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Board of Trustees Minutes, March 7, 2003

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 7, 2003**

At the Riverpoint Campus

**Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. (SIRTI 425)
Open Public Meeting at 1:00 p.m. (SIRTI 432)**

MINUTES

Trustees Present

Mr. Gordon Budke, Vice Chair
Mr. Neil McReynolds, Chair
Dr. Mark Mays
Ms. Kris Mikkelsen
Mr. Kennet Phillipson
Mr. Paul Tanaka
Ms. Ines Zozaya-Geist

Call to Order and Quorum, I and II.

Chair McReynolds called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. He noted that a quorum was present.

Executive Session, III.

Mr. McReynolds stated that the Board would go into executive session as authorized in RCW 42.30.110, to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment and to review the performance of a public employee, and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, litigation or potential litigation. He anticipated the executive session to last one hour, with the open meeting resuming at 1:15 p.m. No final action will be taken during the executive session.

Reconvene

Chair McReynolds reconvened the Board in open session at 1:20 p.m. and asked President Jordan to introduce two guests.

Dr. Jordan introduced Stu Stiles, chair of the SIRTI Board and CEO of Xo Communications, noting that Mr. Stiles has purchased a table and is helping sponsor the April 1 event in Seattle. Mr. Stiles welcomed everyone and gave a profile of SIRTI. He pointed out they're here to grow and develop technology business. This is an incubation facility--very defined and very specific to supporting technology. SIRTI also provides commercialization services for new businesses, and brings finalism and funding through access to federal, state and private funding (seed and venture capital). He then introduced Mr. Patrick Tam, who has been the SIRTI Director for less than one year and has really turned things around. Mr. Tam said they create new businesses, help existing business to grow, and help find funding. There are entrepreneurs, higher education institutions and existing businesses that can bring opportunities to SIRTI. The infrastructure consists of management and finance, with a strong in-house team. SIRTI's activities help the whole economic development of the area, and they plan to construct a new building for wet labs. He then touched on some highlights of what they do.

Dr. Jordan pointed out that Eastern has had a connection to at least one company and one recent project in which SIRTl has had a major role: GenPrime, and a grant for Dr. Jeanne Small.

Mr. Tam said he is looking forward to working more closely with Eastern. Trustee Budke noted that he is a tenant here in the building, and Trustee Mays noted SIRTl has the potential for tremendous impact on the Spokane economy.

Reports, IV.

University President's Report, IV.A.

President Jordan reported on the following items:

- Senator West's office called yesterday to inform us that the Senate passed their version of the Electrical Engineering degree (49-0) and the House has passed their version to the Higher Education Committee. This legislation will grant authority to Eastern to offer an Electrical Engineering Degree.
- Eastern Washington University is hosting a Puget Sound civic breakfast on Tuesday, April 1 at the Seattle Four Season's Olympic Hotel. Keynote speaker of this event will be Steve Ballmer, CEO of Microsoft Corporation who will talk about higher education and Washington's economic future. Legislators confirmed for attendance are Senators Larry Sheehan, Jim Horn and Jeanne Kohl-Welles, and Representatives Phyllis Kenney, Jeff Gombowski and Cathy McMorris. We have received \$20,000 as of March 6, 2003 and a total of \$39,000 has been committed. Proceeds will be put towards student scholarships.
- The Greg Greene Foundation is hosting a charity event on March 15, 2003 titled "*Black Tie . . . and all that jazz.*" Proceeds from this event will be divided into arts and culture, education and the community. This year they will be giving \$5,000 each to Whitworth College and Eastern Washington University.
- The AGB's National Conference on Trusteeship is being held April 5 through April 8 in Seattle at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers. Neil, Kris, Ines, Mark, and Bertha plan to attend the conference along with Ruthie and I.
- The Transition to Success Consortium meeting will be held next Monday at Central. Those attending the consortium are Brian Levin-Stankevich, Bill Ponder, Ron Dalla, Ray Hamel, Brian Spraggins and myself.
- Eastern's commencement this spring will be held in two separate ceremonies on the same day. Those receiving baccalaureate degrees will be honored at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 14 at Woodward Field. Students earning their master's degrees will be honored that afternoon beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Pavilion. The traditional barbecue will take place between the two ceremonies, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the central mall.
- EWU was featured in the February 2003 issue of Washington CEO magazine. The article focuses on the impact Eastern and its programs make in the State of Washington and on the economic development and quality of life in our state. "Eastern Washington University's Achievement Through Innovation."
- An open forum was held on March 3 to brief faculty, staff and administration on the Governor's budget proposal and what we currently know about upcoming funding for higher education and the implications for Eastern.
- A representative from Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Annie Pennucci, traveled to Spokane Thursday to do a branch campus study of Riverpoint. The purpose was to compile

perspectives and opinions of administrators and faculty on key topics for the Institute's study of branch campuses. She met with Bill, Brian and myself, along with Dee Martin and Ray Soltero. Discussion was held on shared campus challenges, technical degree, and alternatives to how branch campuses operate or alter the degree programs currently offered and options for the future of branch campuses.

- Eastern's Board of Trustees and the Community Colleges of Spokane (CCS) Board came together for a joint meeting on February 20, 2003. The meeting allowed the two boards a chance to compare needs to see how they can collaborate. Fifty percent of students who leave CCS transfer to Eastern and both Eastern and the CCS are monitoring state budget talks at the Legislature.
- The Urban & Regional Planning Accreditation Visit took place last week, and appears to have gone very well.
- Thanks to Congressman George Nethercutt, a consolidated appropriations bill passed that includes \$510,000 to assist Eastern Washington University's new School of Computing and Engineering Sciences and the university's developing programs in cyber security, software engineering technology and applied information theory.
- Eastern Washington University recently received confirmation of an anonymous gift in the amount of \$1 million dollars. We will have further information on the use of these funds at a later date.
- A bequest of approximately \$900 thousand dollars has been left to the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology for endowed scholarships. One half of the endowment will be for nursing students and one half will be available to all other programs within the college.
- Board member Kennet Phillipson has been accepted to Berkley Law School. He is still waiting to hear from Georgetown and Harvard. Congratulations to Kennet.

Trustees' Reports, IV.B.

Academic Affairs Committee, IV.B.1.

Dr. Mays reported that the committee reviewed the NASC report as well as the Diversity Initiative project proposals. They are also discussing the budget difficulties and various options for the university.

Student Affairs Committee, IV.B.2.

Trustee Tanaka reported the committee heard an update on the upcoming negotiations for the student health clinic, and heard a report from the Department of Education regarding what students pay for college—83% of our students use financial aid, and 62% have loans averaging \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year. Vice President Ponder added that the Diversity Initiative grant proposals are due by March 14, the campus climate study is coming along and we have received the report from the consultant. He also reported that Scott Barnes gave an update on the Big Sky Conference, and Bruce DeFrates gave a presentation on cash standards. Trustee McReynolds noted he was pleased with the number of athletes getting academic recognition.

Business and Finance Committee, IV.B.3.

Trustee Mikkelsen reported the committee has not met, but there would be a motion concerning the contract work on Monroe Hall motion later in the agenda.

Advancement Committee, IV.B.4.

Trustee Budke provided a written report in the board packet from the previous committee meeting, and gave an update from yesterday's meeting. He noted that Eastern received four CASE awards this year, and the last time we received any was in 1997. The UMIFA precludes payouts in the form of scholarships when those funds are under water. Planning is moving forward for a capital campaign, and a smaller working group has been formed to help organize this. The work group met yesterday to discuss and focus on leadership, consultants, timing, roles, and the agenda for the next step in the process—charting some directions. Trustee Mays acknowledged how hard it is to get donations now.

