

3-25-2011

## Board of Trustees Minutes, March 25, 2011

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**March 25, 2011**

**Open Board Meeting ~ 2:00p.m. (TAW 215 B&C)  
Executive Session ~ 1:00 p.m. (TAW 215 A)**

**MINUTES**

Trustees Present:

Bertha Ortega, Chair  
Neil McReynolds, Vice Chair  
Jo Ann Kauffman  
Mark Mays  
Paul Tanaka  
Amanda Zeller  
Ines Zozaya-Geist

**Call to Order, I.**

Chair Ortega called the March 25, 2011, regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order. She announced the Board would convene in executive session under RCW 42.30.110 for the following purposes: (g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee; (i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, litigation or potential; and/or under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt a 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 reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

She further announced that executive session would last approximately one hour, that no final action would be taken during the executive session, and that at the conclusion of the executive session the Board would convene into open session.

**Quorum, II.**

A quorum was present. Trustee Mikkelsen was not able to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

**Executive Session, III.**

Chair Ortega stated that executive session was held for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110 and/or 42.30.140 as previously scheduled. She stated that executive session ended at 1:57 p.m. and that no action was taken during executive session.

**Reconvene Open Board of Trustees Meeting**

Chair Ortega called the open session of the March 25, 2011, regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 2:02 p.m.

“Eastern Washington University strives to satisfy all requests for special access needs for persons with disabilities. Requests for such accommodation are welcome and may be made by calling the President’s Office, (509) 359-2371.”

## **Reports, IV.**

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

President Arévalo reported he was a keynote speaker in Pasco, Washington, for a parent conference that hosted approximately 400 parents. This annual conference served as an informational outreach for lower income, primarily Spanish speaking families in the community. The talk was delivered in Spanish. This was a great opportunity for EWU to be visible in front of parents in the Central Valley area of Washington.

The majority of the President's focus has been spent on the legislative session in Olympia and continuing his work in spreading the message about what Eastern is trying to do in light of the budget reduction scenarios and how they would impact the university.

**Strategic Planning:** The administration is initiating a new strategic planning process to fulfill the board goal of institutional strength and security. Although most plans look out 10 to 15 years, we are looking at a five-year plan because of the changing external atmosphere related to higher education. The budget scenarios are rapidly changing, and it is difficult to plan further out into the future. Our goal is to complete the process of reviewing concepts, ideas, vision, mission, values, and goals in a 9 to 10-month scenario. We will bring in an external consultant for a short period of time to move the process faster. We plan to refresh the vision and mission and begin to develop values. Our last strategic plan did not identify values, and it will be important for us to do that. We will invite a number of stakeholders to be involved. Our greatest challenge is looking at strategic directions that will do well for the institution and then identifying goals and setting strategies on how to meet them. The President's vision includes developing strategic action activities or plans. The action piece will dictate the types of activities we are engaged in for the short term, making it easy to see what we have accomplished.

The Strategic Planning Committee will meet early in April to begin the information gathering process, which will continue through summer and next fall. By November or December, the committee hopes to present the Board with a set of strategic action directions. The process will involve key communities within the university and focus groups on and off campus. It will include leadership from both the Spokane and Cheney communities, people from the west side, Board members, and we are planning for one-on-one interviews with key alumni and community leaders to get a sense of how the university is perceived. Because of community similarities, our thought is to glean from other plans such as, the City of Cheney, Whitworth, Gonzaga, and Community Colleges of Spokane. Trustee Tanaka wanted to ensure students were included, and he was assured they are part of the committee's composition.

### **Trustees' Reports, IV.B.**

#### **Board Chair Report, IV.B.1.**

Chair Ortega expressed her appreciation for OIT support and their assistance in transitioning from paper to technology. She also thanked the administration and their staff for their patience relating to the budget issues while waiting for the final decisions from Olympia.

#### Academic Affairs Committee, IV.B.2.

Minutes of the Academic Affairs meeting are available on the EWU web site. Trustee Mays made additional comments:

- The one-year report for NWCCU accreditation, a seven-year program, is being compressed into 5. Ron Dalla is leading this project.
- Cultural Competency Survey: Dr. Rex Fuller provided a survey that inventories the wide range of courses that deal with cultural issues.

#### Advancement Committee, IV.B.3.

Minutes of the Advancement meeting are available on the EWU web site. Trustee Tanaka made additional comments:

- Government Relations – The committee held a phone conference with David Buri, director of Government Relations. The latest state revenue report is a \$800 million deficit. The Governor’s reductions are still on the table, plus an additional 15 percent, which translates to approximately a \$25 million cut over the biennium. There are several tuition bills floating that range from unlimited authority delegated to boards of trustees, to tuition, to limited authority.
- Athletic External Advancement—Vice President Mike Westfall and Athletic Director Bill Chaves discussed the impacts of our football team’s national success. Season tickets have tripled.

#### Business and Finance Committee, IV.B.4.

Minutes of the Business and Finance meeting are available on the EWU web site. Trustee McReynolds made additional comments:

- State Auditor’s Office FY10 Audit Results—We received an excellent report; and for the tenth year in a row, there were no major findings. Suggested improvements were mentioned with regard to improvements in internal controls, but all were very minor.
- Housing Budget & Residential Hall Planning Update – First read on fees. A presentation was shown, but no action was taken. At our May meeting, we will vote for a housing increase of 8 percent and a dining increase of 5.5 percent. Other schools in the area also have made major increases.
- Budget Reductions—The University’s budget reduction plan was heard, but final directions will depend on the budget passed.

