

10-7-2005

Board of Trustees Minutes, October 7, 2005

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

October 7, 2005

Open Public Session at 8:30 a.m. (TAW 215)

Executive Session at 11:45 p.m. (PUB 261)

MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Kris Mikkelsen, Chair
Paul Tanaka, Vice Chair
Gordon Budke
Ines Zozaya-Geist
Jo Ann Kauffman
Stacey Roestel

Call to Order and Quorum, I. and II.

Chair Mikkelsen called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m., and noted a quorum is present, though Trustee McReynolds and Trustee Ortega were unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Reports, III.

University President's Report, III.A.

- Cabinet Retreat Follow-up - Dr. Levin-Stankevich reported that the Cabinet Retreat discussed advising and scheduling, and the overall theme developed for the coming year is "student success." The Cabinet recently participated in a self-assessment to identify areas that need focused on in terms of student success and retention. They enjoyed testing an electronic audience participation remote control system to accomplish their self-assessment. The next step is to refine the goals and look at models Eastern can use to move ahead with accomplishing the goals in regard to student success and retention.
- The President's Cabinet approved a name change for the College of Science, Math and Technology, to be renamed the College of Science, Health and Engineering. This name change is an important step in helping to put Eastern in the forefront, create more visibility, and highlight the health and engineering degrees offered here. Trustee Budke stated that he believes it is important for the board to support this change.

Motion 10-01-05: Trustee Budke motioned that the Board support the recommendation of the Cabinet to change the name of the college to the College of Science, Health and Engineering.

*Motion by Trustee Budke; seconded by Trustee Roestel.
The motion carried.*

- Dr. Levin-Stankevich announced that the remainder of the President's Report is organized for the Board based on the president's main goals. The overall goal for this year is excellence and quality to encourage student success.
- Sustaining Enrollment – Eastern's tenth day Fall quarter enrollment has surpassed, for the first time, the milestone of 10,000 students. This was the largest freshman class ever, nearly 1,000 more students than in 1997. Eastern has been successful with enrollment growth, and now we need to keep in mind the need to continue improvement in the areas of retention and graduation rates. Trustee Tanaka asked if the numbers are consistent with the projections. The response was that transfer numbers are down 21, and freshmen are up 205.
- Strategic Planning Pool - Funding proposals are due in October.
- Commitment to Diversity - Nani Linder was on campus on Wednesday. The kick off for 2006 EWU diversity grants is on October 28, with trustees planning to be in attendance. This will be a great opportunity to talk with students and recipients of last year's funding. The President's Advisory Committee on Diversity has agreed to lead an open forum on diversity at Eastern to give students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to verbalize their perspective to the board and administration. Numerous events occur during Fall quarter sponsored by Chicano, Native American, and African American Education programs to welcome students to the university.
- Advancement - Dr. Levin-Stankevich introduced the new Director of Development, Kathleen Langenheim. She arrived six weeks ago from Montana State University where she raised funds for the College of Business and Letters & Sciences. She has already been working closely with deans and development directors to establish goals and procedures.
- Interim President Levin-Stankevich listed numerous major grants that have been awarded to the university recently.
- External communications - A list of meetings and events attended by the president recently is included in the board materials. President Levin-Stankevich reported that he and Dr. Gibbons will be leaving on Sunday for China, in an effort to develop exchange agreements with Chinese universities. Agreements with these universities would help diversify Eastern's international student population. In other good news, Governor Gregoire has confirmed that she will attend the Governor's Cup football game. Additionally, the president attended a meeting of the Riverpoint Coordinating and Planning Council, to discuss space and facilities on the Riverpoint campus, with Chair Mikkelsen and Provost Dalla.
- There is a lot of energy and excitement on campus this fall. One of the exciting events organized by alumni is the Pass Through the Pillars event for freshmen students. Interim President Levin-Stankevich expressed that he was impressed with the number of faculty and staff who participated in this exciting and energetic event.
- Video clip - Pass through the Pillars
- Reminder that October Fest is Saturday.
- Announcement that the Eastern Hockey Team defeated Brigham Young at their game last night.
- Chair Mikkelsen remarked that this was an excellent report. She also commented that this year's September Gathering breakfast was especially inspiring and Dr. Levin-Stankevich's speech was excellent and inspiring. Fall quarter is off to an upbeat start.

Trustees' Reports, III.B.

Academic Affairs Committee, III.B.1.

No report was presented.

Advancement Committee, III.B.2.

No report was presented.

Business and Finance Committee, III.B.3.

Mr. Tanaka reported that the committee received an update on the proposed recreation center. The center is now in the schematic design phase. The Board of Trustees had asked to be updated regarding the costs of the center on a regular basis, and this will be done. It was reported that Married Student Court will be demolished in November as part of the master plan, not only because of the proposed recreation center. The committee also received a presentation on the university's Emergency Management Plan from Chief McGill. Trustees were impressed with this plan and it was a good report. The Business and Finance Committee has two other items that will come before the board members on today's agenda.

Student Affairs Committee, III.B.4.

Ms. Zozaya-Geist reported that Vice President Ponder introduced the Interim Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students, Deacon Meier, and the trustees welcomed him to EWU. The committee received a report from ASEWU President, Alicia Kinne, outlining the main goals for this year's student government. Trustee Zozaya-Geist stated that she is impressed with the students this year, as she is each year, and that their energy and goals are commendable. The committee received a report from Pam Parks, Interim Athletic Director. They plan to begin the search for a new athletic director in January with the goal being that the new EWU president will make the final hiring decision. It was also reported that athletics is preparing an initiative that would give student athletes priority registration in order to better meet the stringent NCAA requirements for graduation. An update on the Choices grant was also given. Student Affairs Committee members discussed the planning for a campus forum on diversity, which would help provide a bridge for emotions of last spring as well as address current concerns. Several board members have expressed interest in being involved in this important forum. It was proposed that a good time for the forum might be in December, perhaps on one of the days when board meetings are planned. Board members will participate in planning this event. It was also reported that the Diversity Grant Showcase will take place later in October. Vice President Ponder gave an update to the committee on the health and wellness fee project. This project involves two positions that would be proactive and preventative for the benefit of students. The leadership team is currently reviewing the information. Trustee Zozaya-Geist shared that there was a lot of positive energy at the committee meeting, and that the leadership is commendable. She thanked all for running the meeting smoothly.

Joint Governing Board, III.B.5.

No report was presented.

Presidential Search Committee, III.B.6.

Mr. Budke reported that since his last report at the August 19 board meeting, the position ad has run twice in the Chronicle of Higher Education, and applications will be accepted until the end of October. The position description, which is also a way to highlight the educational atmosphere of the university, is now on the web page. Candidates can either apply, be nominated, or be recruited for this position. The committee will have a teleconference in a week and a half to get an update from AT Kearney. It has been reported that questions have come up regarding diversity and open mindedness. Mr. Budke stated that the committee has been extremely opened minded, and that all members are being very open. Mr. Budke also stated that the committee is advisory to the board, and that this decision will be made by the Board of Trustees. The timeline is still on track for January interviews and a new president on campus by July 1.

Presidents' Reports, III.C.

Faculty Organization, III.C.1. (Attachment III.C.1.)

Dr. Winkle reported that a grant proposal for difficult dialogues was submitted this week to the Ford Foundation. The goal of the grant project is to organize forums and dialogues regarding free speech and diversity, both inside and outside the classroom. Faculty Organization is also working with the New York Times to organize a luncheon on October 28 to help faculty incorporate the New York Times into their courses. Dr. Winkle reported that she and others found it very exciting and gratifying to see so much student participation at the ice cream social and the Pass Through The Pillars event during new student orientation.

Classified Staff Union, III.C.2.

Ms. Mary Jo Van Bommel greeted the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Classified Staff Union. She reported that the staff worked diligently to prepare for the new and returning students for fall quarter, and she can attest to the large numbers of students attending Eastern, as she facilitated the math placement test for 1300 students before the quarter began. The Classified Staff has a representative on the Presidential Search Committee, and the bargaining units are electing their representatives.

Associated Students, III.C.3. (Attachment III.C.3.)

Ms. Kinne expressed that it is extremely exciting to have students back on campus, as she thought it was too quiet during the summer. The student government representatives spent the summer e-mailing Alicia with their thoughts and ideas, so they have begun the year extremely prepared. There are a record number of students on committees this year, due to the efforts of the council members being visible and letting students know about the opportunities to get involved. Council meetings are Fridays 2-4p.m. David Barstow came to address constitution day in which there was an outstanding turnout of 400 students. The New York Times was impressed and excited about the turnout. They had paid for the speaker and luncheon to come to campus. Mr. Barstow also visited a journalism course in Spokane. He said he was extremely impressed with Eastern, the student attendance, and the quality of students' questions and conversations. Ms. Kinne also reported that they sponsored fundraising events to benefit the two Katrina students attending Eastern. They are also sponsoring City of Cheney Mayoral debates. Chair Mikkelsen complemented Alicia and the other students for doing a fabulous job.

Reports on Campus Initiatives, III.D.

Strategic Plan Update, III.D.1.

Dr. Levin-Stankevich reported on the first of three goals in the strategic plan: providing a rigorous and engaged student learning experience, represented by the phrase “student success.” This goal is driven by a commitment to the students enrolled here and a commitment to make their experience a successful one. Some Chicano students have spoken of having to convince their parents to let them go to college, due to cultural and familial traditions, and concerns about safety, etc. The internal motivations here at the university to support these individual students by giving them what they need and helping them to graduate are excellent. Roadmap to Redesign is another program whose goal is to identify student progress and engagement in courses, and then to work with the students toward success. Interim President Levin-Stankevich introduced Dr. Bill Williams, a senior member of the Psychology Department faculty, who is making a significant difference in the lives of students with his enthusiasm and commitment to student success.

Roadmap to Redesign, III.D.2.

Dr. Bill Williams presented a slide show presentation about a program he has been utilizing in the Psychology Department, Roadmap to Redesign. He shared that he was skeptical when he first learned about this program because it uses a large class size and the instructors must learn and implement an entirely new way of teaching. The exciting thing about this program is that it brings small class interactive learning techniques into large classes, and these techniques are achieving results toward the goal of student engagement and student success. The program is computer and web based, which enables professors to log on to the system to see how students are doing, whether they are participating in the practice/homework lessons, and how often they are logging on to do their course work. The exciting thing about this is that it enables professors to identify right away those students who are not participating in the practice/homework, and then to talk with them and encourage them to engage in the course and thus increase their chances for success in the course. An additional benefit of this program is that student and faculty satisfaction with courses taught in this manner are higher than those in standard classrooms. The program utilizes student mentors who earn credit for their work. Currently there are 32 mentors and five alternates. Dr. Williams discussed the importance of assessment, changing the approach, assessing again and making further adjustments. This program is improving learning for the enrolled students as well as the mentors, who are also gaining huge learning advantages. Dr. Levin-Stankevich commented that what Dr. Williams has accomplished is nothing less than amazing. He was awarded the CenturyTel Faculty Excellence Award this year in his college. He has inspired students to learn and to participate as mentors, so much so that there is competition for mentor positions. Chair Mikkelsen thanked Dr. Williams for the fascinating presentation. Trustee Budke commented that this has implications beyond direct student benefit. This is a very positive message Eastern can take to the community and the legislature that Eastern is using resources wisely for excellent results for student learning. The trustees appreciate Dr. Williams’ efforts, investment and enthusiasm for this program.

Government Relations Update, III.D.3.

This agenda item will be deferred to later in the meeting.

Action Items, IV.

Consent Action Items, IV.A.

Minutes of the August 19, 2005 Board of Trustees' Meeting, IV.A.1(Attachment IV.A.1.)

Motion 10-02-05: *"I move that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the August 19, 2005 BOT meeting."*

Motion by Trustee Budke; seconded by Trustee Kauffman.

The motion carried.

Discussion Action Items, IV.B.

Resolution for Gordon Budke, IV.B.1. (Attachment IV.B.1.)

Chair Mikkelsen read the resolution for Trustee Budke as past chair of the EWU Board of Trustees. Chair Mikkelsen expressed appreciation and acknowledged that Mr. Budke has been instrumental in the leadership of this institution over the last several years. She also remarked that EWU gave Trustee Budke his original educational foundation to begin his career. She presented him with a memento, one of the bricks from the married student housing building where he and his wife lived while he attended school at Eastern. Chair Mikkelsen expressed that it has been a pleasure to work with him on the board.

Master Plan Approval, IV.B.2.

Vice President Voves explained that several months ago board members had asked for more time to review the master plan. It is now on the agenda for the Board's approval.

Motion 10-03-05: *"I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Master Plan."*

Motion by Trustee Tanaka; seconded by Trustee Zozaya-Geist.

The motion carried.

Supplemental Budget Request Presentation, IV.B.3. (Handout)

Ms. Voves reported that this item is both a capital and an operating budget request. All trustees heard and participated in a detailed discussion at the Business & Finance Committee meeting.

Motion 10-04-05: *"I move that the Board of Trustees approve this budget request."*

Motion by Trustee Roestel; seconded by Trustee Budke.

The motion carried.

2006 EWU BOT Meeting Schedule, IV.B.4. (Attachment IV.B.4.)

Motion 10-05-05: “*I move to approve the 2006 EWU BOT Meeting Schedule.*”

Motion by Trustee Budke; seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

The motion was withdrawn.

Discussion occurred about the August retreat date providing time for the new president to get settled at the university prior to the retreat. Since all trustees are not completely comfortable with these dates, the motion was withdrawn. Chair Mikkelsen asked that Julie Thayer send an e-mail to all board members requesting final input on the schedule. The final proposed schedule is to be voted on at the December BOT meeting. The input from the attorney general’s office is that Eastern must publish the 2006 BOT schedule by the end of December. Chair Mikkelsen reported that she will be working with trustees regarding committee assignments, and these assignments will be finalized over the next month or so.

Old/New Business, V.

Dr. Dalla acknowledged that Neville Hosking is retiring from the university, and that Tuesday is his last day here at Eastern. He will be missed by all who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Executive Session, VI.

Chair Mikkelsen announced that the Board would adjourn into executive session for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110, to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. No final action will be taken during this executive session.

Reconvene

The Board reconvened into open session at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Personnel Actions, VII. (Attachment VII.)

Motion 10-06-05: It was moved and seconded that the personnel actions be approved as presented.

Motion by Trustee Budke and seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

The motion carried.

Motion 10-07-05: It was moved and seconded that the Board correct an oversight to the Interim President’s Contract. The Board had intended that Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich be compensated in the amount of \$9800.00 for his efforts in the transition period from April through June.

Motion by Trustee Tanaka and seconded by Trustee Roestel.

The motion carried.

Government Relations Update, III.D.3.

In preparation for the legislative session, discussion occurred regarding Eastern's Spokane Center building. Trustee Tanaka recommended that the administration develop a business plan/case and additional information that outlines a proposal for where the programs that currently reside at the Spokane Center should be placed. The board would then consider how this matches with the strategic plan and the capital building plan for the campus.

Chair Mikkelsen proposed a committee be formed to look into this topic. It was decided that Trustees Budke, Roestel and Mikkelsen will be the work group. The work group will review the utilization study, capital requirements, investment issues, and the Spokane task force report. This topic will then be brought to the Business and Finance Committee and possibly the Academic Affairs Committee. It was pointed out that there could be an opportunity to develop a new plan for academic program placement since there are campus buildings on the capital improvement list.

Associate Vice President Gibbons shared his perspective regarding his approach to Educational Outreach. He has approached educational outreach based on the mission and vision of Eastern as an instructional university with emphasis on access throughout the state. It is important to find a balance between what others want Eastern to do and what is realistic for the university as a whole. AVP Gibbons believes the most important issue is for EWU to maintain a strong presence in Spokane County. It is important to bring programs to working adults and people in the high technology industry in the Spokane Valley and at Riverpoint. This doesn't mean that a full-service higher education center needs to be staffed by numerous employees. Dr. Gibbons believes Eastern's primary off-campus capital investment would be ideally at Riverpoint. This would enable Eastern to be visible and pro active in downtown Spokane, and to be a part of the higher education center at Riverpoint.

In terms of outreach programs, Bellevue is an example of what we have strategically decided to say yes to and we need to be careful not to stretch too far which will mean saying no to some proposals.

Adjournment, VIII.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.