Trustee Mays reported on the Joint Governing Board meeting last week. The representatives from the various state higher education boards talked with the Governor collectively. They are looking at legislative things that can be done to support the Evans/Gardner proposal, and he will keep us posted on its progress. Trustee Budke thanked Mr. McReynolds and Dr. Mays for representing EWU at these meetings.

Presidents' Reports, IV.C.

Faculty Organization, IV.C.1.

Dr. Barbara Alvin said the Senate passed the block scheduling proposal, by a small margin. A motion was made to send the proposal to an all-faculty vote, but that was tabled. A petition at the next meeting wasn't put forward but the motion wasn't taken off the table. She said the communication from the administration that block scheduling wouldn't go into effect this year gives the faculty the opportunity for additional input. The Senate is now looking at faculty views on the vision—not many have provided input using the Blackboard capability. The Council of Faculty Representatives (CFR) is trying to do on the state level what faculty at the campus level are trying to do. She provided a handout of a document being distributed by CFR to legislators (attached to the official minutes.) The Senate leadership is also surveying campuses to gain information on the effect of budget reductions. Trustee Mays asked if there is a way to communicate quickly with the CFR group, and Dr. Alvin said the contact information is on the handout. Dr. Mays pointed out that the difficulty in faculty being heard is with the legislators, not the Board.

Classified Staff Union, IV.C.2.

Mr. Rod Nicholls said Local 931 is starting to plan for the next year—they will have a Homecoming float and he invited the trustees to ride on it and hand out refreshments. In Olympia there is very little of substance happening right now, and he hopes they can get things accomplished by June. He attended a higher education policy meeting at the end of the month regarding the civil service reform bill. Regarding the Budget Forum held last Monday, Mr. Nicholls stated his pleasure that President Jordan stepped up to lead by communicating with the campus.

Associated Students, IV.C.3.

Mr. Brandon Schinzel reported that the ASEWU recently appointed 2 people to the vacant positions on the council. They are continuing their council chats at noon on Fridays and invite faculty and administrators to sit in. He said the ASEWU is working with Rick Romero on an agreement with the STA for free bus service for the next academic year. This proposal has passed both the AS Council and the President's Cabinet. Mr. Schinzel said one college credit will be given for student participation in the leadership conference on May 3, and they have 8 or 9 speakers signed up so far. They have begun the Writing on Wall project; it is 5' tall now, with the potential of becoming 8' tall and 35' long. He thanked Bill Ponder for all his help on this diversity project, and invited the trustees to attend at noon next Thursday, March 13, to see the wall come down. The AS recently showed the movie *Bowling for Columbine*. They had an 8% voter turnout for general elections, and one of their long-term goals is to increase the turnout--they are working on on-line voting for next year. The ASEWU is hosting a leadership dinner March 11 at 6:30 p.m. for student leaders. This is the last week for the readership program, so he will speak with *USA Today* next week to see the results of the survey. Mr. Schinzel was in Olympia last week for the Governor's prayer breakfast. Members of the ASEWU will be attending the civic breakfast in Seattle on April 1.

Special Reports, IV.D.

Strategic Planning Update, IV.D.1.

Dr. Dale Lindekugel thanked everyone for their input at the workshop last night. The workshop was very productive, with excellent discussion of core values and critical issues related to implementation of the plan. The task force will meet Tuesday to digest what they heard last night, and will move to the next phase of putting together the document. The third phase will be public review and comment. They will visit various groups on campus, and will ultimately hold open campus forums. There will be an additional session with the Board of Trustees in May. Approval is scheduled in June, in time to be used for the summer Board and Cabinet retreats. They plan to have their web site up this month.

Diversity Initiative Update, IV.D.2.