#### Student Affairs Committee, IV.B.5.

Minutes of the Student Affairs meeting are available on the EWU web site. Trustee Kauffman made additional comments:

- Service & Activities Fee Update—Presentation by Patrick Spanner on new process for developing the student services and activities fees request for action, which will come to the Board in May. This was a collaborative process, de-coupled from tuition increases and is no longer based on a pre-determined percentage allocation, but rather a dollar allocation.
- Four Year Degree Achievement--Larry Briggs explained the challenges to attaining a four year degree and why it takes so long to achieve. Trustee Kaufman explained this is the beginning of a longer conversation on the topic and we are looking at how to remedy.
- Enrollment –Significant increases: we are up 18.5 percent in freshman applications and up almost 40 percent in transfer applications.

## **Organization Presidents' Reports, IV.C.**

### Faculty Organization, IV.C.1.

Ms. Doris Munson reported that she attended WSA Day in Olympia with students. Students represented us very well. She was disappointed in some legislators who suggested education loans could be reduced by joining the military.

The Faculty Senate was disappointed that the Board did not adopt the recommendation regarding semesters; however, they are moving forward to discuss curriculum reform and they have a motion to form a faculty committee to look at semester models and make recommendations on their preferences. Ms. Munson and Provost Fuller hope to host a meeting for the faculty council chairs who are involved with the semester issues.

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

Former WFSE President Jim Pendleton attended the meeting and explained the staff changes for their current president who left his position at EWU. The classified staff union has also gone to Olympia and voiced their concerns about how the budget reductions will affect EWU.

### Associated Students, IV.C.3.

Mr. Justin Terry, ASEWU President, was not available, so ASEWU Finance Director Patrick Spanner attended on his behalf. (See attached written report.)

## **Public Hearing**

### **1. Proposed Adoption of WAC 172-132, Course Materials**

Chair Ortega announced that today we will conduct a public hearing on a proposed revision to Chapter 172-132 WAC, Course Materials.

Chair Ortega called the hearing to order at 2:58 p.m. and noted, *this hearing is being held to consider written and oral testimony on the proposed revision of Chapter 172-132 WAC, Course Materials.*

*If you want to speak, please fill out the sign in sheet located in the back of the room. This sheet is used to call forward individuals for testimony.*

*For the record, this hearing is being held on March 25, 2011, at the Tawanka Commons Building, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA pursuant to the authority given under RCW 28B.35.120(12) and in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and the Administrative Procedures Act. Notice of this hearing was published in the Washington State Register on March 2 and in the Spokesman-Review on March 11, 2011. I would like to advise everyone in attendance that this hearing is being recorded, and the recording will become part of the official rule-making file.*

*The hearing will consist of a brief technical presentation followed by oral testimony. If you have comments, please limit your testimony to five minutes. If you have written comments, we would appreciate a copy for the hearing record. For the record, please identify yourself and who you represent.*

*At this time I will ask Laurie Connelly to briefly explain the proposal and give you the opportunity to ask questions of a technical nature.*

Laurie Connelly briefly explained the proposal, which is an amendment to make two changes in sections four and five. Basically, students should have certain information disclosed to them at the time of purchasing course materials.

Chair Ortega asked for public comments regarding the proposal and asked if anyone else wanted to speak. There was no public comment.

President Arévalo asked about plans to disseminate the information and Ms. Connelly informed they have already been working with faculty through Academic Affairs and will continue to do so.

Chair Ortega announced the hearing has been held to consider testimony on the proposal to revise WAC 172-132, Course Materials and that the hearing is now closed at 3:02 p.m.

### **Action Items, V.**

#### A. Consent Action Items

Minutes of the November 19, 2010 regular Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

Minutes of the January 21, 2011 regular Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.2.

***Motion 3-01-2011:*** *Motion by Trustee McReynolds that the Board approve consent action items to include the Minutes of the November 19, 2010, and January 21, 2011, regular Board of Trustees' Meetings.*

*Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.*

*Motion carried.*

#### B. Discussion Action Items, V.B.

##### 1. EWU Policy 103-01, Charitable Gift Annuities, V.B.1.

Ms. Connelly explained the main policy change is that the president can approve cash annuities that are less than \$250,000.

***Motion 3-02-2011:*** *Motion by Trustee McReynolds that the Board approves EWU Policy 103-01, Charitable Gift Annuities.*

*Seconded by Trustee Mays.*

*Motion carried.*

##### 2. WAC 172-132, Course Materials, V.B.2.

A public hearing was held.

***Motion 3-03-2011:*** *Motion by Trustee Kauffman that the Board approves WAC 172-132, Course Materials.*

*Seconded by Trustee Zeller.*

*Motion carried.*

Chair Ortega asked if there were any questions, points, etc. There were none, and she thanked all for attending.

### **Adjournment, VII.**

Chair Ortega adjourned the regular Board of Trustees meeting at 3:06 p.m.

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Bertha Ortega, Chair  
Board of Trustees

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Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary