

6-28-2007

## Board of Trustees Minutes, June 28, 2007

Eastern Washington University

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dc.ewu.edu/trustees\\_minutes](http://dc.ewu.edu/trustees_minutes)

---

### Recommended Citation

Board of Trustees Minutes, June 28, 2007 . Board of Trustees Records, University Archives & Special Collections, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA. [http://dc.ewu.edu/trustees\\_minutes](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](mailto:jotto@ewu.edu).

**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**June 28, 2007**

**Open Public Session ~ 9:30 p.m. (TAW 215 B&C)**  
**Executive Session ~ June 26, 26 & 28 (as previously announced) (TAW 215 A)**

**MINUTES**

Trustees Present:

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

**Committee of Whole**

1. Measurements of Success; EWU Alumni. Presentation is included in the Board materials. Chair Tanaka thanked Vice President Zeisler-Vralsted for coming to give this benchmarking presentation to the Board. President Arévalo introduced the topic by explaining that Board members have shown interest in how the university sets benchmarks and how it measures improvement or success, and so he asked Vice President Vralsted to share what Student Affairs is doing in this area. Dr. Zeisler-Vralsted thanked the Board for this opportunity and she introduced Colleen King, Interim Director of Career Services and Jackie Early, Interim Associate Director. She explained that the presentation serves four purposes: 1) offers a data driven snapshot of EWU graduates, 2) shares keys to success including retention strategies, 3) shows the renewed emphasis on retention in Student Affairs, 4) provides opportunity for dialogue so the Board can share their feedback. The statistics show that EWU alumni are contributing to the economy in Washington State, with the majority being in the service industry. Discussion occurred regarding the desire of Board members to hear about what Eastern is doing toward retention of the mass student population in terms of mentors, early warning signs, advising, etc., in addition to what is being done within the Washington Achiever's Program. Trustee Kauffman mentioned that it is important to take the best practices from special funding based programs and institutionalize them for and integrate them into the general population. It was noted that the Washington Achievers program lacks Native American students. Eastern could work with feeder schools in Omak, for instance, to encourage Native Americans to come to EWU. Trustee McReynolds asked what one thing the Board could do to encourage recruitment and retention for Eastern. President Arévalo replied that when talking with students Eastern representatives need to talk with them from a holistic approach toward graduation and to help them connect that everything they do such as orientation, internships, contact with their major department, etc. works together toward accomplishment of their goals. It is important to look at students holistically and see them as four year students who will graduate from Eastern as employed alums. Early warning systems are critical to student retention, as they alert advisors and faculty so they can follow-up and work closely with students to encourage them. President Arévalo reported that Eastern needs to change what it is

doing with advising and retention. It is also important to look at the greatest needs of the entire student body and make those resources available to all students, rather than developing individual programs for small population groups.

## **2. DREAM Act – Student Presentation.** Presentation is included in the Board materials.

Trustee Gallegos introduced two EWU students, Jordena Belch and Christian Cervantes, to present information regarding the DREAM Act. They recently presented this information to ASEWU. Ms. Belch and Mr. Cervantes explained that the DREAM Act is the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act. It grants temporary legal residency to college-bound students educated in the United States, allowing them to live, work and attend college legally and eventually work towards citizenship. It will benefit undocumented children who were brought to the U.S. who have grown up here, stayed in school and kept out of trouble.

Chair Tanaka thanked the students for their very passionate and moving presentation. He explained that the Board of Trustees cannot take official action on this, as they are prohibited by law from lobbying and the Board must abide by the laws of the State of Washington.

Trustee Budke asked if it is possible to separate the DREAM Act from the other immigration act that is currently stalled in Olympia. Mr. Cervantes stated they would like the DREAM Act part to go on for approval even if comprehensive reform is doubtful.

Trustee Kauffman thanked and congratulated the students for their time, dedication, and passion toward this important item. She stated she is proud of them for doing what they are doing. Trustee Kauffman and Trustee Ortega encouraged them to continue with their work and their efforts to provide opportunities for children and students. It was stated that Trustees can support the DREAM Act individually, even though they cannot as a collective group.

## **Call to Order, I.**

Chair Tanaka called the open session of the June 28, 2007 regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 9:35 a.m. He introduced the new president of the Faculty Organization, Dr. Kissling, and the new president of the Associated Students, Mr. Buel.

## **Quorum, II.**

A quorum was present; all Trustees were present.

## **Executive Session, III.**

Chair Tanaka stated that executive sessions were held for purposes authorized in RCW 42.30.110 and/or 42.30.140 on June 26, 27 & 28. No action was taken during the executive session.

## **Reports, IV.**

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

President Arévalo began his report by highlighting Eastern's commencement ceremonies, stating that he is pleased with the large number of graduates who earned degrees and who participated in commencement ceremonies. 2,848 students earned degrees from Eastern this spring - 2,292 undergraduate and 556 graduate students. Approximately 53% of undergraduate and 51% of graduate students participated in Commencement ceremonies for a total of 1,494 on campus on June 16th. Trustee McReynolds and Chair Tanaka participated in the EWU at Bellevue graduation reception at BCC. This Eastern off campus program graduated 78 students this year, and will likely graduate more students in the future as Eastern begins to develop an additional degree offering in psychology.

Dr. Arévalo shared that he and others from Eastern experienced a successful visit with members of the Kalispel Tribe in Usk, Washington to develop a broad partnership regarding student engagement in learning. Student internships in public health, social work, business, education, recreation, and natural resource management were discussed. This is a significant opportunity to develop a model of higher education institutions working with tribal groups in the state for the benefit of young people. Eastern continues to explore ways to improve retention at the university, and toward that goal a consultant from Noel Levitz visited campus to assess enrollment and retention efforts. President and Mrs. Arévalo hosted a reception for the EWU Symphony, which was a nice opportunity to spend time with and engage supporters and potential supporters of Eastern's own symphony. A recent Eastern benefactor dinner showed tremendous support for this institution. Over 200 benefactors attended the dinner. The recent retiree breakfast was also attended by a large group. EWU was recognized nationally along with Spokane Community College and others for community development efforts spearheaded by Dr. Dick Winchell in the College of Business. President Arévalo introduced Dr. John Mason, new EWU Provost. He is very happy to welcome him to Eastern and to his first board meeting. Dr. Mason did participate in the recent Board retreat.

## **Reports, IV.**

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

#### Student Trustee, IV.B.1.

Trustee Gallegos gave an end of the year report of her experiences as Student Trustee. Throughout the year she participated in the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs committees of the Board, as well as the Open meetings. Highlights of Eastern events Ms. Gallegos participated in are: Pass through the Pillars, Stop the Hate conference, Provost search (she welcomed Dr. Mason), Higher Ed Day in Olympia, Creative Works and Research Symposium, Diversity Grant Selection Committee (very rewarding to see the results and outcomes of the grant proposals), worked with Dr. Ochwa-Echel from the student perspective regarding the ongoing diversity gatherings, President Arévalo's investiture, and Eastern's 125 Anniversary.

Ms. Gallegos stated that she is grateful and feels privileged to have been part of the Eastern Board. She said she believes the university is on the right path and that the spirit of the university and the students are being kept in mind.

At the recent Board retreat she voiced several suggestions for the future, such as: provide a mentorship relationship for the next student trustee to assist with the learning curve and transition; follow-up with Julie Thayer's suggestion that the Student Trustee give a regular report on her/his activities as a Board member and also an end of the year summary report; she believes it would be very beneficial to students for Eastern to have more venues for assisting students with information about continuing their education in graduate school; Eastern is an institution of opportunity, and the university needs to continue to provide consistent support for diversity.

Ms. Gallegos closed her report by sharing that she has one more year at Eastern before she graduates with her degree in biology. She will be working on a research program this summer in Pullman.

#### Statewide Education Initiatives, IV.B.5.

Prosperity Partnership, an organization that is working to develop a statewide economic development strategy, spent the last several days touring Central Washington in order to understand the higher education needs and opportunities of that area. Trustee McReynolds participated during one day of the tour and he is pleased that additional Eastern representatives participated as it is important for

EWU to work with west, central and eastern parts of the state for the benefit of the citizens of the entire state. He thanked President Arévalo for encouraging participation.

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

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

Dr. Kissling reported that her presidency of the Faculty Organization began a couple of weeks ago and she is formulating her plans for the year. She highlighted recent projects the organization has been working on. The first year of the faculty evaluation of administrators went well, with a 43% response rate from the faculty. They evaluated only the deans this year and next year will add senior administrators. She and the officers are looking forward to involvement in the Board committees.

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

Ms. Van Bommel reported that staff worked hard to prepare for the Presidential Investiture and Commencement. They hosted a dinner for legislators in early June and thanked them for their support of the classified staff salary increase. They also talked about House Bill 2142, which deals with anti bullying and anti harassment in the workplace. She believes the current EWU policy regarding these topics needs to be re-written. Staff members are working hard on the Banner conversion, including both the student records and finance elements.

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

Mr. Evan Buelt began his report by stating it is an honor and a privilege for him to participate in the Board meeting. The recently elected student government council members are in the development stage of identifying the many goals by which the Associated Students plan to serve Eastern students. They have chosen the theme of engagement for this academic year. The council will work hard to address apathy and encourage students to become more active within the university. They are working to implement a senate into student government to provide more student representation. They are researching which model would best fit Eastern. They will work on many different initiatives centered upon EWU's objectives. Mr. Buelt invited the public to attend the Rodney Stuckey NBA draft event later today, and he thanked Matt McCoy for assisting with the coordination of this event.

## **University Initiatives Reports, IV.D.**

### Leadership Transition, IV.D.1.

President Arévalo reported that he has made a number of appointments over the last month. Mr. Gary Pratt, the new Chief Information Officer, will begin August 1, Kirk Earlywine, the new men's basketball coach, began June 16, Dr. Ron Dalla, the Executive Dean at Spokane, begins July 1, and Dr. Dorothy Ziesler-Vralsted has been permanently appointed as Vice President for Student Affairs.

### Strategic Plan, IV.D.2.

Dr. Dalla reported that Provost Mason will co-lead the strategic planning council from now on. They intend to ask the Faculty Organization President to appoint a faculty member for a two year term on the council - the Faculty Organization President is also welcome to attend the meetings. Next year's goal is for each university unit to develop action plans for 2008-2010, and the timelines will be in conjunction with the budgeting process. This year, applications for strategic planning dollars had to tie the project to the unit action plan and had to identify student learning outcomes. Student learning outcomes for each academic program will be included in the university catalog for student access.

### Diversity Initiative, IV.D.3.

President Arévalo reported that he charged a committee with developing recommendations for a comprehensive diversity plan for Eastern. The committee submitted a report to the President the last week of spring quarter. He is reviewing the report and working with the executive leadership to look at ways the university can work with the recommendations. The President hopes to develop a structure for this area that will enable and enhance diversity for the campus.

### EWU in Spokane/Riverpoint, IV.D.4.

Dr. Arévalo reported that a subcommittee was set up to assist the president with the EWU Spokane strategy. Most of the arrangements to move resources from the Spokane Center to Riverpoint has been completed. Most of the classes have been assigned space at Riverpoint with the exception of social work, which will use space at Spokane Community College. Space has been leased for faculty offices. In the Riverpoint Phase I building the old library space will be renovated for EWU student services, which will allow an increase in the amount of services provided to EWU students. The subcommittee is engaged in an effort to develop a plan to seek approval for an Eastern building on the Riverpoint campus. This may involve a supplemental request being submitted in October.

### **Special Reports, IV.E.**

#### Board of Trustees Retreat

Chair Tanaka reported on the Board's retreat June 26 & 27. The Board worked diligently to sharpen the focus from the Board's policy perspective. There is consensus among the Board that Eastern has a great deal on its plate. The Board is pleased that the university administration will be facing the challenges and will continue to move Eastern forward.

#### Eastern's Start Something Big

Trustee Budke distributed and quoted Eastern's promise to its students, "Eastern Washington University is dedicated to discovering your goals and dreams, then helping you realize those goals through person connections, accessible opportunities and a learning environment built on 125 years of tradition. Each individual's dream is big – even life changing. – no matter what it is. Eastern is where the journey starts toward realizing the personal dream. Eastern gives its students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community the opportunity to start something big." These Promise Cards are an additional piece of the Start Something Big brand that President Arévalo unveiled at his Investiture.

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

#### **Consent Action Items, V.A.**

##### Minutes of the April 19, 2007 Special Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

*Motion 06-01-07: Motion that the Board approve the minutes of the April 19, 2007 special meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees.*

*Motion was seconded.*

*Motion carried.*

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

Chair Tanaka reported that this is the third time the Board has heard and seen the budget presentation. Vice President Voves noted that there are no substantive differences between this presentation and the one given at the May Board meeting. She pointed out the budget approval process is comprised of Tuition, Operating Fees, Operating Budget Expenditures, and the Capital Budget.

#### Tuition, and Service & Activity Fee

Vice President Voves reported that the only tuition increase in Eastern's proposed budget is a 5% increase in resident undergraduate tuition.

The proposed budget also includes a 5% increase in the service and activity fee beginning July 1. Board of Trustees members expressed that they do not take tuition increases lightly and they do not do this to increase fees unjustly for students. The increases are necessary to maintain fiscal balance and fiscal responsibility. The year Eastern did not increase tuition when they were given authority to, the university experienced negative consequences from the legislature. The Board is sorry this causes increased expenses to students and families, however, it must be done to maintain fiscal balance.

***Motion 06-02-07: Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve a 5% tuition rate increase for resident undergraduates and that the Board approve a 5% service and activity fee increase for all fee paying categories for fiscal year 2008, beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.***

*Seconded by Trustee Mikkelsen.*

*Motion carried.*

#### FY 2008 Operating Budget, V.B.1.

The detailed budget presentation was included in the Board materials. Vice President Voves went through the budget details with the Board. She explained that revenue estimates are based largely on enrollment calculations and allocations are driven by the strategic plan.

Trustee McReynolds asked if Eastern could request additional high demand enrollment dollars if additional students were recruited in those areas. Vice President Voves responded that Eastern could request additional high demand enrollment funding if additional high demand students are recruited. Eastern also received an unprecedented amount for student success strategies. Eastern is committed to using this funding to help students be successful and stay at Eastern to graduate in a timely manner. The President will allocate this funding based on requests that have measurable outcomes that fit the criteria guidelines in order to assist students and underserved students to be successful.

***Motion 06-03-07: Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the operating budget of \$194,474,434 for fiscal year 2008, beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.***

*Seconded by Trustee Ortega.*

*Motion carried.*

#### 2007-2009 Biennial Capital Budget V.B.2.

The first priority in the capital budget is Hargreaves Hall. Other priorities are Patterson Hall design, Riverpoint proviso, and preservation minor projects such as the fire alarm detection system and other health and safety related projects, classroom enhancement, as well as general facility preservation.

***Motion 06-04-07: Motion by Trustee Ortega that the Board approve the 2007-2009 capital budget of \$54,923,000 for the 2007-2009 biennium, beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2009.***

*Seconded by Trustee Zozaya-Geist.*

*Motion carried.*

Vice President Voves mentioned that the administration may come to the Board later in the summer or fall for approval of a request for a future building at the Riverpoint campus.

Discussion occurred regarding the accountability measures Eastern is expected to meet in order to maintain its funding. All public four year institutions are expected to meet the same six accountability measures, which are listed on the last page of the EWU budget book. Each institution received additional funding this year, so the targets need to be renegotiated in October. The targets will change and Eastern will need to meet higher expectations/increased targets.

Chair Tanaka thanked Ms. Voves, Ms. Hagegger, Mr. King and their staff for all the work they put into the budgets. He also mentioned that it might appear to observers that the Board rushed through these budget items at this meeting, however, there has been a great deal of time and effort by Board members and staff over the last several months to ensure the university is spending its money, student tuition money, and tax dollars in appropriate and wise ways and this is what the Board constantly strives to do.

### 2008 University Fees, V.B.3.

Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Toni Habegger, introduced the 2007-08 Fee Schedule action item to the Board. The first read of this fee schedule occurred in the Business and Finance Committee last month and it now comes before the Board for the second read and for approval.

Fee Schedule includes tuition, mandatory fees, special fees, fines and forfeitures, and course fees. This is the last year the full Board will be asked to approve the entire fee schedule due to the new Fee Approval Policy approved at the May Board meeting. In future years the Board will be asked to approve tuition and mandatory fees while the balance of the fees will be presented to the Board as informational only.

Ms. Habegger stated that a transportation fee will be brought for approval by the Board at a later date. The students have approved the fee, however, there is a great deal of work to complete with the students regarding the level of service the students decide to provide with the fee.

She also noted the recreation center fee will be charged beginning spring quarter, so it is not included in this fee schedule. That fee was approved by the Board when the Board approved the bond issue.

Ms. Van Bommel recommended a correction and clarification to page 10 of the fee schedule, so it is not misinterpreted. The fee schedule states the math placement exam is charged to incoming students, however, it is not only charged to incoming students, it is charged to other students and to non students as well.

The course fees have been diligently reviewed and requested by Academic Affairs and a plan is being developed to create a new review process moving forward. The goal is to review course fees on a quarterly basis. Most of the other fees will remain the same for an entire year.

Approximately a year ago the administration and the Board discussed the need to more diligently review course fees, and over this past year that has taken place. As a result of this process a number of fees have been removed from the list to ensure that only applicable fees are currently on the list. Ms. Habegger stated that Academic Affairs is making a tremendous effort to ensure the fees are well justified. The fees will go through a mandatory five year review cycle.



***Motion 06-05-07:*** Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the fiscal year 2008 University Fees listed in the Fee Schedule, including the clarification regarding math placement exam fees pointed out by Mary Jo Van Bommel.  
Seconded by Trustee Kauffman.  
Motion carried.

**FY07 Budget Amendment, V.B.4.**

Due to conservative revenue estimates during the budgeting process, the university has over realized revenue during fiscal year 2007 and the Board is being asked to approve the expenditure of this additional revenue. The expenditure plan includes funding for the Riverpoint campus operation for one year (dean and staff), recreation center start up costs, advancement and athletics budget deficits, and the Eastern brand rollout. This is one time money, not base funding. If, in the future, EWU is committed to initiatives such as Riverpoint, the expenses would need to be base funded in future years. The expenses are for both 2007 and 2008 budgets. Discussion occurred regarding ways these expenses would have been funded if revenue had not been over realized and regarding the desire for Board committees to discuss budget deficits and additional expenditures prior to full Board action.

***Motion 06-06-07:*** Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the FY07 Budget Amendment.  
Seconded by Trustee Ortega.

Further discussion occurred regarding funding sources to fund budget deficits and other initiatives not originally in the budget. The revenue sources that would be utilized for such items are the President's initiative fund and the unallocated revenue that is set aside for special budgeting needs.

*Motion carried.*

**Personnel Actions, VI.**

***Motion 06-07-07:*** Motion by Trustee Budke that the Board approve the personnel actions.  
Seconded by Trustee Kauffman.  
Motion carried.

**Adjournment, VII.**

Chair Tanaka adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

---

Paul Tanaka, Chair

---

Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary