

12-1-2000

Board of Trustees Minutes, December 1, 2000

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 1, 2000—10:00 a.m.
Pence Union Building Room 263-7
Cheney Campus**

MINUTES

Board Members Participating

Ms. Kelly Behne
Mrs. Jean L. Beschel
Mr. Gordon Budke
Mr. Neil McReynolds
Dr. Mark Mays, Vice Chair
Mr. Michael C. Ormsby, Chair

Faculty Participating

Dr. Alex Cameron, Dean of CBPA
Dr. Neville Hosking, Interim Vice Provost for DEO
Dr. Wendy Repovich, President of the Faculty Organization

Staff Participating

Mr. Phil Akers, Director of the Foundation
Mr. Scott Barnes, Athletic Director
Dr. Peter Dual, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Connie Gross, Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Ms. Toni Habegger, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Michael Irish, Associate Vice President of Facilities
Dr. Stephen M. Jordan, President
Mr. Tom McGill, Chief of University Police
Mr. Kerry Pease, Director, Sports & Recreation Center
Ms. Stefanie Pettit, Public Information Officer
Mr. William Ponder, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services
Ms. Michaela Reitcheck, Internal Auditor
Ms. Jolynn Rogers, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Judith Penrod Siminoe, Associate to the President
Ms. Julie Thayer, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs
Ms. Mary Voves, Vice President for Business and Finance
Ms. Lesli Younger, Computer Services Consultant II

Students Participating

Ms. Bree Holsing, ASEWU President
Mr. Mike Johnson, ASEWU Legislative Liaison
Ms. Heather Ruley, ASEWU Executive Vice President

Others Participating

Ms. Amy Jo Sooy, Mayor of Cheney
Ms. Deborah Danner, Assistant Attorney General
Ms. Virginia deLeon, Spokesman-Review
Mr. David Rey, Cheney Free Press

Call to Order and Quorum, I. and II.—Chair Ormsby

At 10:05 a.m. Chair Ormsby called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Eastern Washington University to order. A quorum was present.

III. Reports

Trustees' Reports, III.A.

Trustee Budke requested to add two action items to the agenda, as a result of the Facilities Committee meeting this morning. Action Item IV.D will be the Acceptance of Completion of Contract Award for the Childcare Facility (Phase I), and Action Item IV.E will be Approval of the contract award for the Woodward Field Toilet Facility Phase II-Rebid. Mr. Budke noted there might also be a real estate purchase item to add to the agenda as Item VIII following executive session. Chair Ormsby also requested to move Action Item IV.C., Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between EWU and City of Cheney, to follow the executive session.

The Facilities Committee met this morning and talked about the Childcare Facility Phase I and the Woodward Field Facility Phase II. Of considerable discussion was a report by Mike Irish regarding utilities costs on campus, what this means to the budgeting process, and how to conserve energy. Mike Irish reported that Eastern's natural gas cost will double from last year, and electricity will increase about \$158,000 (projections based on market issues). He reported that management is looking at buildings that can be closed down at night, and they are actively pursuing ways that might conserve energy and cut this cost. For the long term they are joining with general administration and bringing people in to do some performance contracting which will allow us to leverage our capital dollars and take on energy projects that normally we couldn't take on. Dr. Jordan said that as we work with the other universities and with the Office of Financial Management hoping for a supplemental budget solution, we will have to make some dramatic changes here at Eastern. Shutting down buildings at night and during the breaks are some changes that will be required. Dr. Jordan will send out an alert to campus. Trustee Budke said the committee also discussed the possibility of having the chairs of the governing boards and the presidents of the boards of regents speak with the governor and/or legislators about this issue.

Trustee Beschel reported that the Investment Advisory Committee met on Nov. 27. They discussed the University's endowment policies, and the percentage mix of equity and bonds. A change that would bring higher returns while still qualifying as a prudent investment will be given further consideration along with a change of policy, if necessary, before being forwarded to the Administration and the Board for action. The endowment, which consists of money raised by the university and matched by the state, is intended for endowed professorships at \$500,000 each and endowed fellowships of \$50,000 each. The committee will continue to meet on an "as needed" basis and will be addressing investment policies, and monitoring the investments themselves for compliance with university policies. Mrs. Beschel also noted that the pre-game reception for the Gonzaga game was particularly fortuitous because the EWU trustees had a chance to get together with some of the Gonzaga trustees, and she noted that she would like to see more of this type of interchange in the future.