Vice President Ponder highlighted a couple of things from the report printed in the board agenda. Regarding the campus climate assessment, the focus groups are done, the pilot survey will be sent out soon (to faculty, staff and students) and will be analyzed once they are returned. They are getting ready for the actual instrument to be administered, and then a final report will be presented to the Board by the consultants. A collaborative effort is being taken to encourage the submittal of grant requests. Other activities include a WoW sponsorship, Patty Chantrill attended the AHANA dinner, and she was a guest at Spokane Public Schools Department of Education presentation by Leonard Pitts at Whitworth. She is working with the diversity commission, and has encouraged the commission to be more involved. (They underwrote ½ the cost of the *Bowling for Columbine* movie). Eastern was represented at the Community Congress on race relations and the Business Diversity Leadership Breakfast. They are working on two future projects: a FIPSE grant to focus on EWU's faculty color, and a learning service grant to address student awareness in the Spokane region.

Resource Allocation Task Force Update, IV.D.3.

Ms. Mary Voves reported the task force has met and is in the process of developing the policy side of the model. She handed out a document (attached to the official minutes) and explained the concept passed by the President's Cabinet. The administration seeks the Board's concurrence with this proposal to move forward with a three-year budget planning process which would combine budget reductions and a prudent use of new tuition revenue to offset reductions and allow the university to remain focused on our core functions. The recommendation is to use 80% of available policy-based tuition dollars to offset the budget reduction in FY2004, use 65% for FY2005, and use 50% for FY2006. Trustee Mikkelsen asked why the administration is looking at a three-year plan and not two-year by two-year plan. Ms. Voves explained that enrollments and long-term issues can't be made and implemented quickly, and shouldn't be done piece meal. President Jordan noted the budget cuts will go into the next biennium also—so we're trying to be conscientious about how we approach it. He also said the legislative leaders by and large support this three-year concept. There is some concern politically that we're telling them it's okay to cut the budget, but we're trying to lay out a plan to deal with what we think will happen. We can also come back with the consequences of this action. There were no objections or concern from the Board members. Trustee Tanaka asked if the administration views the percentages as a ceiling or a floor, and Ms. Voves replied they are a ceiling—we can't use any other funds to mitigate the cuts without running the budget too close to the margin. Dr. Jordan also pointed out that we are about to enter negotiations with the faculty and staff unions, so we need some money for the contractual relationships and any unforeseen contingencies. **The Board of Trustees went on record as supporting the three-year budget planning process and percentages.**

Enrollment Management Task Force Update, IV.D.4.

Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich reported on the block scheduling discussions at Senate, noting that since then many faculty attended the task force meeting for further information and input. The task force is now modeling scenarios through the software scheduling package. Then they will go through the department chairs to do simulations for the different majors. He said we have Western's space utilization project including the outcomes of their proposed scheduling recommendations, and Central is also very interested in what we're doing. He will share our findings when they are ready. They are working on program mix, enrollment mix, and how to define enrollment parameters within which a resource reallocation will work. Trustee Mays noted the faculty need to at least approve the concept in theory and trust management to make sure it runs well. Dr. Alvin said the faculty was primarily concerned for the students if implementation was going to take place this year.

Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges (NASC) Interim Report Update, IV.D.5.

Dr. Brian Levin-Stankevich reported that Larry Kiser is leading the team to pull together the information from across campus to respond to the 1998 visit, showing what we've accomplished in the five years since that visit and where we're headed. Our next full accreditation will be in two years, when the first cohort of MPT students graduate. He noted we have made tremendous strides in some areas, and have made many changes as an outcome of the last visit. The report will highlight those things that we have done well, and show that we are working on those that needed further work. The accreditation team visits in April, and the report is due in March. Neville Hosking will send the draft report to the trustees next week for their input.

Action Items, V.

Consent Action Items, V.A.

Minutes of the January 24, 2003 Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

Motion 03-01-03: *"I move the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the January 24, 2003 Board meeting as distributed."*

Motion by Trustee Mikkelsen; seconded by Trustee Phillipson. The motion carried.

Discussion Action Items, V.B.

Acceptance of Completion of Contract Award #AE-95-03G, Monroe Hall Renovation, V.B.1.

Vice President Voves explained this was a routine contract acceptance for the Monroe Hall construction project which would normally go to the Business and Finance committee but they haven't met. We've completed all the contract documents, which included 30 change orders. The excess money will go to the Tawanka remodel project.

Motion 03-02-03: *"I move that the Board of Trustees accept the completion of Contract Award #AE-95-03G, Monroe Hall Renovation."*

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

Resolution Affirming EWU Compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), V.B.2.

Laurie Connelly explained there are only two health care components at EWU covered by HIPAA (Dental Hygiene and the Speech and Hearing Clinic) for which we have to comply with the procedures and designations, and we are in the process of putting all those in place. This is a resolution by the Board of Trustees affirming that Eastern will be doing whatever is required by the Act. She noted we also will need to train students who go out to other sites.

Motion 03-03-03: *"I move that the Board of Trustees adopt the HIPAA resolution indicating Eastern's compliance with the act."*

Motion by Trustee Mays; seconded by Trustee Phillipson. The motion carried.

Resolution Supporting the Governors Evans and Gardner Higher Education Leadership Project, V.B.3.

Chair McReynolds explained that the Joint Governing Board recommended that each individual board prepare a resolution in support of the Gardner/Evans proposal

Motion 03-04-03: *“I move that the Board of Trustees adopt this resolution in support of the Gardner/Evans proposal.”*

Motion by Trustee Mays; seconded by Trustee Tanaka. The motion carried.

Vice President Voves added that the university would also like Board members to contact legislators and encourage them to support this bill. She then distributed a letter for trustee signatures to be mailed next week.

Revised 2003 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule, V.B.4.

Chair McReynolds said a date change for the June meeting and retreat has been requested. Consensus of the trustees is to move the Board meeting from Friday, June 27th to Monday the 30th. The retreat would then be held on Tuesday (all day) and Wednesday morning.

Motion 03-05-03: *“I move that the Board of Trustees adopt the proposed change in the 2003 meeting schedule and also the change in retreat dates.”*

Motion by Trustee Budke; seconded by Trustee Phillipson. The motion carried.

Old Business/New Business, VI.

Chair Neil McReynolds said one of our board goals this year is to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Fisher Report. If you’ll look in the front of our board book it is number 5 on the list of 6 goals. In reviewing the report, one area of great interest to him is the section on Governance. He has served on numerous boards and consulted on governance and organizational issues with other boards. In all of this, the policies are really important. For this reason, the governance recommendations were of special interest. The Report recommended revising the University Policies in regards to the governance authority of

- The Board of Trustees
- The President
- The Faculty Organization
- And the faculty union.

The Fisher report pointed out inconsistencies about those relationships.

He noted the EWU policies which apply to faculty have not been revised since the implementation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He is very interested in having the Board take the lead in updating those policies to reflect the respective areas of the Senate and the UFE.

- He said this is particularly important now because we are coming up on a new negotiating process with the faculty union.
- We should be clear about the respective responsibilities and the policies should accurately reflect each entity’s scope of authority.

Before we undertake such a process, he said it would be helpful to request that the leadership of the Senate and the UFE present a summary of their perceived current roles within the university and the scope of the policy areas which fall within their authority.

He suggested that the Academic Affairs Committee undertake this process in their committee meetings. He would like to see this process start this spring, because of pending negotiations with the faculty, with a report and recommendations back to the full board by October.

Mark Mays, Chair of the Academic Affairs committee, accepted this committee responsibility.

President Jordan noted there are an array of bills in the legislature that could affect how we do business at Eastern, e.g. the early retirement of classified employees, a tuition bill and auditing requests. We are trying to work with the legislators to minimize the impact of these bills should they pass.

Personnel Actions, VII.

Motion 03-06-03: "I move that the Board of Trustees approve the personnel actions as presented."

Motion by Trustee Budke; seconded by Trustee Mays. The motion carried.

Adjournment, VIII.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Neil L. McReynolds
Chair of the Board

Stephen M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board