive their degrees. The commencement speaker will be Dr. Bruce Berry, Chair of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. He also reminded the board that there is a brunch at the Shaw House at 11:00 a.m. before the ceremony and a reception immediately following the ceremony in the Falcon Center.
- B. He also reported that Fairmont State will once again host the Marion County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast. The event will be held on Friday, January 3, 2014, in Colebank Gym beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- C. Chairman Tucker reminded all board members that the next Board of Governors' meeting will be February 13, 2014, (at 9:00 a.m. in the Falcon Center Board Room).

IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. President Rose reported that the last day of finals is on Friday, December 13, 2013, and next week grades will be processed, financial aid eligibility will be determined, probation/suspension status will be determined, and final preparations will be made for the Spring (2014) semester.
- B. She also reported that official confirmation was received from the Higher Learning Commission that Fairmont State University (FSU) was officially approved to offer the Masters in Architecture degree.
- C. She stated that no additional information about State budget cuts had been received from the Higher Education Policy Commission.
- D. President Rose said the Hope, Inc. event, which FSU and Pierpont have hosted the past several years, was very successful. The event focuses on providing gifts for the women in the Hope shelter.
- E. President Rose stated that offices are open on Monday, December 23, 2013, and closed from December 24, 2013, through January 1, 2014, and reopening on January 2, 2014.

V. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Mr. Will Armistead, President of the Fairmont State Foundation, reported that the Foundation's current assets exceeded the twenty million dollar threshold for the first time in the history of the Foundation. At the end of November, he said assets totaled \$20,236,000 and not included in the total is \$1.5 million dollars is outstanding pledges.

Mr. Armistead stated that the Foundation was awarded state tax credits from the Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) totaling \$20,000. Since the initial allotment was lower than in previous years, first preference was given to those donors who have supported the program in the past, and the allotment will be completed from this population. He said that they anticipate receiving a supplemental allotment in the spring and that they will actively promote the opportunity to contribute to a broader base of friends. He will have more information on this at future meetings.

He also reported that other gifts received since the last Board of Governors' meeting included support for athletics, the School of Business, the One-Room Schoolhouse, a memorial scholarship honoring a student who passed away, impact scholarship support, a School of Education Grant Payment, and a new scholarship in memory of Dr. Billy G. Dunn, (former Professor of Business, Director of Institutional Research, Director of Federal Programs, and Registrar for Fairmont State University).

Mr. Armistead stated that the Foundation mailed letters to donors notifying them of the student(s) who had received their scholarships during the current semester. Letters were also sent to a select group of alumni and friends in November regarding the extension of the American Taxpayer Relief Act, allowing those age 70 ½ or older to make a tax free charitable distribution from their traditional or Roth IRA on or before December 31.

B. Construction Project Updates (Tom Tucker)

Mr. Tom Tucker, Assistant Vice-President for Facilities, introduced Stephanie Slaubaugh, Construction Manager, to give an update on the various projects that are currently underway on campus. Weekly updates are available online at: <http://www.fairmontstate.edu/adminfiscalaffairs/physical-plant/construction-projects>.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Mark Pallotta moved to accept the following Consent Agenda:

- A. Financial Report (ending 9/30/13 and 10/31/13)
- B. Capital Projects Report 2014

Bryan Towns seconded. The motion passed.

VII. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS/ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE (John Myers, Chair)

- A. Approval to Discontinue BA French Degree and BA French Education Degree

John Myers made a motion to discontinue the BA French Degree and BA French Education Degree.

Mark Pallotta seconded. The motion passed.

VIII. ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Frank Washenitz, Chair)

- A. Mr. Frank Washenitz, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, acknowledged the efforts of Athletic Director Tim McNeely and his staff for the approximately \$40,000 increase in football revenue since last year. He then asked Mr. McNeely for an update on Athletics since the last Board of Governors' meeting.
- B. Mr. McNeely praised the Women's Volleyball team for a great year. He said that Athletics was able to cut their budget 7.5% without affecting any individual sport's operating budget. He also stated that ticket sales' revenue had increased approximately \$35,000.
- C. Mr. McNeely also said that the \$1,000 Club, formed in collaboration with the Fairmont State Athletic Association, was unveiled this week to help with scholarships and operating budget monies. He also stated that the November 23, 2013, donor event was a success and at that event they unveiled plans to renovate the Feaster Center gym.
- D. After several of the members engaged in much discussion concerning Athletics' budget issues and the overall University budgetary reductions, Chairman Tucker recommended that Mr. Frank Washenitz, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, meet with the other members of the Athletic Affairs Committee, Athletic Director McNeely, and Rick Porto, Vice President for Finance and Administration, to re-evaluate the 20-year Athletic Master Plan.

IX. BOG OPERATING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE (Ron Tucker, Chair)

Chairman Tucker stated there were no items to bring forth by the BOG Operating Procedures Committee.

X. ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE (Dixie Yann, Chair)

A. Dixie Yann, Chair of the Enrollment Committee, reported that she and Bryan Foley also a member of the Enrollment Committee, met in November with Vice President of Student Services, Kaye Widney; Director of Recruiting, Amie Fazalare; and Vice-President for Institutional Assessment, Van Dempsey. She stated that they discussed current enrollment information and that they also discussed additional student recruitment and retention initiatives including the new materials recruiters use when they travel. Packets with the newly designed materials were handed out to Board members.

Ms. Yann then asked Vice President Widney for an update since the last Board of Governors' meeting to share some of the upcoming plans for enrollment, recruitment, and retention.

B. Vice President Widney reported that since October, over three thousand undergraduate students have scheduled classes for Spring 2014. They have until December 17, 2013, to add to their schedule.

She also stated that they will be conducting a mid-year intervention event to help with retention of those students whose GPA fell below 2.0. There are also other new retention strategies that are going to be implemented soon.

Vice President Widney reported that 525 students attended Fall Campus Visitation Day and 419 of them were identified as Fairmont State University students. She also said that Spring Campus Visitation Day will be held March 22, 2014.

Ms. Widney stated that since October 2013, Admissions and Recruiting had 133 personalized on campus visits, 49 high school visits across West Virginia and surrounding states, and 12 academic exploration and day on campus events. She also said that if all academic records are in order, they have started doing on the spot admissions in high schools. Also, since October they have participated in 55 college fairs in West Virginia and surrounding states.

Vice President Widney reported that she and Dr. Van Dempsey recently convened a meeting of about 30 individuals on campus made up of faculty, staff, and administrators called the Campus Collaborative for Recruitment and Retention to strategize concerning enrollment, recruitment, and retention.

XI. FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mark Pallotta, Chair)

- A. Approval of Audit Report dated October 30, 2013, (for the year ended June 30, 2013)

Mark Pallotta made a motion to approve the Audit Report dated October 30, 2013. John Myers seconded. The motion passed.

XII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Ron Tucker, Chair)

Dixie Yann proposed January 23, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. for the next Executive Committee Meeting. Chairman Tucker indicated that a location would be determined and everyone would be notified.

XIII. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dixie Yann made a motion to go into Executive Session "Under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4" to discuss personnel issues. Mark Pallotta seconded. The motion passed.

Bob Mild made a motion to reconvene in open session. Dixie Yann seconded. The motion passed.

There was no vote on any item discussed in Executive Session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Bob Mild made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Pallotta seconded. The motion passed.



Ron Tucker

FSU Board of Governors' Chairman



Dixie Yann

FSU Board of Governors' Secretary