Trustee Behne attended the Washington Student Lobby meeting at Central Washington University several weeks ago to learn more about the students' legislative issues

Trustee Mays reported on the Academic Affairs meeting that was held on November 27. The committee members discussed the cost, quality and access item, and he noted that when things go well it brings about other problems. We need to decide how to grow the institution, what the cost should be, and how to maintain quality with the realization that you can't weight all three equally. He acknowledged Rick Romero and Brian Levin-Stankevich for the background work being done for this item. There will be more to come later, but we need to make some decisions in a timely manner. Secondly, the committee

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discussed faculty issues in the Department of Government. He noted that any correspondence sent to him is open record, and that the Board mainly deals with policy issues, not management. Ms. Holsing thanked Dr. Mays for bringing up the notion of keeping Eastern as Eastern, even if enrollment increases.

Trustee McReynolds reported on the two Student Affairs meetings that have been held since the October Board meeting. Yesterday's meeting had diversity as a major topic of discussion, including the impact of Initiative 200, and they also discussed the proposed diversity initiative for the next biennium—an early outreach approach—a pipeline for students to begin diversity awareness in the elementary grades. He noted a second part of the initiative is a retention piece, a proposal of which is being developed by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The committee will be looking at the Board's diversity resolution that was adopted three years ago to see if it is still relevant.

The Student Learning Environment Task Force reported on their efforts to improve the residential experience and retention rate. The recommendations of the Task Force will be coming to the Board by the end of January, with a final report and recommendation by spring. The committee heard a Washington Student Lobby report from Ms. Holsing, explaining how our ASEWU develops its legislative agenda here on campus and how that relates to the WSL, and their structure and decision-making process. The committee also heard a report from Chief McGill on the recent abductions of Japanese students.

The November 2 meeting of the Student Affairs Committee concerned student health fees. A Student Health Advisory Committee has been appointed and a survey went out this week to solicit information from students. We need to make decisions so that we can contract with a provider this spring. The committee also heard a presentation on Greek Life, and a status report on our fraternities and sororities. We have lost 2 houses in the last 2 years, and membership has stayed fairly flat in comparison to enrollment growth in the university as a whole. Vice President Levin-Stankevich is leading an effort to guide the fraternities and sororities in determining where they want to go in the future. Partnerships have been formed with Cheney regarding how we all fit together in the future. There have been relatively few problems, alcohol or otherwise, coming from the Greek houses this year. The committee will have periodic updating on these issues. Chair Ormsby noted that discussion and input surrounding the student health care fee and exactly what is covered is important prior to submission of a Request For Proposal.

Chair Ormsby reported that the Board will have a retreat with Dr. Jordan on December 15 & 16. All participants were asked to fill out and return a questionnaire to the consultant. The consultant will deliver a preliminary report and agenda to the Retreat Committee next week. The retreat will begin promptly at noon on Friday the 15th.

Presidents' Reports, III.B.

Faculty Organization Report, III.B.1.

Dr. Wendy Repovich said it is the end of fall quarter so faculty are busy grading papers and finals. The Senate meetings have been short, but winter quarter will entail more Senate work rather than committee work. Scheduling policies will be addressed, and she noted that the committee is looking at block scheduling. The Student Learning Environment Task Force has been working for a year, and has been trying to focus on the key issues for their report, which is due out by the end of this month for discussion winter quarter. The Task Force for Integrated Studies is working on integrating the goals and objectives of the former 300-level courses into the rest of the program.

Several events this fall have highlighted diversity issues. Cards with ribbons will be handed out during the rally at the men's basketball game on Saturday night to show support for diversity. Chair Ormsby passed on the best of holiday wishes to the faculty from the Board.

Associated Students' Report, III.B.2.

Ms. Bree Holsing introduced Mike Johnson, the new Legislative Liaison for the ASEWU, and read a letter of recommendation from Representative Don Cox. Mr. Johnson is a third-year government student and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. His primary job is to work the legislative agenda of the ASEWU. Where Eastern students diverge from the WSL state board agenda, it will be Mike's job to lobby alone—however he believes there will be few of those items. Trustee Beschel asked how closely the two agendas were. Mike replied there would be another WSL meeting on Dec. 9, but he feels we are reasonably close, with only a couple of significant differences. Ms. Holsing mentioned the book exchange, noting that 40 students have posted their books so far.

The formation of a Superior Court is going well—they have narrowed the pool of 16 applicants down to about 7, so they should be appointed by the January meeting. Council members have been working with the athletic association, and have been going to the alternative high school in Cheney to facilitate goal setting and working through their struggles to achieve their goals. Ms. Holsing commended Heather Harris, Student Health Services Representative, for her work on the student health service survey, and announced that the students will hold a diversity rally at the basketball game Saturday evening. A pre-rally was held in Baldy's. The Campus Culture Commission met to advise the ASEWU president and council on ways they can be represented. Ms. Holsing then gave a presentation on the WSL. She distributed handouts regarding tuition setting authority principles, the WSL agenda, and the AS legislative agenda.

The WSL Tuition Policy opposes any tuition increase that raises the percentage of the total cost of education carried by students. It also opposes the granting of local control of tuition in any form, including, but not limited to, differential/regional pricing, complete local control and partial local control, i.e. discretionary bands. The WSL believes that the best form of financial aid is lower tuition and, furthermore, supports the adoption of a tuition policy, which provides for predictable and affordable tuition. The WSL supports an exemption of Higher Education from Initiative 601 spending limitations.

The ASEWU and EWU-WSL Chapter opposes the granting of local control of tuition; including differential/regional pricing and complete local control. It does, however, support the granting of strict, partial local control (i.e. discretionary bands) concurrent for all four-year universities in Washington State. Ms. Holsing explained that Eastern is standing alone on this issue, because Eastern's students have a closer relationship with their Board than the other institutions.

Trustee Mays thanked Ms. Holsing for the time and effort put into this report.

Chair Ormsby announced a 5-minute break.

University Report, III.B.3.

- President Jordan discussed two incidents at Eastern over the last month, in order to put perspective on the activities. He noted that we contacted Asia University within 24 hours of the abduction incident, and have kept in contact with them. Dr. Jordan has been meeting with the staff of the Asia University America Program, and has distributed to all the trustees the safety orientation materials the AUAP provides to their students. He noted that the material includes emergency contacts, briefings and an outline of information provided during orientation. We are now trying to balance the two cultures and how to further handle the situation. President Jordan will write to the presidents of Asia University and Mukogawa Women's University expressing our tremendous sorrow over these incidents.

Dr. Jordan has met with the leadership of AUAP to review their actions involving the initial incident, but believes that by and large, our individuals handled this incident immaculately. They contacted each individual and did everything they could to facilitate translation and investigation. He noted that in retrospect, perhaps we should have responded differently, but we are taking steps to ensure that if incidents occur in the future, sister universities will be contacted, as will the administration. AUAP will also be developing a procedure manual for incidents.

Mrs. Beschel noted that Mukogawa Ft. Wright wanted to be included on the list of universities to be contacted in case of such incidents, and to attend any leadership meetings. Trustee Mays complimented Dr. Jordan on his sensitivity to the cultural side of this issue. Dr. Repovich requested that the faculty be informed when such incidents occur. Trustee McReynolds also commended President Jordan on his handling of the incidents, and noted some concern over publicity implications on the West Side. President Jordan noted we might also want to take a stance on the sex offender halfway house.

Dr. Jordan also reported on the racist literature that was posted in the dorms, noting that the residents handled it very well and that plain-clothed officers were stationed in the residence halls. Once the postings were determined to be unrelated to the abduction incidents, the administration sent a communication to the entire campus in which they described that this type of behavior was not acceptable. The students have started a series of rallies, and the faculty and staff are working together to issue a statement.

- Dr. Jordan distributed copies of the book Managing Colleges and Universities, by Bergin and Garvey, to the trustees. He helped author a chapter presenting the triangle analysis of access, cost and quality as applied to student financial aid.
- Dr. Jordan and other administrators will participate in a High Performance Team workshop, led by Jeff Stafford, on December 5 and 6.
- Dr. Jordan will attend the Washington Technology Center Board of Directors Meeting in Seattle on December 7. Following that meeting he and Provost Dual will meet with leaders from the University of Washington to discuss possible collaborations between the two institutions.
- A Financial Aid colleague from Whitworth has indicated that Eastern was publicly commended at the U.S. Department of Education's Electronic Access Conference as one of the DOE's top three users of electronic services in the country.
- Professor Barb Brock is now scheduled to be on NBC's *Today Show* on Jan. 2, 2001.
- The City of Cheney received a grant to work on the "Avenue of the University"--College Avenue from First Avenue to the gates of Showalter Hall. A kickoff function will be held on Jan. 17 in Showalter 109, with a presentation to the business community, to begin raising \$70,000 in matching funds. Dr. Jordan gave credit to the Pathways to Progress group for bringing about this cooperative effort by the City and the University.

- 18 Eagles were honored on Big Sky football team. Eastern ended up tied for second place in the Big Sky Conference.
- Angie Hall, EWU volleyball player, was named to the Verizon Academic All-American Team.

Action Items, IV.

Minutes of the October 27, 2000 Board of Trustees' Meeting, IV.A.

Motion 12-1-00: "I move that the minutes of the October 27, 2000 Board of Trustees' meeting be approved as presented."

Motion by Trustee Beschel; seconded by Trustee Mays. Motion carried.

Summer Session 2001 Tuition, IV.B.

Dr. Neville Hosking, Interim Executive Vice Provost, Distance and Educational Outreach, brought forward a request to increase the summer session 2001 tuition by 3% to reflect the EWU 3% tuition increase for the 2000-01 academic year. The undergraduate per-credit fee would be \$84, and the graduate fee would be \$132 per credit. He noted that summer session is self-support, and that Eastern's summer tuition would meet the rising cost and keep us very competitive with the other regional universities. He also noted that DEO is in the process of a formal review, part of which is the Summer Session program. He will have a draft report for the Board in January.

Dr. Jordan expressed his appreciation of the work Dr. Hosking is doing with DEO, and hopes to have the draft to the Board in January and a final report and recommendations by the Board's March meeting. Ms. Holsing noted that she voted against the tuition increase at the President's Cabinet meeting, but said that the Student Council does support the 3% flat increase, but not the extra 57 cents (rounding up rather than down) without knowing where the money is going. Trustee Behne noted that she would also like to know where the 57 cents would go. Trustee Mays replied that the Coordinating Committee has looked at this in depth, and Dr. Hosking responded that costs are going up (electricity, etc.). Summer Session is run like a business, in that whether your revenue comes in or not, you still have to meet your expenses. He said there is always a need to have a little in reserve for that scenario. President Jordan said the real issue is where do we need to be priced and where will summer school be headed in the future—he suspects that the current review will show that our tuition is too low, and will probably increase significantly in the future.

Motion 12-2-00: "I move that the Board approve the Summer Session 2001 tuition at \$84 per credit for undergraduate classes and \$132 per credit for graduate classes."

Motion by Trustee Mays; seconded by Trustee McReynolds. Motion carried.

Completion of Contract Award for Childcare Facility, IV.C.

Motion 12-3-00: "The Facilities Committee recommends that the completion of Contract Award for the Childcare Facility be approved by the Board of Trustees.:"

Motion carried.

Public Works Contract Award—Woodward Toilet Facility Phase II-Rebid, IV.D.

Motion 12-4-00: “The Facilities Committee recommends the award of Project #AE-99-03, in the amount of \$313,640, to Hamre Construction, Inc.”

Motion carried.

Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Between EWU and City of Cheney, IV.E.

Vice President Mary Voves asked Mike Irish to show the area covered by the Interlocal Agreement on a map. The agreement entails closing 10th Street from Oakland to Cedar. This area is intended to eventually become a pedestrian boulevard, but right now it will be used for safer, more accessible parking for the residence halls. Dr. Jordan thanked Mayor Sooy for her help in getting this done for Eastern, noting that these things wouldn’t happen without the cooperation from the city. Mayor Sooy expressed her appreciation for the cooperation her staff gets from the university’s staff and the Board, noting that the collective boards have been working well together—it can’t be done just one way.

Old Business/New Business, V.

Executive Session, VI.

At 12:15 p.m. Chair Ormsby announced that the Board would adjourn to Executive Session for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110: to discuss the possible selection and acquisition of real estate, to evaluate the qualifications and performance of a public employee, and to consult with legal counsel. He anticipated the open meeting to reconvene in 1.5 hours, at approximately 1:45 p.m.

Reconvene

The meeting reconvened at 1:50 p.m. with a quorum present.

Personnel Actions, VIII.

Motion 12-5-00: “I move that the Board approve the personnel actions as presented in Executive Session.”

Motion by Trustee Beschel; seconded by Trustee Mays. Motion carried.

Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Between EWU and City of Cheney, IV.E.

Motion 12-6-00: “I move that the Board approve the Interlocal Agreement with an Addendum to the agreed upon contract, with attentiveness to the fact that there will be administrative policy which will clarify how implicit duties are discharged in so adopting this.”

Motion by Trustee Mays; seconded by Trustee McReynolds. Motion carried.

Acquisition of Real Estate, IV.F.

Vice President Voves described the property being considered and recommended that the Board approve the purchase.

***Motion 12-7-00:** "I move that the Board approve the purchase of the property known as Matlock's for \$313,000. Lots 1-5, block 55 located at 120 G Street, City of Cheney, County of Spokane, State of WA."*

Motion by Trustee Beschel; seconded by Trustees Mays. Motion carried.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Michael C. Ormsby
Chair of the Board

Stephen M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board