



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 19, 2017**  
**BOARD ROOM, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR FALCON CENTER**  
**1201 LOCUST AVENUE, FAIRMONT, WV**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Roll Call**

Chair Dixie Yann convened a meeting of the Fairmont State University (FSU) Board of Governors on October 19, 2017, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Falcon Center, at 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia.

At the request of Chair Yann, Serena Scully, Special Assistant to the President, conducted a roll call of the Board of Governors. Present for the meeting were board members Holly Fluharty, Aaron Hawkins, Bill Holmes, Deborah Prezioso, Jay Puccio, Budd Sapp, John Schirripa, Bryan Towns, Frank Washenitz, Alyssa Welling, and Dixie Yann. Chris Courtney was present following the roll call.

Others present were Interim President Jones and President's Council members Cindy Curry, Christa Kwiatkowski, Christina Lavorata, John Lympany, Tim McNeely, Tim Oxley, and Misty Poe. Tom Tucker, Assistant Vice President for Facilities; Stephanie Slaubaugh, Construction Manager; RJ Gimbl, President of the Fairmont State Foundation; Dr. Johnny Moore, Pierpont President; and numerous faculty, staff and community members were also present.

**B. Public Comment**

Bill Holmes reported that Diana Noone and Josh Smallridge had signed up for public comment.

Diana Noone had concerns regarding Synergis. Dr. Noone proceeded to ask the audience questions, but was asked to hold questions until after the Synergis presentation.

Dr. Smallridge advised he echoed Dr. Noone's concerns.

C. Approval of Agenda

Bryan Towns made a motion to approve the agenda. Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2017**

Bryan Towns made a motion to approve the minutes of August 17, 2017. Frank Washenitz seconded. The motion passed.

**III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- A. Chair Yann gave a special welcome to Jay Puccio, new board member.
- B. There have been many groups and events on campus so far this semester. One very exciting event was the Dancing with the Stars event that was hosted by the Marion County Chamber and United Way.
- C. Chair Yann reminded everyone that the next BOG meeting is on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Gaston Caperton Center.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- A. Interim President Jones discussed how he has viewed his interim presidency here on campus in three stages: learning phase, leading phase, and transitioning phase.
- B. He also discussed identifying opportunities and investing in those opportunities. Some of the mentioned opportunities were: creating a bachelor's degree in surveying, expanding the aviation administration and flight instructors training program, securing an accreditation of the master's in architecture program, growing the OSIX program, examining how to increase the enrollment of the honors program, expanding the NCAA athletic teams, adding tennis as a club sport, growing international enrollment, and exploring the opportunity to work with an entity, such as Synergis, for exploiting online education.

**V. PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH (DIXIE YANN, CHAIR)**

Chair Dixie Yann thanked the search committee for all of their time and hard work.

Alyssa Welling made a motion to hire Dr. Mirta Martin for a two year term pending approval from HEPC.

Budd Sapp seconded. The motion passed.

## **VI. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. Constituent Report (Coach Joe Mazzulla)**

Joe Mazzulla, Head Men's Basketball Coach, gave a brief presentation.

Coach Mazzulla discussed the character development plan he has put into place.

### **B. Synergis Presentation (John Donohue)**

John Donohue, Chief Academic and Development Officer for Synergis, gave a presentation.

Synergis Education is an organization that brings new expertise and resources to colleges and universities assisting in the development, accessibility and delivery of academic programs in high-demand fields through their online program management services.

### **C. RJ Gimbl, President and CEO of the Fairmont State Foundation, reported that the audit of the Foundation was completed and was approved at the September meeting. The Foundation finished the year with \$29M in assets and \$20.5M in the endowment. After a review from the main investment firm, the Foundation is reporting a return of 11.5% on investments for the 2017 fiscal year.**

Mr. Gimbl stated that the annual fund continues to gain momentum with over \$52,000 received in gifts to date this calendar year. That puts them about \$10,000 ahead of last year at this time.

Mr. Gimbl reported that the Foundation is currently tracking \$730,000 in major gifts and pledges for the calendar year 2017.

Mr. Gimbl also mentioned the Victory Bell Society reception for donors before the WV State game on the 28<sup>th</sup> at the Shaw House. This is for those donors who contribute \$1,000 or more.

### **D. Construction Project Updates (Tom Tucker and Stephanie Slaubaugh)**

Stephanie Slaubaugh, Construction Manager, gave an update on the various projects that are currently underway and have recently been completed on campus.

The Hardway Hall masonry cleaning and sealing has been completed.

Turley Center roof has been completed and the Wallman Hall roof is in nearing completion.

An expression of interest is currently being worked on for the re-roofing of a portion of the library.

The chiller in the library will be replaced over winter break.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Aaron Hawkins moved to accept the following Consent Agenda:

- A. Financial Reports for periods ending June 30, 2017 and July 31, 2017

Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

## **VIII. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Aaron Hawkins, Chair)**

Mr. Aaron Hawkins, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee thanked Mr. Donohue for his presentation. Aaron advised that the Synergis presentation was for exposure and informational purposes.

Aaron then asked that Dr. Christina Lavorata, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, present the academic affairs agenda item.

Dr. Lavorata explained that the Textbook Adoption Report is a report due to HEPC every November 1<sup>st</sup>. The report shows that Fairmont State has taken steps to reduce textbook costs for students.

Aaron Hawkins moved to approve the following:

- A. Textbook Adoption Report

Budd Sapp seconded. The motion passed.

## **IX. ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Frank Washenitz, Chair)**

Frank Washenitz, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, asked that Tim McNeely, Athletic Director, give an update for the Athletic Affairs Committee.

Mr. McNeely advised that the time for the WV State game has been moved to 4:00pm in order to not conflict with the WVU game.

Next week the athletic department will be celebrating the national championship runner-up with a ring ceremony. Past players and coaches will be in attendance for the event.

Tim also advised that basketball season tickets are now on sale.

Mr. McNeely also provided an update on the \$1,000 club. The club is approaching the \$700,000 mark.

**X. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE (Dixie Yann, Chair)**

Dixie Yann reported that the By-Laws committee has not met.

**XI. ENROLLMENT/HOUSING-STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE (Bill Holmes, Chair)**

Bill Holmes, Chair of the Enrollment/Housing-Student Life Committee advised that the annual enrollment report had been distributed. He requested that all questions and comments be deferred to the next meeting until the board has time to review the information.

**XII. FINANCE COMMITTEE (John Schirripa, Chair)**

John Schirripa, Chair of the Finance Committee, provided a brief update.

The finance committee met on September 20<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the June and July financial reports. The CVB build-out was also discussed.

The next finance committee meeting will be held on November 17, 2017.

**XIII. STUDENT HOUSING COMMITTEE (Aaron Hawkins, Chair)**

Aaron Hawkins, Chair of the Student Housing Committee, made a motion to dissolve the ad-hoc committee (Student Housing Committee), which was created to assist in the University Terrace project that is now completed.

Budd Sapped seconded. The motion passed.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Dixie Yann, Chair)**

Dixie Yann reported that the Executive Committee has not met, but will meet in November.

**XV. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Aaron Hawkins made a motion to go into Executive Session “Under the Authority of West Virginia Code §6-9A-4 to discuss personnel matters as well as to discuss the purchase, sale or lease of property, advance construction planning, the investment of public funds or other matters involving commercial competition.”

Bryan Towns seconded. The motion passed.

Aaron Hawkins made a motion to rise from Executive Session. Bryan Towns seconded. The motion passed.

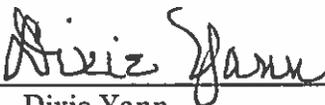
After reconvening from Executive Session, John Schirripa made a motion to approve the following:

- A. Approval of resources to assist Dr. Trisel with the expansion of the Aviation Technology program.

Bryan Towns seconded. The motion passed.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Bryan Towns made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

  
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Dixie Yann                      12/7/17                      FSU Board of Governors' Chair  
Date

  
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Aaron Hawkins                      12/7/17                      FSU Board of Governors' Secretary  
Date