

9-28-2012

## Board of Trustees Minutes, September 28, 2012

Eastern Washington University

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting**

**Friday  
September 28, 2012**

**MINUTES**

Trustees Present:

Bertha Ortega, Chair  
Paul Tanaka, Vice Chair  
Jo Ann Kauffman  
Mark Mays  
Kris Mikkelsen  
Joshua Neil  
Robert Whaley

**Call to Order, I.**

Chair Bertha Ortega called the September 28, 2012, meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 12:10 p.m.

**Quorum, II.**

A quorum was present. All trustees were in attendance except Ines Zozaya-Geist.

**Executive Session, III.**

Chair Ortega announced the Board would convene in executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(c and i) for the following purposes: to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease; and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, litigations or potential.

She further announced that executive session would last approximately 75 minutes and that no final action would be taken during the executive session.

## **Reconvene Open Board of Trustees Meeting**

Chair Ortega called the Regular Open Session of the September 28, 2012, meeting of the Eastern Washington Board of Trustees to order at 1:36 p.m. She noted that no final actions were taken during the executive session.

## **Reports, IV.**

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

Dr. Arévalo briefly reviewed some of the activities he has been involved with over the summer. He did two major talks for the Washington Apple Foundation, the Washington Tree Fruit Industry Foundation that provides scholarships for fruit industry employees' children that work in the fruit industry. The events were held in Wenatchee and Yakima and included about 300 to 350 students, parents, and industry members. He spoke about success in the higher education and touted Eastern's outstanding features.

He also provided introductory remarks to the 100 students from migrant families who were on campus this summer for a two-week program run by the Chicano Education Department and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. He also spoke to the students on campus from Asia University.

The Chancellor of the Community College (CCS) system of Spokane invited Dr. Arévalo to join her in a discussion on the CCS educational television channel about *Destination Eastern*. This is our working agreement with CCS on what is called a dual admissions program for students. Students who want to start at the community college and then transfer to Eastern will be automatically admitted to Eastern if they follow a specific course of study and maintain a certain GPA. They do not have to reapply to Eastern when they get ready to transfer. In addition, what is unique about this program is that our faculty and staff will advise them as they begin their community college experience. They will have opportunities to work with our staff and to visit our campus while they are finishing up their first two years of work at CCS.

We also had a visit from representatives of the National Council on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) regarding our application to host the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in 2015. Dr. Ron Dalla and a delegation will travel to La Crosse, Wisconsin, for the final presentation in the evaluation process.

Lower Columbia College visited this summer to discuss developing a 2+2 program with us much like we do at Bellevue College. The LCC president met with Dr. Arévalo and seemed very interested in EWU delivering a number of degree programs on their campus. Dr. Fuller and his staff are working to develop specific degrees that we may want to initiate as early as sometime this coming year.

The Higher Education Leadership group, which includes the five community college and university presidents, met in Spokane. New this year, the Mayor of Spokane was invited because the presidents were interested in discussing increasing our engagement with the City in the area

of economic development. We discussed how the five institutions could help the City improve what they do in economic development.

Dr. Arévalo also reported on a number of activities occurring within the university, such as the Learning Commons initiative that the university is launching to increase student retention and student graduation rate. Academic Affairs is finalizing the development of a Master's in Public Health. The development of any Health Science Center requires basically three components: medical education, research in the medical areas, and prevention. Dr. Arévalo reiterated his interest in ensuring EWU pursues opportunities relating to public health. Our business and science deans are working together to develop those elements. Hopefully, we will be able to submit a request for authorization before the end of this academic year.

Advancement is working on the fundraising for the Center for Alternative Energy, and we have seen a schematic of the Center. At the November meeting we hope to bring some of those schematics to the Board to show how it is coming together and also how faculty from two different colleges can collaboratively work to develop the Center. We hope to move it forward, and we have identified a location for the Center and it is just a matter of our Advancement unit marketing and raising the money.

The EWU Foundation was successful regarding the installation of new scoreboards for Roos Field and Reese Court. The board will be previewed at tomorrow's football game. Testing the board is under way.

Advancement had a very successful alumni event in Seattle where we hosted about 200 alums that came to a King Tut exhibit at the Science Center. It was a very positive event for the alumni group and it showed our West side alumni that we are continuing to try new things.

Business and Finance has initiated the budget planning process for 2013-15, and we will work to move it forward. We continually try to decrease the cost of products and services on campus. Dining Services has been working with WSU to purchase locally and reduce the costs of food products that we both purchase from local vendors.

Over the past four years, we have had a bookstore downtown, but we have concluded it was not cost effective and are closing it. Part of the reason this decision was made was because purchases at the downtown site were mainly for items other than books. Students can purchase those items online, and the bookstore has figured out another way to deliver books to the Riverpoint campus.

Our University Police staged another multi-agency training activity on campus, which involved both State Patrol and other municipalities. This increases our visibility in terms of our willingness to assist and address safety issues within the community.

Student Affairs provided you a preliminary glimpse of enrollment for this coming year. This fall we have about 1,575 freshman, which is little larger than we had last year. Overall we anticipate the overall enrollment will be higher than it was last year by two, to two and one-half percent.

Diversity figures on that entering class indicate the diversity in that group is somewhere in the range of 30 percent, which is much higher than we have had in the past. We continue to diversify the student body.

The Veteran's Resource Center (VRC) is up and running and buzzing with action. It seems it is doing what we intended for it to do, and I think it was a very worthwhile effort for us in terms of providing funding for it.

Lastly, after November 6<sup>th</sup>, David Buri, Jeff Gombosky, and Dr. Arévalo will try to visit with as many new legislators as we can before the start of the January session. We will map our strategy on how we can touch as many of those new legislators before the January session.

Trustees' Reports, IV.B.

Board Chair Bertha Ortega introduced our new student trustee, Joshua Neil. Trustees offered a thank you to Ms. Laurie Connelly for the newly composed orientation handbook for trustees. Ms. Ines Zozaya-Geist sends her gratitude and wishes the University well, as she could not attend today's meeting. Ms. Zozaya-Geist and Ms. Kris Mikkelsen's terms have come to an end. Dr. Ron Dalla spoke on behalf of Carolyn Sola to acknowledge Ms. Zozaya-Geist leadership as Chairperson of the Early Head Start Board. She was publicly thanked for her outstanding commitment and service to the children, families and staff at EWU's Early Head Start Program. Ms. Kris Mikkelsen was also thanked for her contributions and Chair Ortega read a resolution presented to her last evening:

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, *Ms. Mikkelsen has served with distinction as a member of the Board of Trustees continuously since her appointment in March, 2001; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Ms. Mikkelsen served as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Eastern Washington University during the academic years of 2005-2007 and as Vice-chair during the academic year of 2004-2005; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Ms. Mikkelsen served as chair of the Business and Finance and Advancement Committees and as a Board of Trustees representative on the Investment Advisory Committee and the Foundation Board; and*

**WHEREAS**, *Ms. Mikkelsen has shown exceptional dedication and commitment to Eastern, providing leadership and advocacy for visibility and presence at Riverpoint and served on the Governance Board for the Riverpoint Campus; and*

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Mikkelsen supported the integrated planning and budgeting model developed two years ago, and through her personal relationships with members of the board and the university community has strengthened and enhanced the Board's working relationships; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Mikkelsen is a tireless advocate for students and supporter of Eastern Washington University and has been an effective advocate for affordability and access; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Mikkelsen exemplifies the values of an outstanding alumnus and will for many years be remembered for her caring commitment and outstanding leadership to Eastern Washington University and its students.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees recognizes and commends Ms. Kris Mikkelsen for her wisdom, leadership, and dedicated service to Eastern Washington University during her eleven years as an Eastern Washington University trustee.

Organization President's Reports, IV.C.

Faculty Organization, IV.C.1.

President Sam Ligon reported the faculty are energized and excited about this year. He senses something very positive in the air and thinks it has to do with the economy finally stabilizing and with greater institutional support for faculty.

He spoke about the new hybrid committee structure and leading this change as to how committees work so that faculty, administrators, and students collaborate to identify problems or work together toward solution of identified problems. This is critical because in the past we have had administrative committees, student committees, and faculty committees, but we want one committee to deal with these issues. The most significant committee that faculty are working on is the Student Success and Retention Committee. Last year it was a small task force of about six senators, but the proposal we are putting together right now is much larger. It will be chaired by the President of the Faculty Organization and the Provost of the University. We want to emphasize the significance of this committee.

Mr. Ligon also reported his enthusiasm about working on a salary study with Provost Rex Fuller. He noted faculty's issues with salary as compared to other institutions, and Dr. Fuller is aware of this. In this study, we will find out where we stand in comparison to other institutions and where the problems lie. The institution is doing well in new hiring, and Mr. Ligon is encouraged since the institution is demonstrating recognition of the problem. Dr. Arévalo has made other funding available to faculty for additional professional development. This is significant money for faculty research, travel, conference attendance, and other support software. This supports the work we do in our research and creative work. This kind of faculty support is very meaningful. Mr. Ligon was thankful on behalf of the faculty.

Classified Staff Union, IV.C.2

President Quincy Burns reported the classified staff has worked very hard over the past year and during the summer in preparation for a new year. Even though staff is limited and has been cut back over the years, they are still focusing on the mission of our institution of making our student's successful.

Mr. Burns explained the attachments to the agenda regarding binding arbitration for campus police officers. He feels it is important the Board understands where campus police are coming from at this University and throughout the state. In particular, Mr. Burns noted that campus police officers were seen differently or treated differently than the rest of the officers throughout the state. They are seeking legislation to correct the situation

Mr. Burns also informed the Board that his term expires in November, and he will not be seeking another term. He thanked the board for their support and guidance over the past year. He hopes that his Executive Vice President, Kathleen Warren, will take his place and be elected.

Associated Students, IV.C.3.

President Kaleb Hoffer provided a written report (see attached) but did not attend the meeting.

Public Comment, V.

None.

**Action Items, VI.**

Consent Action Items, VI.A.

Minutes of the June 22, 2012, Regular Board of Trustees' Meeting, VI.A.1.

Minutes of the August 8, 2012, Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees VI.A.2.

EWU Policy 101-03, Addressing the Board of Trustees, VI.A.3a.

UGS 570-040 (REPEALER), Board Review, VI.A.3b.

***Motion 09-01-2012: Trustee Tanaka moved that the entire consent agenda be approved.***

*Seconded by Trustee Kauffman.*

*Motion carried.*

Discussion Action Items, VI.B.

Collective Bargaining Agreement between EWU and the Washington Federation of State Employees, Council No. 28 of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2015, VI.B.1.

***Motion 09-02-12: Trustee Tanaka formally moved for approval of the 2103-15 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Washington Federation of State Employees as presented.***

*Seconded by Trustee Whaley.*

*Motion carried.*

Board of Trustees' Officer Elections, VI.B.2.

**Motion 09-03-2012:** *Trustee Kauffman nominated a slate for the position of chair and vice chair for the next academic year: Paul Tanaka for the position of chair and Mark Mays for the position of vice chair for this next year.*

*Seconded by Trustee Kris Mikkelsen.*

*Motion carried.*

**Request for Defense for Individual Employees, VI.B.3.**

**Motion 09-04-2012:** *Trustee Mays moved to authorize indemnification and read the following resolution:*

*WHEREAS, a legal action as designated below has been commenced involving this institution of higher education; and*

*WHEREAS, the officers and employees of the institution designated below have requested the Board to authorize their defense under RCW 28B.10.842; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board has made a determination that such designated individuals were acting in the performance of their duties and in good faith; Now Therefore,*

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby specifically finds that the individuals designated below acted within the scope of their authority and in good faith with regard to the conduct alleged by the plaintiff to be wrongful, and the Board specifically authorizes their defense and approves their indemnification by the State pursuant to RCW 28B.10.842. The individuals indemnified were Rex Fuller and Niel Zimmerman.*

*Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.*

*The resolution was approved.*

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

Chair Ortega offered trustee comment or discussion items. Trustee Mays further noted that he will miss Kris Mikkelsen very much and that he wished Ines Zozaya-Geist was also present to thank to her for her service. He thanked Chair Ortega for her leadership as chair and the friendly atmosphere she has created among the trustees. He also encouraged attendance at committee of the whole meetings. Trustee Joshua Neil thanked everyone and noted that he felt very good about being here today and is excited for the year. All trustees expressed their thanks and goodbye wishes to Ms. Mikkelsen.

**Adjournment, VII.**

Chair Ortega adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Paul Tanaka, Chair  
Board of Trustees

Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary