

5-9-2008

Board of Trustees Minutes, May 9, 2008

Eastern Washington University

Follow this and additional works at: http://dc.ewu.edu/trustees_minutes

Recommended Citation

Board of Trustees Minutes, May 9, 2008 . Board of Trustees Records, University Archives & Special Collections, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA. http://dc.ewu.edu/trustees_minutes.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Board of Trustees Records at EWU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Board of Trustees Minutes by an authorized administrator of EWU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jotto@ewu.edu.

**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

May 9, 2008

Open Public Session ~ 2:30 p.m. (TAW 215 B&C)
Committee of the Whole ~ 12:45 p.m.
Executive Session ~ 11:30 a.m. (TAW 215 A)

MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Paul Tanaka, Chair
Jo Ann Kauffman, Vice Chair
Gordon Budke
Isaura Gallegos
Neil McReynolds
Bertha Ortega
Ines Zozaya-Geist

Call to Order, I.

Chair Tanaka called the open session of the May 9, 2008 regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 11:45 a.m.

Chair Tanaka announced that 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.

He announced that executive session would last approximately 60 minutes, that no final action would be taken during this executive session, and that at the conclusion of the executive session the Board would convene into Committee of the Whole and then would reconvene into its regular meeting.

Chair Tanaka called the Committee of the Whole session to order at approximately 12:50 p.m. Following Committee of the Whole, Vice Chair Kauffman reconvened the open session of the May 9, 2008 regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 2:30 p.m.

Quorum, II.

A quorum was present, though Trustee Mikkelsen was absent and Chair Tanaka was not present during the open session of the Board meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

Executive Session, III.

Chair Tanaka stated that executive session was held for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110 and/or 42.30.140 as previously scheduled. No action was taken during the executive session.

Committee of the Whole

Student Life Benchmarks & Indicators

Trustee Zozaya-Geist thanked the leadership in Student Life for coming today to give this presentation on Student Life programs and benchmarks. She apologized for the rescheduling. Bob Hille, Interim Dean of Students, and Bob Campbell, Associate Dean of Students, presented valuable information regarding programs in Student Life and the ways they enhance student retention and student success at Eastern. See presentation handout for details.

Chair Tanaka thanked Mr. Hille and Mr. Campbell for their presentation. Mr. Tanaka expressed that it is always nice to hear about the ways the university is working toward increasing student satisfaction and enhancing the quality of the student experience at Eastern.

1st Read FY2009 Budget

Vice President for Business & Finance, Mary Voves, emphasized that this is the first read of the fiscal year 2009 budget. She will take the Board's input back to the university budget committee and then the final budget proposal will come before the Board for approval in June.

The proposed budget includes assumptions about tuition and fees, which have been discussed previously in Business & Finance Committee meetings.

Ms. Voves reported that this is the last time the Board will see a budget in this same format. As discussed in the Business & Finance Committee meeting, the resource allocation task force has developed a new budget framework for the institution. This new model was recently presented to the campus during open forums, where constituents were asked for their input. This process dramatically changes how budgets are prepared. In the future the Board will approve budgets on a biennial basis, and will be asked to approve supplemental adjustments in between. Enrollment, tuition revenue, etc. will all be planned for and approved two years at a time. The time lines will remain the same as in the past with the first read in May and approval in June, which mirrors the state's budget timelines.

The fiscal year 2009 budget reflects that EWU is preparing for decreased state revenue and increased competition from two year institutions that are now offering four year degrees.

Ms. Voves presented the Board with the details of the proposed budget.

Several trustees asked questions and discussion occurred regarding several budget related topics; such as Eastern's plans for dealing with the possible repercussions of the state budget. It was explained that the soft hiring freeze already implemented by the president is an example of the strategies being used to deal with the current budget situation and to plan for the future.

Chair Tanaka stated that it is important for the board to have a good understanding of Eastern's budget and of how the state economy might impact budgets at Eastern. He thanked Mary and her staff for their work in preparing the proposed budgets.

1st Read 2009-2011 Biennial Operating Budget

"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) 359-4648."

Vice President for Business & Finance, Mary Voves, presented the details of the biennial operating budget to the Board. Details are included in the handout provided in the Business & Finance Committee meeting and at the Open Public Meeting.

