



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2021
WEBEX MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Chair David Goldberg convened a meeting of the Fairmont State University Board of Governors on April 15, 2021, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. via WebEx.

At the request of Chair Goldberg, Serena Scully, Chief of Staff, conducted a roll call of the Board of Governors. Present for the meeting were board members Wendy Adkins, Jon Dodds, David Goldberg, Dr. Gina Fantasia, Rusty Huston, Deborah Prezioso, Jay Puccio, Kevin Rogers, John Schirripa, and Dixie Yann. Maiya Bennett and Jason Pizatella were absent.

Others present were President Martin and President's Executive Leadership Team members Greg Bamberger, Cindy Curry, Lyndsey Dugan, Ken Fettig, Dr. Dianna Phillips, Dr. Rick Stephens, Dr. Joy Hatch, Merri Incitti, Christa Kwiatkowski, and Dr. Jacqueline L. Sikora. Others present included Dr. Amanda Metcalf, Dean, School of Education; Dr. Tim Oxley, Dean, School of Business and Aviation; Dr. Chris Kast, Dean, College of Liberal Arts; Dr. Laura Clayton, Dean, School of Nursing; Dr. Richard Harvey, Dean of Continuing Education and Community Engagement; Dr. Susan Ross, Executive Director of Academic Programs; Jacob Abrams, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness; Carrington Reese, Data Analyst; Julie Cryser, President of the Fairmont State Foundation; Jessica Sharps, Executive Director of University Relations; Katie Mallonee, Manager of Visual and Media Design; Hannah Mersing, Assistant Director of Communications; Derek Overfield, Digital Content Specialist; Katie Byers, Marketing and Communications Coordinator; Caitlyn Lampinen, Administrative Assistant to the Provost; Stephanie DeGroot, Construction Manager; Alesia Allison, Fairmont State Foundation Director of Operations; Janet Floyd, Faculty Athletic Representative and Faculty; Alicia Kalka, Executive Director of Resident and Student Life; Raymond Alvarez, Faculty; Janie Leary, Faculty; and Mark Imbrogno, Jackson Kelly.

B. Public Comment

Serena Scully advised that no public comments had been received.

C. Approval of Agenda

Rusty Hutson made a motion to approve the agenda. Jon Dodds seconded. The motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2021, AND MARCH 30, 2021

Dr. Gina Fantasia requested that her comment from the February 18, 2021 minutes reflect a discussion of resources needed for programs, not program finances.

Kevin Rogers made a motion to edit the minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting to reflect Dr. Gina Fantasia's requested change. Dixie Yann seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to approve the edited minutes of February 18, 2021, and March 30, 2021. John Schirripa seconded. The motion passed.

III. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Wendy Adkins, Chair)

Mrs. Wendy Adkins, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, advised that the Academic Affairs Committee met on March 29th and asked that Dr. Rick Stephens provide an update.

Dr. Stephens asked Dr. Susan Ross to lead the presentation of the agenda items.

Dr. Laura Clayton advised that the B.S. in Respiratory Care program is designed for respiratory therapists already working in West Virginia. Currently, there are four associate degree programs in West Virginia and one bachelor degree program (not accredited). The program will be completed in four semesters.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

A. Curriculum Proposal for B.S. in Respiratory Care

Gina Fantasia seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Susan Ross advised that there is a new requirement that concentrations and certificates must now be approved by the board of governors prior to being sent to the HLC.

Dr. Amanda Metcalf advised that the concentration is an effort to formalize the current advising that is already taking place in the School of Education, Health and Human Performance. The concentrations will provide a more diverse pathway for our students.

Dr. Fantasia asked if any additional resources will be needed. Dr. Metcalf advised there are no additional resources needed.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

B. Curriculum Proposal for B.S. in Exercise Science Concentrations
Exercise Physiology & Kinesiology

John Dodds seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Raymond Alvarez advised that the two Healthcare Management concentrations are a separation of courses and making the program more consistent with other academic institutions.

Students are becoming increasingly interested in data analytics, which has created the need for the concentration. There have been three new courses designed that specialize in analytics and data visualization. Dr. Alvarez advised that we already have adjuncts who have specialties in those areas and will teach those additional courses.

Rusty Huston inquired about the students from the program that have already received job offers. Dr. Alvarez advised that both students had been offered jobs in WV – one in the Guardian Healthcare System and one in Genesis Healthcare.

Chairman Goldberg asked if interns or practicums were required. Dr. Alvarez advised that they are required, and students must complete 500 hours.

Dr. Gina Fantasia asked if the concentrations required any additional resources for successful implementation. Dr. Alvarez advised they do not require additional resources.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

C. Curriculum Proposal for M.S. in Healthcare Management Concentration
Administer in Training (AIT)

D. Curriculum Proposal for M.S. in Healthcare Management Concentration
Health Information Technology

Gina Fantasia seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Chris Kast advised that the information regarding the police academy is for the program that Fairmont State was approved to offer. The proposal is for a concentration, minor, and certificate – all that meet the needs of different populations.

Rusty Hutson asked if we were the only university in the state to offer a program of this type. Dr. Kast advised that we are – the state code was amended to allow us to run the academy.

For the academic portion of the academy, current faculty will be used to teach the courses. The other portion of the academy will be funded by fees to the program.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

E. Curriculum Proposal for Police Academy
Concentration, New Minor and New Certificate

John Schirripa seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Kast advised that with part of the University's restructure, the Community Health program was moved from the School of Education, Health & Human Performance to the College of Liberal Arts. While in the School of Education, there was confusion because the Community Health degree does not lead to a degree for a certified teacher; this restructure clarifies the confusion.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

F. Community Health Degree Program Name Change

Jay Puccio seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Merri Incitti advised that the process of changing the name of "Schools" to "Colleges" is on the agenda as a notification to the Board of Governors. This change will align us with other universities. The change will begin with the new fiscal year.

IV. ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Rusty Hutson, Chair)

Mr. Rusty Hutson, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, advised that the Athletic Affairs Committee met on March 25th and asked that Mr. Greg Bamberger provide an update.

Mr. Bamberger advised that the Acrobatics and Tumbling team recently won the Mountain East Championship.

Also, Courtney Materazzi and Danielle Cutri were both awarded Coach of the Year awards from the Mountain East Conference.

Mr. Bamberger also advised that the men's golf team, men's tennis team, women's softball team, and women's soccer team all have a great chance of winning their upcoming games, putting them in line for a championship run.

V. BYLAWS COMMITTEE (Deborah Prezioso, Chair)

Deborah Prezioso, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, advised that the Bylaws Committee met on March 23rd and asked that Dr. Jacqueline L. Sikora provide an update.

Dr. Sikora advised that the 30-day comment period has expired on both policies that were out for public comment. The comments received are contained in the board packet.

Dr. Fantasia inquired if the Foundation still had concerns about the policy. She asked if we had affirmed that the Foundation feels this is a workable policy for them to work in tandem with the University.

Dr. Sikora advised that we did receive comments from the Foundation which are included in the Board packet. The request was to remove any obligations of the Foundation from the policy. There are only two sections of the code that may be applicable to the Foundation's request. However, those areas of the policy were not revised because they were not part of the new revisions and have been in place since the inception of the original policy.

Deborah Prezioso made a motion to accept the following:

A. Approval of Policy FA-02: Gift Acceptance Policy

Rusty Hutson seconded. One opposed. The motion passed.

Dr. Sikora advised that the Drug Policy is in line with the Drug-free schools act and federal guidelines.

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

B. Approval of Policy GA-07: Drug Policy

Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

VI. ENROLLMENT, HOUSING & STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE (Kevin Rogers, Chair)

Kevin Rogers, Chair of the Enrollment, Housing & Student Life Committee, advised that the Enrollment Committee met on April 6th and asked Dr. Jacqueline L. Sikora and Dr. Joy Hatch provide updates.

Dr. Sikora shared an update on housing. There are currently zero students in the residence halls with active COVID test/results. There are zero total housing students in quarantine.

Currently, 727 students have been assigned for spring 2021. – 61% occupied; that is down 109 assignments compared to this time last year. As expected, Pierpont numbers are also down.

We have received 300 cancellations for this year, mostly for COVID reasons. Dr. Sikora advised that most institutions are beginning to deny cancellations for COVID reasons. Beginning in the fall, we will not be granting housing exceptions for COVID concerns.

Alicia Kalka, Director of Housing and Residence Life, advised that she is optimistic for the fall 2021 semester. There are currently over 750 students assigned to housing, and application trends are ranging between 30 and 40 applications per week.

Mrs. Kalka advised that the current plan keeps Pence Hall offline for the fall for quarantine and isolation purposes. The current plan is to also keep Morrow Hall offline for fall until the occupancy need is reassessed in early June.

Mrs. Kalka also discussed the current phone call campaign that is taking place. This plan reaches out to students who are not registered for fall, students eligible for the Honors program, LLC, students who have an outstanding AR balance, and student athletes to ensure they have their booking for fall.

Dr. Joy Hatch shared the enrollment update, noting that inquiries and applicants are exceeding the numbers from this time last year, while applicants are still lagging behind but on a trajectory to exceed last year's numbers.

Dr. Hatch advised that in the past, applications were completed on the spot at college fairs by students who attended those events and potentially had no intention of attending Fairmont State. Without face-to-face events, most inquiries are organic, and therefore more accurate, leading to a greater number of applicants and admitted students.

Dr. Hatch also discussed the progress towards enrollment goals. Student orientation has started earlier than last year and includes a course in Blackboard. Once students complete the course, they will be instructed to schedule an appointment with their advisor to enroll in classes.

Following the larger than expected junior/senior drop-out rate in the spring semester, a survey was sent to all students who did not return in the spring. A preliminary analysis indicates wanting more online classes, financial reasons, personal reasons, and COVID. There were many really lovely comments regarding the university and professors, and almost half of the comments received indicated they would return to Fairmont State. The recruitment office is now in the process of calling those students to see if there is something that can be done to help them re-enroll.

There are 199 individuals registered for maroon and white week (currently taking place this week).

The Falcon Mobile, a new yield initiative, began this semester and was a huge hit. Falcon Mobile includes personal delivery in surrounding counties of a packet to students who have been accepted and mailing packets to those outside of that area. President Martin personally makes these deliveries.

Mr. Jon Dodds mentioned how Falcon Mobile exposed the ongoing issue with broadband access. During these deliveries, access to a signal was lost just 15 minutes outside of campus, truly emphasizing the importance of face-to-face course delivery at Fairmont State.

VII. FINANCE COMMITTEE (John Schirripa, Chair)

John Schirripa, Chair of the Finance Committee, advised that the Finance Committee met on April 7th and asked that Mrs. Christa Kwiatkowski, CFO, provide a brief update.

Mrs. Kwiatkowski advised the January and February financials have been provided in the board packet. Mrs. Kwiatkowski provided a summary of the information provided in the board packet.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

- A. Financial Reports for the periods ending January 31, 2021, and February 28, 2021

Kevin Rogers seconded. The motion passed.

Mrs. Kwiatkowski advised that each spring, the tuition and fee levels are reviewed, and a comparison with other regional institutions is completed. There were no fee increases last year, with the exception of special fees. This year, we are requesting a modest increase in fees. There is no increase being requested for room and meal plans.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

- A. AY 2021-2022 Tuition and Fee Schedules

Jay Puccio seconded. The motion passed.

Mrs. Kwiatkowski presented the last item – the resolution authorizing the Series 2012 bond refunding. She advised that through the Separation Agreement with Pierpont, Fairmont State agreed to refund the Series 2012 bonds, provided there is a level of savings that could result in the refunding of the bonds.

Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

A. Series 2012 Bond Refunding

Deborah Prezioso seconded. Wendy Adkins abstained. The motion passed.

VIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

David Goldberg, Chair of the Executive Committee, advised that the Executive Committee met on March 18th, and multiple items were discussed:

- Pierpont Update
- Housing/Enrollment
- Faculty Relations – concerns about the timeliness of faculty handbook and confidentiality statements (provided timeline for HR working with the provost and the deans)
- Provost Search Update
- Bylaws Committee Recommendations by AGB Consultant
- Nominating Committee for Officer Appointments

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Goldberg appointed a nominating committee that will make their recommendation at the next board meeting. The committee members are Wendy Adkins (chair), Maiya Bennett, Jay Puccio, Jason Pizatella.

Mr. Goldberg advised that Rusty Hutson, Deborah Prezioso, and himself have volunteered to stay in their current positions.

Mrs. Lyndsey Dugan, VP of University Relations and Marketing, provided an update.

Mrs. Dugan discussed the efforts of her department to continue to support the recruitment office, housing team, etc. The University changed directions due to COVID, and it changed the way the University interacts with current students and potential students.

Mrs. Dugan also discussed enrollment marketing and how her department partnered with recruitment to produce the largest strategic marketing plan that the University has ever had. The campaign is integrated with the communication plan that has sent over 120 direct mail pieces.

Digital marketing has seen the biggest success. The goals were to convert inquires to applications and enrollment, and it has been successful. Through social media, 9.5 million people have seen our digital ads.

President Martin introduced two new members of the Executive Leadership Team.

Dr. Dianna Phillips, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs
Mr. Ken Fettig, VP of Student Success

Dr. Martin also expressed her sincere gratitude to Dr. Rick Stephens for serving as Interim Provost.

Chairman Goldberg offered to endorse a resolution in gratitude of Dr. Stephens' work at Fairmont State during the last year.

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

Resolution of gratitude of Dr. Rick Stephens

Jon Dodds seconded. The motion passed.

President Martin also reminded everyone of the six commencement ceremonies that will be livestreamed on April 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

X. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Deborah Prezioso made a motion to go into Executive Session Under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A), (b)(9), (b)(10) and (b)(12) to discuss a confidential and deliberative matters relating to degree conferral, honorary degrees, naming opportunity and an update from general counsel.

Rusty Huston seconded. The motion passed.

Deborah Prezioso made a motion to rise from Executive Session. Dixie Yann seconded. The motion passed.

Chair Goldberg advised that no action or votes were taken in executive session.

Mr. Goldberg advised that in executive session there was discussion of a naming opportunity, honorary degrees, pending litigation, other legal matters regarding the separation from Pierpont, legislative wrap-up, and administrative exemption from the HEPC.

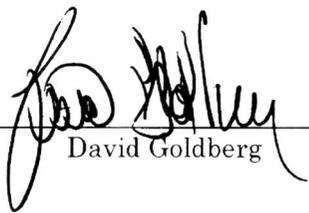
Rusty Hutson made a motion to accept the following:

- A. Naming opportunity proposed by the Fairmont State Foundation be accepted with the following revisions: The name shall be the Equitrans Midstream Corp. Sustainable Shelter; Fairmont State will begin the capital construction process following the receipt of the funds as cash on hand; and the university will endeavor its very best to complete the construction of the shelter on or about December 30, 2021.

Kevin Rogers seconded. The motion passed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Rusty Huston made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dixie Yann seconded. The motion passed.

 4/26/21 FSU Board of Governors' Chair
David Goldberg Date

 4/29/21 FSU Board of Governors' Secretary
Deborah Prezioso Date