

X. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

A. Academic Affairs Committee

Mrs. Broner, chair, will report on the committee meeting of September 25, 2015.

**Academic Affairs Committee
Meeting of September 25, 2015**

Minutes

Present: H. Billing, M. Bridges, E. Broner, D. Fecher, L. Klaben, G. Ramos, R. Pignatiello

Guests: R. Aitken, M.E. Ashley, M. Crites, R. Fyffe, A. Golian, G. Harris, J. Keferl, D. Kimpton, N. Lasky, C. Loranger, M. Lowery, D. Petkie, M. Polatajko, B. Rigling, T. Sudkamp, R. Sweeney, C. This, C. Wooley

Mrs. Eloise Broner called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Provost's Report

- Dr. Thomas Sudkamp, provost, presented the Provost Report.
- Dr. Sudkamp announced that Wright State University has been selected by the Presidential Debate Committee to host the first live Presidential Debate which will be televised on September 26, 2016. The debate is the catalyst for a variety of campus events planned for the next year focused on the civic process. Faculty will also be incorporating relevant material into their teaching and into the selection of a "Common Text" for freshmen reading.
- **Fall Enrollment Numbers:** Fall enrollment numbers have been released. Fourteenth Day Enrollment reported to the state includes 13,710 Undergraduate students (up slightly over last year) and 4,300 Graduate students (up 4.4%). Total University Enrollment is 18,058 students (up 1.6% from last year). One of the key components of total enrollment is the number of new Direct from High School students. Direct from high-school students make up roughly 2/3 of our new undergraduate student pipeline and are up 2.6%. Transfer students make up the remaining 1/3. International students encompass 10% of our student population and enrollment is up over 5% from last year.

Over the last several years there have been a number of curricular and academic support programs initiated to increase student persistence and success. The direct from high school retention numbers have been trending upward and have increased to 67%, which is a 6% gain over the past two years. Continuing student retention has also increased by 50% to 55.8%. Graduation is the ultimate mark of success. Over the last four years, Wright State has graduated over 15,000 students.

- **Student Success Center:** Wright State recently opened our new Student Success Center; a \$17M building that incorporates active classroom learning

and provides a central home for academic advising, tutoring, math and the writing help centers. The Lake Campus is growing with new program offerings in business, nursing and integrated science and is making plans to add additional campus housing.

- Dr. Joe Keferl was appointed the Dean of the College of Education to replace Dr. Charlotte Harris who is retiring in December. Dr. Stephen Foster, associate vice president for international affairs, has announced his upcoming retirement.
- Dr. Renee Aitken, assistant vice president for education effectiveness and institutional accreditation, gave the Board an update on the preparations underway for the Higher Learning Commission re-accreditation visit to Wright State on March 21 and 22, 2016.

1. Ph. D. in Electrical Engineering

Dr. Brian Rigling, professor and chair, director of sensor systems research, outlined a proposal for establishing a new Ph.D. program in Electrical Engineering. Currently there is a multi-disciplinary program in place in the College of Engineering that has steadily grown over the last ten years. However, having a specific Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering will allow students to directly highlight their specialization to potential employers and to tailor their coursework around this concentration. In addition, this spin off program will enhance recruitment of students seeking an Electrical Engineering degree and will enhance EE research development.

There will be no additional program costs associated with the creation of a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering since existing faculty and courses are already in place.

The following resolution has been presented to the committee for approval and is now recommended for the appropriate action by the Board of Trustees.

RESOLUTION 16-

WHEREAS, Wright State University is proposing a new Ph.D. program within the Department of Electrical Engineering and the College of Engineering and Computer Science; and

WHEREAS, establishing a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering will better serve the Electrical Engineering doctoral students and is a natural next step in the growth of doctoral engineering programs at Wright State University and consistent with national, state, and regional drives to increase education in the STEM fields; and

WHEREAS, the program has been approved by the Faculty Senate and the Provost; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, as submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed.

I offer this motion.

Do I have a second:

Roll call vote:

2. Reducing College Costs Plan:

College affordability continues to be an important issue for students and their families as well as state and federal governments. Ohio, under House Bill 64 Section 369.600 is exploring ways to reduce college costs by 5%. Dr. Sudkamp highlighted the proposed provisions of Wright State's plan in response to H.B 64 requirements. Recommended were the opportunity for students to take college algebra and English for free at area high schools, a plan for textbook savings, and a tuition discount or rebate for summer semester.

The following resolution is presented to the Board of Trustees for approval:

RESOLUTION 16-

WHEREAS, Am. Sub. H. B. No. 64, Section 369.600 requires that the Board of Trustees of each state institution of higher education shall develop and implement a plan to provide all in-state undergraduate students the opportunity to reduce the student cost of earning a degree by five per cent; and

WHEREAS, the plan may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Reducing the credit hours required to complete an associate or baccalaureate degree offered by the institution;
- (2) Offering a tuition discount or rebate to any student that completes a full load of coursework, as determined by the board of trustees;
- (3) Offering a tuition discount or rebate to students enrolling in a summer semester or quarter;
- (4) Offering online degree courses;
- (5) Reducing the cost of textbooks using cost-saving measures identified and implemented by the board of trustees;
- (6) Incorporation of remediation in the coursework and curriculum of credit-bearing courses;
- (7) Offering a fixed rate of instructional and general fees for any additional credits taken by students above a full course load, as determined by the board of trustees;
- (8) Offering fast-track degree completion programs;
- (9) Eliminating, reducing, or freezing auxiliary fees;
- (10) Increased participation in the college credit plus program established in Chapter 3365 of the Revised Code;

- (11) Offering programs to reduce or eliminate the need for remediation coursework; and

WHEREAS, not later than October 15, 2015, the Board of Trustees of each state institution of higher education shall submit the plan required under this section to the Chancellor of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, the university has identified strategies to provide students the opportunity to reduce the cost of earning a degree by at least five per cent as described in the attached Wright State University Reducing College Costs Plan; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the attached Wright State University Reducing College Cost Plan dated September 25, 2015, as submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed.

I offer this motion.
Do I have a second?
Roll call vote:

3. Posthumous Degree Request

A recommendation from the College of Science and Math has been received to grant the Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree posthumously to Mr. Ryan Manley. At the time of his death, Mr. Manley was a student in good standing and was within 3 credit hours of completing his degree program. The dean and provost support the granting of this degree.

RESOLUTION 16-

WHEREAS, Wright State University shares with the family and friends in the loss of Mr. Ryan Manley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Manley was only one course away from completing his Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology at the time of his death, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Wright State University Board of Trustees hereby approves granting a posthumous Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree to Mr. Ryan Manley.

I offer this motion.
Do I have a second?
Voice vote:

4. Emeritus Requests

The following recommendation is presented to the Board for their approval:

RESOLUTION 16-

WHEREAS, faculty members who have served ten or more years as fully-affiliated and full-time members at Wright State University will automatically be granted the emeritus title upon retirement and upon written request by the faculty member to the provost; and

WHEREAS, David Bienenfeld, Professor of Psychiatry, served the university from 1990-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, John Blair, Professor of Economics, served the university from 1981-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, D. Bartlett Blair, Professor of Theatre, Dance, and Motion Pictures, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Emmett Broxson, Professor of Pediatrics, served the university from 1997-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Richard Bullock, Professor of English, served the university from 1987-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Phyllis Cole, Assistant Professor of Community Health, served the university from 1995-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Sandra Crews, Professor of Theatre, Dance, and Motion Pictures, served the university from 1990-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Donna Curry, Professor of Nursing, served the university from 1979-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Rudy Fichtenbaum, Professor of Economics, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Finegan, Professor of Education, served the university from 1993-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Leo Finkelstein, Senior Lecturer of Computer Science and Engineering, served the university from 1989-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hangartner, Professor of Biomedical, Industrial, and Human Factors Engineering, served the university from 1985-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Robert Hiskey, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at the WSU Lake Campus, served the university from 1986-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Harry Khamis, Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Lockwood, Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, James Lucot, Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, David Orenstein, Associate Professor of Sociology, served the university from 1977-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Chandler Phillips, Professor of Biomedical, Industrial, and Human Factors Engineering, served the university from 1975-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Prochaska, Professor of Biochemistry, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, James Runkle, Professor of Biological Sciences, served the university from 1979-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Randy Sansone, Professor of Psychiatry, served the university from 1997-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, Donna Schlagheck, Professor of Political Science, served the university from 1985-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; and

WHEREAS, James Vance, Professor of Mathematics, served the university from 1980-2015 in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and has requested emeritus status; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the requests for emeritus status for the aforementioned faculty members, as submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby are endorsed.

I offer this motion.

Do I have a second:

Roll call vote:

- **Legislative Initiatives**

Last year a number of other initiatives were brought up in the budget bill that will impact Wright State and other state institutions of higher education. Dr. Sudkamp mentioned one such initiative that addresses courses and programs with low enrollment. In response to ORC 3345.35, Wright State recently completed a survey to identify these courses or programs. Evaluations are under way as to why enrollment is low and the continuing value of the course/program to students. Decisions will be made as to whether to phase out unnecessary programs or if there exists an opportunity to collaborate with other institutions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Kimpton