1st Read 2009-2011 Biennial Capital Budget

Vice President for Business & Finance, Mary Voves, presented the details of the biennial capital budget to the Board. Details are included in the handout provided in the Business & Finance Committee meeting and at the Open Public Meeting.

Vice Chair Kauffman reconvened the open session of the Board of Trustees meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Reports, IV.

University President's Report, IV.A.

Dr. Arévalo reported to the Board on the following topics:

- Eastern has hosted a number of significant events recently such as the Killin dinner, Cinco de Mayo, the Luau, and the Presidential speaker series luncheon. Unfortunately Tony Snow became ill and was unable to give his presentation, however, the luncheon was a successful event. President Arévalo and his wife Nadine hosted a reception for a student musical concert on campus. The Science Olympiad, a very worthwhile event, was on campus recently. It brings many students to campus to interact with Eastern staff and faculty. The Powwow takes place this weekend, and Trustee Kauffman will be there on Saturday.
- Dr. Arévalo visited Mattawa school district recently and spoke to 350 potential students. He and Dr. Mason met with faculty and staff of the school district to discuss ways to help prepare students to go on to college.
- The police engaged in training on campus during spring break that involved training in case of an active shooter. President Arévalo received training regarding his role in such scenarios.
- Diversity – Dr. Arévalo had asked Dr. Patrick Jones and two faculty colleagues to give a presentation to President's Cabinet on a study they recently completed on educational experiences and aspirations of Native American high school students in the Spokane area. The study provides Eastern and other educational institutions with valuable insight into ways to engage Native American students in the educational process. EWU deans and others who do outreach to potential students will gain insight from this study, which will hopefully result in an increased number of Native American young people who attend college.
- President Arévalo introduced Carmel Long, Eastern's new internal auditor. EWU has been without an internal auditor for a long time, and Ms. Long will begin looking at the risk assessments and audits that need to be done.
- Legislative Report –David Buri, Director of Government Relations, gave an update.
- Bloomsday Corporate Cup teams performed extremely well again this year. Scott Melville, a faculty member for 27 years and a Bloomsday team member for fourteen years, shared the exciting report with the Board. He shared that Grant Smith, the coordinator for the Eastern Bloomsday teams, has always encouraged Eastern to have as many teams as possible in order to have the logo out there and to be involved in the community. Dr. Melville expressed the

teams' appreciation for the President's and Board's support over the years. The women's team finished 5th this year, which is noteworthy in that two of their members were injured. The Red team did extremely well, winning for the 12th year in a row. They achieved a perfect score of 3,000 points and three of their members won their age categories – Carl Coombs, Grant Smith, and Jeff Corkill. Carl's category is a very competitive age group, so it is an excellent accomplishment for him to win in this category. Trustee Kauffman congratulated the runners for their great accomplishments. She commented on how very impressive the individuals and teams are, and that it is always nice to have the trophy come back to EWU each year.

Trustees' Reports, IV.B.

Academic Affairs Committee, IV.B.1.

Trustee Budke reported that the Academic Affairs Committee discussed the following topics:

- Dr. Judd Case gave a presentation on improving the passing rates and student success rates in the mathematics program, especially in Math 103 and 104.
- Dr. Dana Elder gave a presentation on the Honors program, sharing about the program and students who are some of the brightest students.
- Dr. Alan Coelho discussed the Teacher Education Program and the changes that have been necessary to improve and update the program. The program has now been reaccredited by NCATE.
- Classroom Course Scheduling Policy – Dr. Kissling, Dr. Nick Jackson, Dr. Larry Briggs and their team have done an excellent job in making progress recently on this issue. The process they have developed is an improvement in the educational service delivery system at Eastern and will benefit the students, faculty and staff.
- Semester task force update – no one should be concerned that this will happen in the next couple of years. They are looking into this as a long range option and how it fits with planning regarding facilities, faculty and program instruction as well as collaboration with WSU, etc.

Advancement Committee, IV.B.2.

Trustee McReynolds reported on the topics discussed at the committee meeting.

