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Board of Trustees Minutes, May 17, 2002

Eastern Washington University

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EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING**

**May 17, 2002
PUB 265-267**

MINUTES

Trustees Present:

Mr. Gordon Budke (by telephone)
Dr. Mark Mays, Chair
Mr. Neil McReynolds, Vice Chair
Ms. Kris Mikkelsen
Mr. Michael Ormsby
Ms. Ines Zozaya-Geist

Chair Mays called the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 1:40 p.m. He noted that a quorum was present, including Mr. Budke via telephone.

I. Contract Authority

The first item of business concerned construction contracts (handout attached to the official minutes).

***Motion 04-01-02:** "I move that the Board of Trustees delegate authority to the University Treasurer to award construction contracts for bids that are within the designated amount, subject to ratification by the Board at the June 21, 2002 meeting."*

Motion by Trustee Ormsby; seconded by Trustee Zozaya-Geist. Motion carried.

II. Personnel Authority

Discussion of the schedule for letters of retention of probationary faculty, promotion and tenure, notice of which is required by June 1, 2002.

***Motion 04-02-02:** "I move that the Board of Trustees delegate to the President the authority to take action on the retention of probationary faculty, promotion and tenure until June 21, 2002."*

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

III. Tenure Buyout Proposal

The administration requested affirmation from the Board of Trustees that the estimated \$450,000 needed to conduct a tenure buyout program this year would be included in the final budget this year. Affirmation of this funding would allow the administration to move forward with implementation of the plan by next week. Trustee Ormsby noted that the Academic Affairs committee endorses this plan.

Motion 04-03-02: *“I move that the Board of Trustees authorize the administration to begin implementation of the Tenure Buyout Plan as described in the handout, with the understanding that the requested \$450,000 will be provided in the budget to be passed by the Board in June.”*

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

IV. Diversity Initiative

Trustee Ormsby noted that the Academic Affairs committee would like consensus regarding the funding for the diversity initiative. Brian Levin-Stankevich reported that the planning group put together a proposed budget of \$225,000. They budgeted a faculty fellow who would become full time in the future, and a full-time support staff. They budgeted \$65,000 for project support (with matching grant funds). We can still do all components of the plan, but at a lower level than the original budget proposal. They plan to hire a graduate student to work with this program. Trustee Ormsby noted that the Academic Affairs committee considers the diversity initiative to be a large commitment by the Board and the University, so they believe the task force should feel comfortable moving forward with the knowledge that the Board will approve the proposed budget package in June.

V. Student Targets for 2002-2003

Trustee Mays said that the Academic Affairs committee would also like clarification regarding Eastern’s student credit hour target for next year. Are we married to the 8462 figure, or do we have some flexibility? President Jordan replied that the administration would like to have enough flexibility to give them time to manage the numbers. We could go as high as 8700 if needed. We do need a policy soon regarding Fall 2003 enrollments, but it is too late for such a policy for Fall 2002. Dr. Jordan noted that we need to be part of a higher education-wide commitment on this issue. It is both an administrative and political issue. Dr. Mays said that the Board would be open to considering changes to the student credit hours for fall 2002—that they are not wed to the 8462 figure.

VI. Executive Session

Chair Mays announced that the Board of Trustees would briefly adjourn to Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

VII. Adjournment

The Board of Trustees returned from Executive Session and the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Mark Mays
Chair of the Board

Stephen M. Jordan
Secretary of the Board