

8-22-2003

## Board of Trustees Minutes, August 22, 2003

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
August 22, 2003**

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:**

Mr. Gordon Budke, vice chair  
Mr. Neil McReynolds, chair  
Ms. Kris Mikkelsen  
Ms. Bertha Ortega  
Mr. Nicholas Peyton

**Call to Order and Quorum, I. and II.**

Chair McReynolds called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present. He mentioned the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Computing and Engineering Sciences building that was held at 9:00 a.m., and he also introduced the new student trustee, Nick Peyton, who was recently appointed by the Governor and is attending his first Board meeting as a trustee. Mr. McReynolds announced there would be a hearing later in the meeting to codify Eastern's current alcohol policy as WAC 172-64. He noted there was a sign-up sheet for those wishing to testify at the hearing. He also said a late action item, an interlocal agreement with the City of Cheney, would be added to the agenda.

**Reports, III.**

**University President's Report, III.A.**

President Jordan made the following comments:

- He welcomed Nick Peyton, noting that he follows in the steps of some great student trustees.
- We had a truly great ceremony for the groundbreaking, and the opening date for the building is Fall 2005. He appreciated the participation, including Senator Sheahan, who also visited campus on August 15 to participate in a luncheon with the English Language Institute.
- He attended an American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) conference in Rhode Island in July, the topic of which was the reauthorization of the higher education act (federal financial aid programs). The government is proposing a penalty for raising tuition beyond the cost of living increases. This would unfairly penalize higher education from two sides, so it will be important to work on this during the next congressional session.
- President Jordan and Provost Levin-Stankevich attended the last Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) meeting and participated in discussions around the state master plan. Findings show Washington is far behind other states in terms of the size and production level of four-year institutions. This raises issues around the preparation of students coming into our institutions and the need

to re-size our post-secondary distribution of students. Dr. Jordan will chair the Council of Presidents (COP) this year, so a number of officers of the University will chair various committees of the COP.

- Senator Jim West visited campus in July. He looked at the Computing and Engineering Sciences program and how that relates with the crime lab and the state archives buildings. He also spoke with the Seahawk administration.
- Yesterday Dr. Jordan participated with President Rawlins of WSU in a live KXLY radio interview regarding problems facing higher education.
- Eastern has received confirmation from the Commission on Colleges and Universities regarding our fifth-year interim evaluation report. It includes approval of nine substantive change proposals to existing degree programs offered here and which we can now offer elsewhere in the state.
- Dr. Jordan congratulated the Dental Hygiene department for being awarded the site for the Western Regional Board Evaluation. This saves our students two trips to Seattle; while other students will travel to our site.
- The University received a record \$1.7 million in grant funding during the month of July. This level of funding is nearly twice what was recorded during July of 2002. Programs that received awards include the Student Support Center, the National Board Certification Program for Teachers, Archaeological and Historical Services cultural resources programs, the School of Computing and Engineering Sciences, the Title III program administered by the Teaching and Learning Center, and the School of Social Work Idaho IV-E program.
- EWU has been selected to receive funding for the 2003-04 Washington State Work Study/Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership community service proposal, "The Potential Project." Funding for the project will include \$30,825 for student wages and \$3,660 in an administrative grant.
- We just completed summer session 2003, and the numbers were virtually identical to last year. Students took slightly fewer credits this year (8 vs. 8.3 per student), but the exciting piece was our effort to increase courses in the GEGR areas, which resulted in a 30 percent increase in freshman participation. Summer Session will achieve their targeted budget for this year, and an analysis will assess the effectiveness of the tiered financial tuition model that charged differential tuition at the lower, upper and graduate level.
- Fall quarter numbers are running ahead of our projections and ahead of last year, both in first-time freshmen and transfers. Transfers will become a tougher issue as more students begin their post-secondary education at the community colleges.

### **Trustees Reports, III.B.**

Chair McReynolds reported that only the Executive Committee met since the last Board meeting. He noted we are developing a schedule of Board committee meetings beginning at 10:30 on September 19, 2003, following the Welcome Back Breakfast.

Chair McReynolds also reported on the Joint Governing Board's activities, explaining that this group, made up of the governing boards of all the four-year institutions and community colleges, is working together on funding issues of higher education in the state. The board members of all these schools will be attending a joint conference late

this year or early next year to discuss these funding issues. Karen Lane, chair of the board at The Evergreen State College, is chairing this group. Board members will also be asked to reach out to the leadership of groups throughout the state to get a better understanding of how they view higher education in the future—the needs, the challenges and the obstacles—to try to better understand what we need to do to get their support on whatever we propose to do down the road. Each board member will be asked to address this issue at their meetings, and will be asked for their support and help in identifying and talking to leaders throughout the state. He said the group was in the listening stage, but hope to build a constituency base for higher education in the state. This will be a major effort over the next six months, and they will work closely with the Council of Presidents.

### **President's Reports, III.C.**

#### **Faculty Organization, III.C.1.**

Dr. Tony Flinn reported that their principle labor this summer was the academic strategic plan. The focus they are working on is to define and improve academic quality at Eastern (academic quality vs. quality education). The plan will provide 1) ways and support for faculty to stay current with their discipline; 2) an increase in academic rigor; and 3) an increase in student support for success under greater rigor. He and Provost Levin-Stankevich will meet with the deans soon and should have a draft document for the Senate councils in the fall. He is also taking on the project of revising the faculty organization's policies and procedures. President Jordan expressed his appreciation for the work Dr. Flinn and his colleagues are putting into the academic plan, and Trustee Budke noted the currency piece is important for faculty.

#### **Classified Staff Union, III.C.2.**

Rick Nesbitt filled in for Mike Nelson. He reported that Ken Guidry of the Library was recently elected as recording secretary. He noted they had more than a 50 percent turnout during yesterday's elections for Bargaining Unit 1 and 2 officers. The union is currently reviewing the administration's proposed budget reduction plan. They will have their alternative proposal ready no later than September 2, 2003. He pointed out that in 1993-94 EWU reduced classified staff by 96 FTE from the previous year's staffing level. This was done when the university was experiencing the highest enrollment in its history. The university never fully recovered those cuts. Today we are still 50 FTE below our 1992-93 classified staff levels. The administration's proposed cuts will reduce classified staff by another 29 FTE from the 2002-03 levels. If these cuts take place, classified staff FTE in Ledger 1 state funded accounts will be the same as the 1993-94 staffing levels. He emphasized that all classified staff support students and reducing their numbers will affect services to all students. Trustee Budke asked about the numbers, noting that as important as this is to all of us, as a board member it is important to understand what has taken place. He asked President Jordan to put the numbers into perspective for him.

Dr. Jordan explained that it is important to step back and look at the historical data, keeping in mind those issues which he feels are most important: 1) what has he done on his watch? That's what he can and should be held accountable for. He came to campus

in 1998-99, and we have increased the number of classified hours since that time; 2) we have reduced the number of hourly hours, which is always a point of concern because the more you use students it takes away classified hours; and 3) what are we bound to under the contract? We have agreed to use a baseline of 1995, so everything we do, clearly from a legal question, needs to be measured from that year. Everyone across campus is doing more work with fewer resources because we're getting less now per student than 10 years ago.

The only good news is that operating and maintenance (O&M) money will come to hire predominately classified employees to help support the Computing, Archives and Crime Lab buildings. This will affect our ability to positively contribute to the classified staff. However, O&M funding is a targeted area by the legislature, which is making a conscious effort to reduce these funds. He said this is a common cause for the administration and classified staff. The administration's reduction plan eliminates 78 positions (mostly through vacant positions and fund shifting) so it comes down to about 20 actual positions lost. The union is currently reviewing the plan and the administration provides any requested information. The vice presidents met with the union yesterday for a question and answer session, and the union now drafts their response to us which is due by September 2. We have provided release time for five individuals (with alternates) to work on this process. Del Thompson spoke about the chart used by the union, agreeing that on President Jordan's watch there hasn't been a decrease in classified staff. However, he pointed out that historically the staff took a significant hit of 96 positions. They have been gaining since then; but if they take this proposed cut this year, it will take them back to 1993-94—square one. The union is asking that this be considered by the administration and stated again that all employees provide service to the students.

### **Associated Students, III.C.3.**

Jason Clerget reported that he attended the President's Cabinet Retreat where he gave the Associated Students' perspective on diversity and shared governance. The retreat was very informational, and the ASEWU has identified some common goals with the rest of the campus. He recently met with Mayor Sooy to establish a non-voting student-at-large position on the Cheney City Council. They are working out the details, which will include a trial period where he attends their council meetings. He signed the STA agreement last week, so unlimited access to the STA system for those holding an Eagle Card will begin on September 15. He thanked Rick Romero for his help with this agreement. The Associated Students are looking for speakers for their leadership conference this year. President Jordan has agreed to be the keynote speaker, and Raymond Reyes, an associate vice president from Gonzaga, will speak following Dr. Jordan. The Welcome Back Breakfast will be held on September 19. Mr. Clerget participated in the groundbreaking ceremony this morning, and he said this shows not just what we plan to do, but the steps that are taking place—giving the student body a real sense of pride. On September 22-23, he and two of the AS vice presidents will participate in a freshman orientation session covering all the different aspects of what the ASEWU does. Finally, he welcomed Nicholas Peyton to the Board and said he is looking forward to working together with him on their common goals.

## **Special Reports, III.D.**

### **Board of Trustees Retreat Report, III.D.1.**

Chair McReynolds reported that the Board held their annual retreat on July 1-2, 2003. They got in depth on some things they don't normally have time for, e.g. the Strategic Plan (with a goal to adopt it at the October Board meeting), the Diversity Initiative (they heard the status of the initiative and an update on the campus climate survey), the Capital Campaign (they heard a presentation by consultant David Wu and discussed the Board's role in the campaign), and Board Operations (a self evaluation and discussion of how to become more effective). Regarding the diversity initiative, Mr. McReynolds said a reception is being planned for this fall, possibly on October 17, to tie in with Homecoming. The event will showcase the past year's awardees and begin the process for selecting new proposals for the coming year.

An outcome of the retreat was agreement on the Board goals for the 2003-2004 year:

- Strategic Planning and Positioning
- Diversity
- Academic Resources
- Higher Education Policy & Funding
- Capital Campaign
- Board Operational Goals

Trustee Mikkelsen commented that she thought the retreat was very productive and helpful. The in-depth discussion of issues critical to moving the university forward made it a worthwhile investment.

### **President's Cabinet Retreat, III.D.2.**

Dr. Jordan explained that the Cabinet Retreat is an extension of the Board Retreat—the execution side and how we will choose to approach it. This year's retreat included the Cabinet plus a few additional people. They began with the theme of building a culture of leadership. He noted they had a level of candor not previously reached, with intense conversations where people stayed in tune with the conversations with few if any sidebar conversations. They heard an overview of the strategic plan, discussing it as a large group and then breaking into smaller groups for individual themes. The importance of the currency of the curriculum, which also came up in the diversity discussion, was realized. A proposal for hiring more diverse faculty is now under discussion in the deans' council, as it was agreed to have a pool of one-time funds for hiring visiting professors to help create more diversity on campus. We brought the diversity consultants in again for this retreat. Amendments to the strategic plan will be needed. We also discussed how to act out the capital campaign following the timeline the Board has set up. We need to make a decision on the Capital Campaign by next spring. This section of the retreat included interesting case study groups that developed proposals around student affairs. Dr. Jordan said it was a very successful retreat. He noted that he likes the process of having the Cabinet retreat follow the Board retreat. We're trying to create a great university here at EWU; and we may have different ideas on how to achieve that, but it was a good process.

**Early Head Start Program, III.D.3.**

Laurie Connelly reported that the Early Head Start Governing Board consists of the members of the Board's Academic Affairs Committee plus some others from campus, and they met on August 12. Their grant application was refunded, and the new funding continues until we decide not to have the program. The proposal received 95/100 points (the highest score in Washington state), and was funded at the highest cost per child because they were able to demonstrate the cost of delivering services to the children in this area. The real issue at the meeting was to discuss a subcontractor in Colville who no longer wants to continue on the grant. The committee had to decide whether to operate that site on an interim basis, look for another provider, or have Eastern operate it. The recommendation was to operate it ourselves, giving us more control over the quality of staff and services, less interruption in services than if we take it to an RFP process, and greater possibilities for academic ties (with the occupational therapy, physical therapy, dental hygiene, communications disorders, psychology and social work programs). The governing board unanimously approved this recommendation.

**Action Items, IV.**

**Consent Action Items, IV.A.**

**Minutes of the June 30, 2003 Board of Trustees Meeting, IV.A.1.**

***Motion 08-01-03:*** "I move that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes as presented."

*Motion by Trustee Ortega; seconded by Trustee Mikkelsen. The motion carried.*

**Awarding of Banking Services Contract, IV.A.2.**

Trustee Mikkelsen reported that a very thorough and comprehensive RFP was made. Six institutions' proposals went through a comprehensive and thorough review. The Bank of America was recommended for a three-year contract period, with two additional options for two-year follow-ons.

***Motion 08-02-03:*** *The Business and Finance Committee recommends awarding the Banking Services Contract to Bank of America.*

*Motion seconded by Trustee Ortega.*

Trustee Budke abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

*The motion carried.*

**Awarding of Bid for the Computing and Engineering Science Building Contract, IV.A.3.**

Trustee Mikkelsen reported there were six bidders, and the successful bid was from Shea-Graham Construction, Inc., for \$15,543,600.

*Motion 08-03-03: The Business and Finance Committee recommends awarding the bid for the computing and engineering science building contract to Shea-Graham for \$15,543,600.*

*Motion seconded by Trustee Budke. The motion passed.*

President Jordan noted this was a good bidding time—the bids were close and we came in significantly under budget. Some things were not included, e.g., add alternates, and the initial plans did not include the cost of furniture so we will have to find a source to provide furniture. Mary Voves said \$19 million was appropriated by the legislature. We estimated \$17 million and the bid came in at \$15.5 million. This leaves us some money to work with, along with OFM, if there are issues that come up during the course of construction and to take a look at the furniture question.

**Acceptance of Completion of Rozell Heating Plant Improvements, IV.A.4.**

Trustee Mikkelsen reported this project was completed in the amount of \$6,126,712.37.

*Motion 08-04-03: The Business and Finance Committee moved acceptance of the Completion of Rozell Heating Plant Improvements.*

*Motion seconded by Trustee Ortega. The motion carried.*

**Discussion Action Items, IV.B.**

**WAC Hearing, IV.B.I.**

Chair McReynolds called the hearing to order. He asked people to please fill out the sign in sheet located in the back of the room if they wished to be called forward for testimony.

He noted for the record that this hearing is being held on August 22, 2003 at the Pence Union Building, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA pursuant to the authority given under RCW 28B.35.120(12), Chapter 42.30 RCW, the Open Public Meetings Act, and Chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedures Act.

This hearing is being held to consider testimony on the following proposal only:

Codification of the existing Alcohol Policy as WAC 172-64 which is a policy to support the enforcement of federal, state and local laws, as well as Eastern's own alcohol and drug policies and procedures, in creating an environment that promotes health-enhancing attitudes and activities.

Notice of this hearing was published in the Washington State Register on April 16, 2003, and published in the Spokesman Review on August 15, 2003.

This hearing is being held to consider written and oral testimony presented on the proposal, and will consist of two parts:

- (1) a brief technical presentation on the proposal, after which there will be an opportunity to ask any questions on the meaning of the proposed rule; and
- (2) oral testimony.

Chair McReynolds also advised everyone in attendance that this hearing is being tape recorded, and the tape from this hearing will become part of the official rule-making file.

The rules of order:

1. The chair will call up those who have signed up to testify.
2. Please limit your testimony to five minutes. If you have written comments, we would appreciate a copy for the hearing record.

He then asked Laurie Connelly and Bill Ponder to briefly explain the proposal and give you the opportunity to ask questions of a technical nature.

Laurie Connelly explained the history of the policy, noting it was approved as a Board policy in December 1999 as the result of the year-long work of a task force. We are now codifying the policy as a WAC to make it a state regulation and to make it more formal. It applies to students and others using our facilities, and a major part of the policy is the process of how to obtain a liquor license.

Bill Ponder explained that the policy does not conflict with state law, and the purpose and statement both uphold the mission of the institution. The policy addresses the requirement that alternative beverages must be available as well as alcoholic beverages. Ms. Connelly and Mr. Ponder recommended the Board adopt the policy as a WAC.

Chair McReynolds noted that no one signed up to speak at the hearing. He asked Jason Clerget if he knew of any comments from the ASEWU. Mr. Clerget said the policy has been in place for several years, so this action formalizes it, and then we need to get the information out to the students. He noted personal responsibility is the key. Trustee Ortega asked if there have been any problems in the past, and Dr. Jordan responded the main problem has been the ability to notify parents provision was not implemented at the time of adoption, but after a series of incidents we initiated that provision. Danny Pugh reported that 150 letters were sent to parents last year for minor incidents, so we're not seeing significant abuse. He also noted that a research study completed every year indicates that 50 percent of our students don't drink, and 85 percent drink less than once a week. This indicates that we have a healthy campus, and the policy seems to be working. Our Publications Office is planning to create a logo for events to designate them "alcohol policy compliant." The alcohol policy is printed in the campus planner for all new

students, and goes out in mailings to all students in September (this is a federal requirement). He will try to heighten the awareness of the policy in the student life area.

President Jordan commented that we continue to see alcohol use tied with sexual assault. Attention to this issue is critical. Trustee Ortega asked what process we use for beer companies to advertise at events on campus, and Mr. Ponder replied that the policy has the philosophy of equal time/equal space for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages at an event. Jason Clerget commended the students on the student research study.

The hearing ended.

***Motion 08-05-03:*** *“I move that the Board of Trustees adopt the current Alcohol Policy as WAC 172-64.”*

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

**Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with City of Cheney, IV.B.2.**

President Jordan said he appreciated the help of Mayor Sooy on this agreement, which concerns police activity. The agreement appropriately defines those boundaries within which our officers should be working and what circumstances should allow us to request help from the City’s officers. The agreement is on the City’s agenda for next Tuesday. Laurie Connelly reported there have been a series of agreements between the two entities which have constantly balanced and refined the use of both departments. This agreement spells out more closely the boundaries and mutual aid agreements. It is a good agreement and very workable. We have a joint dispatch and need to share information and report writing. Dr. Jordan said the agreement is very helpful to us in knowing where our officers should be concentrating their efforts. He is pleased that we’ve reached this point. Trustee Budke asked if the zones on city map change as we purchase property. Ms. Connelly responded yes, that is part of the planning process with the City of Cheney. Dr. Jordan pointed out that Brewster Hall is not in the P zone, but our officers can operate within those boundaries and have the ability to get to and from it. Mr. McReynolds asked about the fraternities and sororities, and Ms. Connelly explained that we have agreed to work together to police those areas. We’re working on it, but fraternities and sororities, as well as the false alarm piece, are not currently in this agreement. She noted that Paul Schmidt and Greg Lopes have been helpful in preparing this document. Trustee Budke requested more lead time on items like this in the future. President Jordan agreed and apologized saying that we need to get these items to the trustees as early as possible in the future. The City has some sense of urgency, and asked for our Board’s response prior to their meeting next week.

***Motion 08-06-03:*** *“I move that the Board of Trustees approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the City of Cheney.”*

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

**Board Officers for 2003-04, IV.B.3.**

Chair McReynolds reported that the Board's Nominating Committee met and developed its recommendations for the next Board year, beginning October 1, 2003. The Nominating Committee consisted of Mark Mays, the immediate past board chair, Gordon Budke, current board vice chair and chair-elect, and he, himself as the current chair. The committee placed in nomination the name of Ines Zozaya-Geist for the position of Board Vice Chair for the coming board year and Chair-elect for the 2004-05 Board year. Mr. McReynolds said Ines would do an excellent job in these Board leadership roles. Of special note was the strong leadership that she has provided as chair of the Board's Diversity Initiative. We have made progress in that area over the past year, thanks to Ines. She has also served as chair of the Student Affairs Committee during the past year and as a member of the Academic Affairs Committee.

In addition to reaffirming Gordon Budke as the new Board Chair and nominating Ines Zozaya-Geist as Vice Chair and Chair-elect, the committee re-nominated Stephen Jordan as Secretary and Mary Voves as Treasurer. He also noted that the three trustees not present today concur with these nominations.

***Motion 08-07-03:** "I move that the Board of Trustees elect Gordon Budke as Chairman for 2003-04, Ines Zozaya-Geist as Vice Chair and Chair-elect, Stephen Jordan as Secretary and Mary Voves as Treasurer."*

*Motion by Bertha Ortega; seconded by Trustee Mikkelsen. The motion carried.*

**Old Business/New Business, V.**

**Executive Session, VI.**

Chair McReynolds announced that the Board would recess into executive session for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110(1): to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee, and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency enforcement actions, litigation or potential. The executive session should last one hour and no final action would be taken. The Board would reconvene in open session at about 1:00 p.m.

**Reconvene**

The Board reconvened in open session at 1:09 p.m. Trustee Tanaka joined by telephone to complete a quorum for the personnel actions.

**Personnel Actions, VII.**

***Motion 08-08-03:** "I move that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel actions as presented in the agenda."*

*Motion by Trustee Mikkelsen; seconded by Trustee Ortega. The motion carried.*

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**Adjournment, VIII.**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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Neil L. McReynolds, Chair

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Stephen M. Jordan, Secretary