- The president of the alumni association, Von Klohe, was a guest speaker at the meeting. The committee is very impressed with the increase in activity and interest in the alumni area.
- Web redesign – this is very important. As communication changes, Eastern needs to put forward its best on the web. Focus groups will be conducted in order to receive input from constituents about the web site and trustees will have the opportunity to give input as well.
- Centralized marketing plan – one of the efforts toward this is to look at the various areas across the university where marketing resources are being used with the goal of consolidating and centralizing the marketing activity for the university.
- Fundraising – as of the end of March Eastern is 30% ahead of last year at this time. A great deal of changes have been made and are beginning to make a difference. The Board will be receiving regular updates on fundraising.
- Comprehensive campaign – materials are being reviewed for this area and some things should come together this fall.
- Government Relations – the committee had a conference call within ten days of the end of the legislative session in order to gain a solid understanding of what occurred during the session. The trustees have received a summary.

- Athletic fundraising – the recent Killin event is an example of the events in this area.
- President Arévalo reported on some of the things he has been doing to generate congressional support for Eastern, which is very important.

Business & Finance Committee, IV.B.3.

Trustee Budke reported on the following topics discussed at the committee meeting:

- Dr. Rex Fuller, Dean of College of Business discussed the resource allocation task force and the goals of a new budgeting process, which are to connect the budget with the strategic plan and to use benchmarking and accountability.
- Housing and Dining System Overview – Leann Case reported that a residential master plan is being developed, as are occupancy strategies for '08-'09. They are also working on living and learning communities for the students, which will assist with retention.
- Parking System Overview – Ms. Case reported on the long range planning in this area.
- The Board Committee thoroughly discussed the financial aspects of the administration's planned recommendation for fee increases. The Board is always concerned about increases in fees and rates, however, there are times when this needs to be done to maintain the system. Ms. Case provided the Board with comparison data regarding Eastern's housing and dining rates as compared with other institutions as well as comparison data regarding parking rates. Trustee Budke commented that the parking rates at Eastern are very reasonable compared with almost anywhere else in the state.

Student Affairs Committee, IV.B.4.

Trustee Zozaya-Geist reported on the following topics discussed at the committee meeting:

- Student Technology Fee Committee FY08 Disbursement and FY09 Budget – Justin Fry and Matt Brown. They will present this information for approval later in this meeting.
- Faculty report – Dr. Terry MacMullan gave an update on the military service center. A committee has been formed to proceed with this project. He is encouraging students to set up some type of student services group to support the military students here on campus.
- Athletics – Bill Chaves, Athletic Director, and Mike Miller, Academic Coordinator, gave a report on Winter 2008 academic benchmarks and outcomes with data about how students are doing with being on track for four year graduation and GPA goals. Team achievements for GPA and credits earned are very high. Eastern has many student athletes on the Big Sky honor role, which is impressive and excellent.
- Service & Activity Fees – Toni Habegger. Trustee Zozaya-Geist thanked Ms. Habegger for the excellent information and discussion, and she reported that it is important to look at the details and understand the structure of the fees that are charged, how fees are approved and how student organizations are involved in building their budgets.
- Degree Audit System – Dr. Pratt and Dr. Larry Briggs reported on the project plan, time lines and the process departments need to go through to get the system up and running.
- Career Services – Ms. Gini Hinch and Ms. Kendra Selle shared information about a course they teach to help students decide which majors and career areas might be best for them. The committee discussed that other students would benefit from this as well, and discussed the possibility of expanding this course to the First Year Experience program as well.
- Trustee Zozaya-Geist commented that the EWU Bloomsday Red Team is extremely impressive! She is familiar with other corporate teams who could never beat Eastern's very impressive team.

Student Trustee, IV.B.5

Trustee Gallegos reported that she had opportunity to participate in the grand opening of the EWU Recreation Center. She reported that she and the student body are excited about and have been anticipating the opening of this great facility for students. She also stated that students have expressed concern about paying the fee Spring quarter when the center was not opened on time. Evan Buelt shared that students are concerned and the Associated Students will be looking into this.

Vice Chair Kauffman recognized Ms. Gallegos for her two years of service as Student Trustee at Eastern. Ms. Gallegos will serve through the end of June, and will attend the June retreat and meeting. Trustee Kauffman wanted to recognize her since the audience was so large today.

Presidents' Reports, IV.C.

Trustee Budke reported that he, Trustee Kauffman and President Arévalo attended a meeting last week at Riverpoint to meet with representatives of the faculty organizations of all six institutions of the state. This was a nice opportunity to discuss issues and it is nice to know we are all working in the same direction toward and on issues that really matter for the good of the institutions and students. Trustee Kauffman expressed that she enjoyed this as well and that it was a nice opportunity to meet with the faculty organization presidents.

Faculty Organization, IV.C.1.

Dr. Kissling reported that the Faculty Senate has been busy this quarter. They recently heard an update from the course scheduling advisory committee and the faculty are receptive to the proposal. They also heard the resource allocation task force report and this next Monday will hear about the new course evaluation forms. The Senate is in the process of recruiting a slate of officers for next year as well as committee members for all the committees faculty members participate on.

Dr. Kissling stated she will give some of her time to the President of United Faculty of Eastern, Bob Schwartz. Dr. Schwartz shared that the world has diminished with the passing of Dr. Armin Arndt, a long time Eastern faculty member. He also shared that Dr. Don Richter resigned as President of UFE for personal reasons, and Dr. Schwartz will serve until the end of June. He stated that salary and work condition issues exist and that issues relating to timely summer pay have not successfully been resolved. He reminded that there is a collective bargaining agreement in place and it should be referred to when discussions take place about issues that are outlined in the agreement. He hopes the committee on bullying will bring a policy forth to the president by the end of the summer. He commented that the MOU on the agenda of today's board meeting is specifically and only for the Communication Disorders department.

Classified Staff Union, IV.C.2.

Ms. Van Bommel said there was a serious issue that occurred, and she read a statement to the Board from the classified staff union which she said is supported by the faculty union as well.

Trustee Kauffman shared that she acknowledges the concerns that are being raised and the strong feelings people have. She said it is important to recognize that the university did conduct a thorough investigation and did take appropriate action. She stated this is all that can be said, as there have already been far too many specifics shared in this public atmosphere. The university wants to move on and continue a partnership to create a working environment that is fair and respectful for all individuals.

Associated Students, IV.C.3.

Mr. Evan Buelt reported that the recreation center did open yesterday and the event was a success. Students are addressing concerns about the fee assessment which started in March, but the building is not in full operation and will not be until either summer or fall. A proposal about this will be created. Overall this year has been one of communication and collaboration. The Spokane Student Association will be formed in the near future to give four year and two year institutions in Spokane the opportunity to give greater representation for their needs as students. The Washington Student Lobby also works toward collaboration of four year and two year institutions. Mr. Buelt introduced Ms. Whitney Jones, the new ASEWU President. Trustee Kauffman congratulated Ms. Jones and stated that the Board is looking forward to working with her this next year.

University Initiatives Reports, IV.D.

Strategic Plan, IV.D.1.

Dr. Mason reported on the strategic planning grants. He explained that the university continues to offer a total of \$200,000 to units throughout the university for special projects to advance strategic actions in support of the unit strategic plans and in keeping with the university strategic plan. One change this year, in the spirit of starting something big, is that dollar limits will not be imposed as they had been in the past. Guidelines have been tightened in terms of asking for more precise time lines for completion, more assessment of outcomes, and the sharing of outcomes and information by grant recipients at the planning retreat next year.

Action Items, V.

Consent Action Items, V.A.

Minutes of the February 22, 2008 Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

It was stated that there is a correction to the February 22, 2008 minutes. Trustee Budke was in attendance at the February 22, 2008 meeting, however, his name was not listed on the draft version.

***Motion 05-01-08:** Motion by Trustee Ortega that the Board approve the corrected minutes, to reflect Trustee Budke's attendance, of the February 22, 2008 meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees.*

Seconded by Trustee Budke.

Motion carried.

Minutes of the March 3, 2008 Special Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.2.

***Motion 05-02-08:** Motion by Trustee Ortega that the Board approve the minutes of the March 3, 2008 special meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees.*

Seconded by Trustee Budke.

Motion carried.

Discussion Action Items, V.B.

Student Technology Fee FY08 Disbursement and FY09 Budget, V.B.1.

Mr. Matt Brown and Mr. Justin Fry, Chair of the committee, presented this topic to the Board.

"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) 359-4648."

A promotional video for the MARS Lab produced by several talented Eastern students using technology fee funded equipment was shown. The video demonstrates the technological resources available to students as a result of the technology fee process. Mr. Brown and Mr. Fry expressed that the partnership between the students, faculty, staff, and administration has been very productive and has benefited the students of Eastern Washington University in amazing ways. They presented a check for \$925,152 to President Arévalo which represents the revenue available for computer lab equipment renewal and technology initiatives at Eastern. The current amount charged to students for the Student Technology Fee is believed to be adequate to fund the priorities outlined in the FY09 Spending Plan. The services and equipment made possible by this fee will continue to benefit students and enhance their learning environment here at Eastern. The Board is being asked to approve the FY09 Spending Plan, with no increase in the fee amount. Trustee Zozaya-Geist reported that Mr. Brown and Mr. Fry presented at the Student Affairs Committee meeting earlier today, and the Student Affairs Committee of the Board recommends approval of the FY09 Spending Plan as presented in the Board materials.

Motion 05-03-08: *Motion by Trustee Zozaya-Geist that the Board approve the Student Technology Fee FY08 Disbursement and FY09 Budget as presented.*

Seconded by Trustee Ortega.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Budke recalled the first Board meeting when this fee was proposed. He recalls that those presenting the proposal were questioned extensively by the Board regarding the wisdom of the plan, the benefits of the plan to students, the preparedness to implement the plan, the students' feelings about the fee and plan, etc. After only one or two years it became obvious that this was one of the best initiatives undertaken for the benefit of Eastern students. Trustee Budke complimented and congratulated each of the student leaderships in the past and present who have worked to enhance the technology of the campus and provide a real and valuable service to the students.

Trustee Zozaya-Geist complimented the video and suggested that it would be a great student recruitment video for Eastern and that it also would likely win an award if entered in a competition.

EWU Policy 101-01 University Organization, V.B.2.

Trent Lutely reported that this policy was brought before the Board for a first read several board meetings ago. It then was processed through the new policy procedures, which includes being posted on the policy web site for public comment, and now requires approval of the Board in order to be implemented. This policy is an example of the new policy management system's purpose of cleaning up old and outdated policies to help them be more relevant and accurate. This particular policy is the result of combining and consolidating ten small policies into a one more organized and logical format. None of the content has changed, it has only been reformatted and some historical and characteristic information about the policy has been included.

Mr. Lutely updated the Board on other policies in process. There are currently three other policies on the web site for comment: Student Conduct Code, Communication to the Board, and Advisory Committee to Intercollegiate Athletics. Mr. Lutely shared that he received a lengthy comment about the proposed policy on Communication to the Board from a person concerned about the content of the policy. Mr. Lutely hopes this will inspire others to comment as well, because the comments support the very intent of the policy management system of receiving input and because the more input received the better the policies will be. There will likely be three policies brought for Board approval in June and possibly eight in September.

"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) 359-4648."

Motion 05-04-08: *Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve Policy101-01 as presented.
Seconded by Trustee Ortega.
Motion Carried.*

Memorandum of Understanding between Eastern Washington University and the United Faculty of Eastern, V.B.3.

Ms. Laurie Connelly reported that this MOU has been ratified by the United Faculty of Eastern members and that it applies only to the Communication Disorders program. It is a very limited MOU and will govern for next academic year for the Communication Disorders department only. Bob Schwartz, President of United Faculty of Eastern, requested to comment on this item which was granted by Vice Chair Kauffman. Dr. Schwartz commented that he signed the MOU this afternoon.

Motion 05-05-08: *Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Faculty of Eastern and Eastern Washington University as presented in the board materials.
Seconded by Trustee Ortega.
Motion Carried.*

Trustee Budke addressed Dr. Schwartz and asked that he trust that this is not a template for moving the university toward a semester system. The university has begun discussions about semesters, and would never do so without lengthy conversations with faculty. This MOU is for the benefit of Eastern students who participate in the Communication Disorders program, a cooperative program with WSU.

Personnel Actions, VI.

Motion 05-06-08: *Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the tenure personnel actions as detailed in the board materials.
Seconded by Trustee Zozaya-Geist.
Motion carried.*

Adjournment, VII.

Vice Chair Kauffman adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Paul Tanaka, Chair

Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary