



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Immediately Following the Public Session

Endeavour Room, Student Union 156

MINUTES

Present: Chair Conway, Vice Chair Bucklew, M. Grunder, R. Kejriwal, J. Thompson, A. Goyal, R. Peters, M. Crabtree

Absent:

Guests: D. Hopkins, N. Lasky, S. Schaurer, T. Littell

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Conway called to order the December 14, 2023, meeting at 2:50 p.m. and welcomed everyone

A. Roll Call

Chair Conway asked the Secretary, Daniel Palmer, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Chair Conway 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.

B. Disposition of Previous Minutes

Chair Conway asked for a motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2023 Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Trustee Kejriwal moved to approve and Trustee Peters seconded. Chair Conway asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions, or discussion to the minutes.

The minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

A. Opening Remarks from the Committee Chair

Chair Conway greeted and welcomed everyone to the final Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting of the academic semester. She mentioned that it was hard to believe that the semester had drawn to a close and the University was celebrating the success and achievements of over 900 students during the upcoming weekend at commencement. She congratulated each and every one of the graduates obtaining their diplomas.

Chair Conway stated the top priority of the University will continue to be doing everything in the University's power to make its students successful.

Chair Conway noted she attended the student success training led by Dr. Amy Salazar from Sam Houston State University which discussed learning loss following the pandemic. She indicated this requires faculty and staff to think differently when interacting with students. Chair Conway expressed encouragement to see many faculty and staff attending this event to learn more about initiatives everyone can do to help address learning loss and improve the retention of students.

Chair Conway recognized Provost Thompson and her team on adding first year seminars into the core curriculum which will ultimately translate into an increased retention rate for students. Chair Conway recognized Dr. Ganapathy for her support in exercising good shared governance and guiding this initiative across the finish line.

Finally, Chair Conway welcomed Kim Gilliam for rejoining the University and leading Career Services.

Next, Chair Conway recognized Provost Thompson to provide her report.

II. REPORTS ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Remarks from the Provost

Provost Thompson stated that December is always one of her favorite months as the University celebrates the students' academic accomplishments at commencement and launch them into their successful careers, the majority of whom will remain local. She stated that this educated workforce is a driver of development for the region and Ohio.

Provost Thompson recognized faculty for their amazing work in submitting Midterm Grades, reaching an all-time high of 95%. She noted that the College of Engineering and Computer Science had a 98.69% submission rate, and the Boonshoft School of Medicine submitted 100% of its required grades.

Provost Thompson shared the CORE/General Education curriculum revision was approved as a resolution at the recent Faculty Senate meeting. She stated the revision is important for two reasons: (1) It tightly aligns the Core Curriculum with ODHE's recently revised transfer guidelines called OT36 and (2) A 3-credit hour first year seminar aimed at helping students succeed and stay at Wright State would be required as part of their degree program. Provost Thompson noted this is a nationally known best practice and has significantly increased retention rates at other universities.

Provost Thompson stated the University continues to expand professional development offerings in the areas of Student Success. She noted that on November 3rd, Amy Salazar AVP of Student Success from Sam Houston State University, spent two days on our campus and delivered a keynote to over 100 faculty and staff, while meeting with the college retention committees.

Provost Thompson recognized Wright State's Celebration of Undergraduate and Graduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities that hosted students from a wide array of disciplines to showcase their academic endeavors.

Finally, Provost Thompson provided an update on the Academic Effectiveness and Efficiency Review Committee's work of carefully and diligently reviewing the 198 graduate and undergraduate programs. She noted the Review Committee had completed its work as charged by the Board of Trustees with feedback from Deans and Chairs forthcoming. Provost Thompson noted that both the Dean and Chair feedback, as well as the campus community, will be received by the Executive Committee, with their recommendations made by January 29th to the President for review. Provost Thompson stated the President will make her recommendations at the February meeting.

B. Approval of Academic Reorganization

Mr. Don Hopkins, interim Dean of the Raj Soin College of Business, presented the reorganization plan of the Raj Soin College of Business.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF THE RAJ SOIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS REORGANIZATION PLAN

RESOLUTION 24-17

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has the authority to establish, alter and abolish, and prescribe the principal functions of, major academic divisions, colleges, centers, departments, and professional schools within the University; and

WHEREAS, the President recommends merging the existing units, programs, and personnel within the Raj Soin College of Business into two units that promotes increased interdisciplinary interaction, research, and shared curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the proposed organizational change is in the University's best interests; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Raj Soin College of Business Reorganization Plan dated December 2023 is hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President, or her designee, is authorized and directed to consolidate the six existing units and personnel of the Raj Soin College of Business into two interdisciplinary units; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President, or her designee, is authorized and directed to take and perform all lawful actions she reasonably deems appropriate to effectuate the Board's directives herein.

Trustee Peters offered the motion and Trustee Grunder seconded.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0).

C. Approval of the FY 2023 Affordability and Efficiency Report

Ms. Nova Lasky, Director of Organizational Planning and Project Management, presented the FY23 Affordability and Efficiency Report.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2023 AFFORDABILITY AND EFFICIENCY REPORT

RESOLUTION 24-18

WHEREAS, the Revised Code requires that all Boards of Trustees for each state institution of higher education develop an efficiency review of the institution based on the recommendations of the Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the review considers Efficiencies; Academic Processes; Policy Reforms; and Cost Savings, Redeployment of Savings, and Tangible Benefits to Students; and

WHEREAS, not later than November 3, 2023 each state institution of higher education shall submit the reports required to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, pending Board of Trustees approval; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the attached Wright State University Affordability and Efficiency Report as submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees directs the Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Trustee Kejriwal offered the motion and Trustee Peters seconded.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0).

D. Remediation Report

Mr. Tim Littell provided a presentation on the University's remediation report submitted to the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

III. REPORTS ON ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

Chair Conway introduced Susan Schaurer and Tim Littell to report on enrollment and retention.

Ms. Susan Schaurer highlighted the latest enrollment trends for the upcoming academic term. Mr. Tim Littell noted the various initiatives from the Provost's Office aimed at enhancing the University's retention rate.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Conway stated there was no New Business before the committee.

V. ADJOURNMENT (3:48pm)

Trustee Kejriwal moved to adjourn and Trustee Peters seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m. by a unanimous voice vote.