

12-3-2013

## Board of Trustees Minutes, December 03, 2013

Eastern Washington University

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday**  
**December 3, 2013**

**MINUTES**

Trustees Present:

Paul Tanaka, Chair  
Mark Mays, Vice Chair  
Jo Ann Kauffman  
Michael O'Donnell  
James Murphy  
Bertha Ortega  
Robert Whaley  
Vicki Wilson

**Call to Order, I.**

Chair Tanaka called the September 27, 2013, meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 11:50 a.m.

**Quorum, II.**

A quorum was present. All trustees were in attendance.

**Executive Session, III.**

Chair Tanaka announced the Board will convene in executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for the following purposes: to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, litigation or potential litigation. Also, the Board will plan or adopt the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or will review the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress, which is exempt pursuant to RCW 42.30.140. Executive session concluded at 12:00 p.m.

**Reconvene Open Meeting**

Chair Tanaka called the Regular Session of the December 3, 2013, meeting of the Eastern Washington Board of Trustees to order at 1:15 p.m. He introduced our newest trustee, Uriel Iñiguez, who was appointed by the governor effective January 1, 2014. Mr. Iñiguez introduced himself to attendees, noting

that he and a number of his family members have attended EWU. The educational experience has changed the lives of him and his family, and he is anxious to give back to EWU. He looks forward to working with everyone during his six-year appointment. Chair Tanaka also acknowledged the service of Bertha Ortega, who is departing the board after serving since 2001.

## **Reports, IV.**

### University President's Report, IV.A.

Dr. Arévalo provided a report in written format and referred the Board to the report. He opted to use his reporting time to allow the opportunity for Athletic Director Bill Chaves to bring attention to his department. Mr. Chaves thanked the Board for their support and announced that Head Football Coach Beau Baldwin has again, for the second straight season, been named as the Big Sky Conference Coach of the Year. Coach Baldwin has brought Eastern to its third Big Sky title in four seasons. Mr. Chaves also mentioned this was the first time in Eastern history that our conference record was 8-0. Coach Baldwin also attended the meeting and thanked all for their support of Eastern Athletics and also attributed his success to outstanding assistant coaches and talented players. He emphasized the team effort. Two players also attended the meeting: Vernon Adams (quarterback) and Cooper Kupp (cornerback and wide receiver). Both have been recognized for their exceptional talents by the Big Sky Conference and nationally. The players also commented and thanked fans and administration for their support.

### Organization President's Reports, IV.B.

#### Faculty Organization, IV.B.1.

President Julia Smith applauded our student athletes and also brought attention to their success in the classroom. She introduced Dr. Mindy Breen, co-chair of the General Education Review and Reform Committee (GERR). Dr. Smith reported on work done to increase student success and reported on faculty discussions around what general education review should entail. Under consideration is moving from a distributional model (distribution of credits across the curriculum) to reviewing what skills and abilities a student should acquire as they complete their general education. Early winter quarter, faculty will have completed a statement on what general education should contain. Faculty are also putting together an early warning system so that students who are at the risk of failing are easily identified and are provided support. Trustee Kauffman inquired about dashboard metrics and wanted to ensure that all our retention strategies can be properly measured.

#### Classified Staff Union, IV.B.2.

President Kathleen Warren introduced WFSE Correspondence Secretary Carlila Hughes. She thanked Trustee Ortega for her service. Ms. Hughes provided the Board with a belated Thanksgiving and Christmas card. Kerwin Harmon was acknowledged for his service as this year he received the Distinguished Service Award for classified staff.

#### Associated Students, IV.B.3.

President DJ Jigre reported on student participation at the first annual blood drive hosted by EWU and 100 units of blood were collected. Homecoming changes were also mentioned, as ASEWU had received some inquiries about the new program and moving the parade to earlier in the day. Overall, the changes were positive and well received. Mr. Jigre also reported on student representation on the Riverpoint campus, military appreciation, and their goals (Q2S, PUB remodel, and library hours). President Jigre

also discussed the first year live on requirement, and a letter to the Board was provided. Overall, the students are supportive of the requirement.

### **Public Comment, V.**

Mr. Will Parks, owner of Adventure Dynamics, signed up to speak. He believes the University is competing with his business.

### **Action Items, VI.**

Consent Action Items, VI.

Minutes of the September 27, 2013, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting, VI.A.1.

WAC 172-06, Organization and Operation, VI.A.2a.

WAC 172-100, Traffic and Parking Regulations, VI.A.2b.

WAC 172-118, Recreational Equipment, VI.A.2c.

WAC 172-121, Student Conduct Code, VI.A.2e.

EWU 401-04, Volunteers, VI.A.2f.

EWU 401-03, Background Checks, VI.A.2g.

EWU 201-03, External Communications, VI.A.2h.

EWU 401-06, Protected Health Info. (PHI), VI.A.2i.

EWU 302-04, Intellectual Property Management, VI.A.2j.

EWU 401-05, Emeritus Faculty, Attachment VI.A.2k.

EWU 409-03, Retiree Benefits, Attachment VI.A.2l.

EWU 602-01, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prev., VI.A.2m.

***Motion 12-01-2013:*** *Trustee Kauffman moved that the consent agenda be approved, minus letter 2d. the WAC 172-130, Undergraduate Housing Requirement.*

*Seconded by Trustee Wilson*

*Motion carried.*

***Motion 12-02-13:*** *Trustee Kauffman moved that WAC 172-130, the Undergraduate Housing Requirement, be approved.*

*Seconded by Trustee Ortega.*

*One opposed.*

*Motion carried.*

***Motion 12-03-2013:*** *Trustee O'Donnell moved to adopt the following policy statement: The Board of Trustees (BOT) has carefully reviewed all of the information available to us on Q2S. Last month, the Board held a town hall meeting where we received extensive white papers from the students, faculty and administration detailing the pros and cons of a change. As part of the town hall meeting, the Board also heard direct testimony from 35 individuals representing a broad spectrum of the university and received over 95 written comments.*

*Most importantly, for the first time, the Board heard directly from the students as to their clear preference. The Board is appreciative of the sincere and reasoned testimony we received, and believe we now have enough information to make an informed decision.*

*The Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees believes that it is currently in the best interest of the university to remain on the quarter system.*

*However, the Board requests that the president consult with the Faculty Senate leadership, ASEWU, and staff to determine if selected programs would benefit by a move to the semester system, and to provide an initial report to the Board concerning the advisability of such a change by the January 24, 2014, BOT meeting.*

*The Board further requests that the president, in consultation with the Faculty Senate Leadership, associated students, and staff, determine, what, if any, improvements can be made to the existing quarter system to improve student success (such as block scheduling and uniform course units). The Board requests a report on these potential changes by the March 21, 2014, BOT meeting.*

*Finally, the Board requests that the president work with the Faculty Senate leadership, associated students and staff to provide to the Board specific benchmarks and schedules on the following efforts:*

- 1) General education reform;*
- 2) First year student advising and mentoring, to include a first-year experience program;*
- 3) Develop college and department plans to:
  - a. improving six-year graduation rates;*
  - b. improving retention rates for first-time, full-time freshmen;*
  - c. ensuring that credits to degree do not exceed 180 quarter hours, except in cases where accreditation and/or licensure require additional credits.**

*The Board would like these benchmarks and schedules by the May 15, 2014, BOT meeting.*

*The Board looks forward to working closely with the University as we move forward on starting something Big!*

*Seconded by Trustee Mays.*

*Motion carried.*

### **Summation: Trustee Wrap-up Discussion, VI.**

Overall, trustees were pleased with the participation and process for evaluating the quarter to semester conversion. They also discussed topics for the January meeting and are interested in exploring how growth is affecting the university's ability to achieve its mission.

### **Adjournment, VII.**

Chair Tanaka adjourned the EWU Board of Trustees meeting at 2:22 p.m.

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Paul Tanaka, Chair  
Board of Trustees

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Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary