

5-19-2011

Board of Trustees Minutes, May 19, 2011

Eastern Washington University

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**EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

May 19, 2011

**Open Board Meeting ~ 1:00p.m. (TAW 215 B&C)
Executive Session ~ 11:45 a.m. (TAW 215 A)**

MINUTES

Trustees Present:

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

Call to Order, I.

Chair Ortega called the May 19, 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, and no trustees were absent.

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 1:00 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 May 19, 2011, regular meeting of the Eastern Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 1:05 p.m.

Reports, IV.

University President's Report, IV.A.

President Arévalo noted that he continues to attend meeting and events in the state which are relevant to Eastern and our academic interests. Specifically, he was the speaker for the academic convocation at Heritage University this year, which is a private institution that serves a high percentage of first-generation college students as well as a large proportion of under-represented students. He also recently attended the Spokane Scholars Banquet, which highlighted the brightest graduating students from high schools in the Spokane area, some of whom will be attending EWU. He provided the trustees with an update on their BOT goals, including what has been accomplished to date. He then introduced the EWU Red Team, which won the corporate cup for the fifteenth year in a row.

Trustees' Reports, IV.B.

Board Chair Report, IV.B.1.

Chair Ortega recognized Julie Thayer for her 10 years of service to the Board of Trustees, thanking her for all of her hard work. She also recognized outgoing student trustee Amanda Zeller, who is graduating in June and will be employed in the Registrar's Office.

Academic Affairs Committee, IV.B.2.

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

- Mark Baldwin presented to the committee regarding the review of pre-university basic skills, and the need to reinforce our policy concerning competency-based English, mathematics and computer skills.
- Colin Ormsby presented information on dashboards, core values and retention.
- Overview of recent legislation regarding the Western Governors' internet-based approach, which is graduating students in several states. This reflects a need in the world to have accessible information for those who want to advance themselves.
- Joint session with Student Affairs to discuss the retention of students.

Student Affairs Committee, IV.B.3.

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

- Joint session with Academic Affairs highlighted how to define success and how to improve the percentage of students retained from freshman to sophomore years. Also discussed the completion of four-year degrees within four years.
- Architects presented pictures and drawings of the new residence hall.
- Reviewed two items coming to the full board for action: the Student Technology fee and the Services & Activities fee.
- Larry Briggs reported that enrollment applications are up over 18 percent.
- Met new men's basketball coach Jim Hayford.
- Heard from Gary Pratt (Information Technology) about some new initiatives being launched on campus.

Advancement Committee, IV.B.4.

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

- Guest Rob Neilson, Chairman of the Foundation Board. This is an essential partnership with Eastern, as they have provided over \$2 million in scholarships in the past couple of years.
- Heard a second reading of the Social Media Policy, which will be voted on by the full board today.
- David Buri reported from Olympia. There has been little movement on the operating and capital budgets. The special session will end next Wednesday, so it is unclear whether they will finalize the budget by then. The tuition bill passed the House and Senate and has gone to the Governor for signature. It gives us an 11 to 11.5 percent base increase with unlimited authority beyond that. If the Board decides to increase tuition beyond the base amount, we must increase financial aid offerings.
- Papers were signed today to establish a Board of Trustees scholarship, which is an important way trustees can continue to show their support for the university.
- The Marketing and Communications staff recently won quite a few CASE awards.

Business and Finance Committee, IV.B.5.

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

- Budget discussions
- Reviewing policies; several will be presented for action at the June Board meeting.
- Reviewed investments and investment policies; action at the June Board meeting.
- Request for Proposal for an investment advisory firm. (We have not done this for eight or nine years.)
- First read of the budget for the next biennium, the principles of which are focused on student success: retention, time to degree and graduation rate.
- Transformational change—they reviewed a recommendation which emphasizes online learning.
- Discussion of investment reserves.

Organization Presidents' Reports, IV.C.

Faculty Organization, IV.C.1.

Ms. Doris Munson reported that her term as President of the Faculty Organization will end after commencement in June, and she introduced Dr. William Loendorf as her replacement.

Classified Staff Union, IV.C.2.

New WFSE President Quincy Burns attended the meeting and said he is honored to represent the classified staff. He realizes there are difficult financial times ahead for the university, and thanked the Board and the President for their hard work and leadership. He is committed to working with them to get through this. Regarding the three percent salary decrease, he noted this is an issue for the staff as everything is increasing in price and it is difficult for many to make ends meet.

Associated Students, IV.C.3.

Mr. Justin Terry, ASEWU President, provided a written report, but also briefly reported on:

- Internal structure changes.
- Elections are complete.
- PUB survey has been out less than 48 hours and has almost 600 responses so far. Plan to use Facebook, email and classroom visits to get as much student input as possible regarding the renovation.
- Council is in training now. He introduced President-elect Oscar Ocana.
- Mr. Terry said he is proud of the Associated Students and their accomplishments this past year. He believes they were more involved and had more student empowerment than in the past.

Action Items, V.

A. Consent Action Items

Minutes of the March 24, 2011 regular Board of Trustees' Meeting, V.A.1.

***Motion 5-01-2011:** Motion by Trustee Zeller that the Board approve consent action item: the Minutes of the March 24, 2011, regular Board of Trustees' Meeting.*

Seconded by Trustee Zozaya-Geist.

Motion carried.

B. Discussion Action Items, V.B.

1. Student Technology Fee Committee FY11 Disbursement, V.B.1.

***Motion 5-02-2011:** Motion by Trustee Kauffman that the Board approves the Student Technology Fee Committee FY11 Disbursement of \$1.5 million as recommended and approves the carry forward policy as proposed.*

Seconded by Trustee Mays.

Motion carried.

2. Service & Activities Fee Committee FY11 Disbursement, V.B.2.

***Motion 5-03-2011:** Motion by Trustee Kauffman that the Board approves the Service & Activities process for dollar allocations (instead of percentage allocations) with consideration taken into account for existing contractual and continuing base obligations. The motion includes approval of an increase of 5 percent, the proposed distributions, and the spending authority for budget reserves through S&A review.*

Seconded by Trustee Mikkelsen.

Motion carried.

3. Social Media Policy, V.B.3.

***Motion 5-04-2011:** Motion by Trustee Tanaka that the Board approves the Social Media Policy as presented.*

Seconded by Trustee McReynolds.

Motion carried.

4. Personnel Actions – Tenure and Promotion, V.B.4.

***Motion 5-05-2011:** Motion by Trustee McReynolds that the Board approves the personnel actions as presented.*

Seconded by Trustee Tanaka.

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 2:05 p.m.

Bertha Ortega, Chair
Board of Trustees

Rodolfo Arévalo, Secretary