



WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIXTH MEETING Thursday, February 15, 2024

Endeavour Room, Student Union 156

MINUTES

- Present:** Chair Gunlock (Webex), Vice Chair Platt, Secretary Kejriwal, D. Conway, J. Ebbing, D. Fecher, E. Ferris, B. Langos, J. Thompson, C. Jenkins, R. Shah, B. Bucklew (Webex), A. Goyal, R. Peters, B. Whiteside (Webex)
- Absent:** M. Grunder
- Guests:** President Edwards, Provost Thompson, G. Sample, B. Kawosa, A. Faber, S. Jacquemin

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Andy Platt called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Vice Chair Platt asked Secretary, Daniel Palmer, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Vice Chair Platt read the Chair's Statement and the Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Chair's Statement:

The Wright State University Board of Trustees is a public body subject to the Ohio Open Meetings Act. It operates on a fixed agenda available to those attending the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board in its public session should submit a written request to the Board of Trustees' office 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda. However, all persons address the Board at the invitation of the Board and are subject to time limitations and other guidelines established to maintain the good order of the meeting.

Conflict of Interest Statement

It is of utmost importance to ensure that all university decisions are free from any real or perceived conflicts of interest. Therefore, please be mindful of all obligations with which you have been charged as a Trustee of Wright State University, and take the steps you deem appropriate to perform your duties fairly and impartially.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Platt requested the Board move into Executive Session pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G).

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 24-25

RESOLVED that the Wright State University Board of Trustees agreed to hold an Executive Session on February 15, 2024; and be it further

RESOLVED that pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G), the following issues may be discussed in Executive Session:

- To consider the appointment, ~~employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion,~~ or compensation of a public employee or official pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1); and
- Conference with an attorney for the Board regarding disputes with the Board that are subject of pending or imminent litigation pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3); and
- Matters Required to be Kept Confidential Pursuant to Federal Law or State Statute pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(5).

Trustee Conway moved to approve the resolution and Secretary Kejriwal seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

III. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Vice Chair Platt, reconvened at 4:10 p.m. Vice Chair Platt asked Board Secretary Palmer to call the roll and a quorum was present.

IV. RECESS

Vice Chair Platt moved the Board of Trustees into recess to begin the committee meetings.

V. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Vice Chair Platt, reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 16. Vice Chair Platt asked the Secretary to call the roll and a quorum was present.

B. Disposition of Previous Minutes

Trustee Ebbing moved to approve the minutes and Secretary Kejriwal seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

VI. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Vice Chair Platt welcomed everyone to the first Board of Trustees meeting for the 2024 calendar year.

Vice Chair Platt highlighted numerous achievements of the University from the previous calendar year, including the partnership with Dayton Public Schools and Wright State being recognized as the inaugural Military Supporter of the Year. Vice Chair Platt expressed much optimism for the year ahead.

Vice Chair Platt concluded with recognizing Trustee Ricky Peters and awardee at the Military and Defense Awards for his role as a National Trustee and Trustee Thompson, as he was named to the Dayton Military and Defense Hall of Fame.

A. Presidential Review and Goals Committee

Vice Chair Platt shared that the Performance Review and Goals Committee for President Sue Edwards, which is done on an annual basis, would work over the next two months to evaluate progress in working towards the goals established by the Board of Trustees. During this time, the committee would also review the existing goals and assess any needed modifications. Vice Chair Platt stated it was understood the existing goals were established with an understanding that many would not be accomplished in a single year. He stated these goals remain the primary priorities for the University, mirroring the objectives outlined in the Bridge Strategic Plan through 2025.

Trustee Conway was appointed to chair the committee and Trustees Platt and Ebbing were also appointed.

B. Nominating Committee

Trustee Grunder was appointed to chair the Nominating Committee and Trustees Conway and Bucklew were also appointed. The Nominating Committee would present a slate of officers to be considered at the April Board meeting.

C. Reports

Vice Chair Platt accepted written reports from the following: Advancement, Communications, Foundation, and Marketing. The reports are contained in the Board attachments.

VII. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Vice Chair Platt recognized President Edwards for the report of the President.

President Edwards began her report by sharing the University hosted Lt. Governor Jon Husted on campus in January for the annual economic forum that was attended by over 250 attendees. She also noted that various members of the Ohio Legislature had been on campus in preparation of the State Capital Budget.

President Edwards noted various events that had occurred, including the Presidential and Deans Scholars event, which had 91 prospective high school students with an average GPA of 4.06 visiting campus. She thanked Ms. Susan Schaurer and her team for their work in putting the Scholars event together.

President Edwards concluded her remarks by sharing comedian Brad Sherwood visited campus and shared his experiences with students in the creative and performing arts programs.

A. Approval of New Hires, Appointments, Promotions, and Separations

Next, President Edwards offered the academic and administrative appointments and changes as part of the meeting attachments to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF NEW HIRES, APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, AND SEPARATIONS

RESOLUTION 24-26

RESOLVED that the academic and administrative appointments, changes, retirement, departmental reporting, resignations and terminations submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby are approved.

Trustee Conway moved to approve and Trustee Ferris seconded. Vice Chair Platt asked that each Board Member review the names and confirm that they do not have a conflict. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

B. Approval of Research Contracts and Grants

President Edwards shared that Wright State University has recorded 135 awards totaling over \$38 Million in external funding for the time period of July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

Recent funding received by the University includes \$197,637 from the Ohio State University/Ohio Department of Natural Resources to Dr. Stephen Jacquemin for the H2Ohio Wetland Monitoring.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF RESEARCH CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

RESOLUTION 24-27

RESOLVED that the research contracts and grants submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby are approved.

Trustee Secretary Kejriwal moved to approve and Trustee Conway seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0)

XVI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

A. Academic and Student Affairs

Vice Chair Platt asked Trustee Conway to give her report on the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Trustee Conway noted two Public History students presented on their work with the National Museum of the Air Force to update the Wright Brothers exhibit to begin the meeting. She highlighted Provost Thompson's report concerning workload, stating that once implemented, the new policy will be an equitable approach that will place a great emphasis on student success by recognizing service to the University and offering student research opportunities. Trustee Conway stated it will also align the University with comparable regional universities.

Finally, Trustee Conway highlighted the recommendation by President Edwards on the Academic Efficiency and Effectiveness Report and reminded the Board of the charge given to Provost Thompson to complete the deactivation process by the April Board meeting.

Trustee Conway concluded by indicated no resolutions were adopted by the committee.

B. Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance

Next, Vice Chair Platt asked Trustee Beth Ferris to give her report on the Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance Committee meeting.

Trustee Ferris noted that Mr. Sample highlighted the accomplishment of the Department of Public Safety in completing the One Mind Campaign, making them one of the first agencies in the state to do so.

Trustee Ferris stated the finance team shared a very positive report illustrating tuition and fee revenues exceeding expectations. She noted this was the result of a strong execution of the enrollment management plan by Ms. Schaurer and her team. Chair Ferris noted, however, the need to improve retention remains, as customer acquisition is more difficult than customer retention.

Finally, Trustee Ferris indicated the committee received an update on the bylaws revisions from

Trustee Fecher.

Trustee Ferris noted that the committee approved one resolution to be considered by the full board.

She offered the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

RESOLUTION 24-28

WHEREAS, in order for the University to conduct business on an on-going basis, and provide products and services in a timely manner, purchases must be made; and

WHEREAS, these expenditures may amount to greater than \$250,000 and up to \$500,000, requiring committee approval, or may exceed \$500,000, requiring Board of Trustees approval; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that authorization is granted for the accompanying contracts greater than \$250,000 and up to \$500,000 before the Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance Committee; and be it

RESOLVED that authorization is granted for the accompanying contracts exceeding \$500,000 before the Board of Trustees.

The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

IX. REPORT OF THE FACULTY PRESIDENT

Dr. Ganapathy delivered the Faculty Senate report and noted the new policy concerning AI and that Faculty Senate was soliciting feedback on the new workload policy.

X. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEES

Vice Chair Platt invited student Trustees Madisyn Crabtree and Chris Jenkins to provide their report.

Trustees Crabtree and Jenkins provided an update on student life for the Spring 2024 semester.

XI. PRESENTATION: LAKE CAMPUS WETLANDS PROJECT

Vice Chair Platt recognized Vice Provost Andrea Faber and Dr. Stephen Jacquemin to present an update on the Lake Campus Wetlands project.

Dr. Stephen Jacquemin presented on the ongoing wetlands project at Grand Lake St. Mary's and the University's continued role in ensuring water quality for the region.

Trustee Ebbing shared his appreciation for the work being done and emphasized how important it was to the region.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

Vice Chair Platt indicated there was no old business before the Board of Trustees.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chair Platt recognized Mr. Greg Sample to present an item under New Business.

Mr. Greg Sample shared that Wright State has a long-standing relationship with the Wright State University Foundation. He noted that before the Board of Trustees was a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for approval that was in line with the University's Affiliated Entity Policy.

Vice Chair Platt asked Secretary Palmer to read the resolution:

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION**

RESOLUTION 24-29

WHEREAS, Universities are often supported by philanthropic foundations that are primarily organized to provide support to their partner university; and

WHEREAS, Wright State University has a longstanding relationship with the Wright State University Foundation since 1966, providing financial support to various university programs and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Both Wright State University and the Wright State University Foundation desire to formalize their operational agreement within the framework of the University's Affiliated Entity Policy; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts the agreement with the Wright State University Foundation as submitted to this meeting and authorizes the President, or her designee, to execute the agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED that the President, or her designee, is authorized and directed to take and perform all lawful actions she reasonably determines are appropriate to effectuate the agreement.

Vice Chair Platt thanked Trustee Fecher, Mr. Greg Sample, Mr. Bill Shepard, and Mr. Sean Culley for their work to complete the MOU.

Trustee Ferris moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Langos seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Trustee Ebbing moved to adjourn the meeting and Secretary Kejriwal seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.