



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Immediately Following the Public Session

Dicke Hall – Lake Campus

MINUTES

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

Absent: M. Grunder

Guests: President Edwards, Provost Thompson, S. Schaurer

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Conway called to order the April 25, 2024 meeting at 1:33 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

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

The minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

C. Opening Remarks from the Committee Chair

Chair Conway greeted and welcomed everyone to the final Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting.

She began her remarks with updates on student centric initiatives that were moving the needle on retention. She noted the University had taken a thorough and thoughtful approach to revise the workload policy, bringing Wright State University in line with other public, regional institutions. Chair Conway noted this as a new equitable approach that will incentivize and better recognize faculty scholarship and service, putting a more direct focus on the students the University serves as well as being more fiscally minded.

Chair Conway also noted the Board would act on the first phase of the Academic Efficiency and Effectiveness Review recommendation, which would sunset 34 programs that had low enrollment. She noted that the review process went smoothly as a result of strong collaboration from constituencies across the campus community, including the faculty senate. Chair Conway noted this would be a continuous review to ensure the University is offering a set of programs that meets the demand of the students while also strengthening the financial position of the University.

Finally, Chair Conway highlighted the ongoing course development for the first-year seminars that would be rolled out in Fall 2024. She noted that over 800 students will be enrolled in nearly 30 sections beginning in August. Chair Conway stated that the proven high-impact practice would directly address learning gaps and college preparedness for the incoming students, giving them a better chance of future academic success.

Next, Chair Conway recognized Provost Thompson for her report.

II. REPORTS ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Remarks from the Provost

Provost Thompson began her remarks by announcing Dr. Subhashini Ganapathy as the new Dean of the College of Graduate Programs and Honors Studies. Provost Thompson thanked her for her leadership as the President of Faculty Senate and indicated she was looking forward to working with the incoming president, Dawn Wooley.

Provost Thompson noted the achievements of the graduating students, including those graduating with honors. She noted being an honors student is challenging, completing additional research and coursework to earn their degree. She noted at the upcoming commencement, the University would

award 44 of the honors students with the Honors medallion. Provost Thompson also recognized and congratulated the Top Scholar from each college that was recognized at a reception.

Provost Thompson highlighted that the University celebrated the 50th anniversary of the nursing program with a celebration of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. Over the last 50 years, Provost Thompson noted Wright State's Nursing program had produced over 8,000 nurses, many of which have stayed in the region to provide care to the community.

Finally, Provost Thompson noted that as a way to celebrate those on campus that were going the extra mile for students, the University hosted the Student Success Awards for the second consecutive year. She noted awards were given in six categories, which included service, leadership, collaboration, teaching, advising, and tutoring.

B. Emeritus Requests

Chair Conway thanked Provost Thompson for her report and asked if there were any questions from the committee. Hearing none, Chair Conway asked Provost Thompson to present the Emeritus Request resolution.

Provost Thompson stated that this resolution will grant emeritus status to several faculty members and that emeritus status is granted after 10 years of service to the University.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF EMERITUS REQUESTS

RESOLUTION 24-38

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, the listed faculty members served the University in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and have formally 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.

Trustee Kejriwal moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Thompson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

C. Approval of Program Deactivations

Provost Thompson stated that as part of the Academic Effectiveness and Efficiency work, there were 34 programs recommended for deactivation. She noted that as directed by the Board at the February Committee meeting, the University completed the deactivation process with final approval from the Board needed.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF PROGRAM DEACTIVATIONS

RESOLUTION 24-39

WHEREAS, University policy permits deactivation of academic programs with concurrence of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the President and Faculty have recommended the deactivation of programs as submitted to this meeting; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the program deactivations as submitted to the Board of Trustees are hereby approved.

Trustee Thompson moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Bucklew seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

D. Approval of New Programs

Provost Thompson stated that after careful review and evaluation, the University was recommending seven programs for approval by the Board of Trustees. She noted that only two of the seven proposed programs were new programs with the remaining five being the reimagining of existing programs.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

RESOLUTION 24-40

WHEREAS, Wright State University is a regional workforce development hub, tasked with educating the needed workforce for the Dayton region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the proposed programs meet a demonstrated workforce development need in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Provost, in consultation with the Faculty Senate, recommends the approval of the

proposed programs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the proposed programs as submitted to the meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed.

Trustee Peters moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Thompson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

III. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

Chair Conway noted the final actionable item before the committee was a resolution recognizing the achievements of the President and Vice President of the Student Government Association.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

RESOLUTION 24-41

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith were selected by the Wright State Student Body to serve as their president and vice president for the 2023-2024 academic year; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith have demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in their roles in the Student Government Association; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith have served with distinction as advocates of the Wright State Student Body; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Wright State University Board of Trustees recognizes the achievements and contributions of Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith

Trustee Peters moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Kejriwal seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

IV. REPORTS ON ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

Ms. Susan Schaurer, Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented the enrollment management report and provided an additional update on the challenges with FAFSA due to the federal government overhaul of the program. She noted optimism for enrollment for the upcoming academic year.

Provost Thompson presented the retention report, noting that midterm grades, mentoring, and

multiterm registration were having a meaningful impact on retention rates. She also provided an update on the first-year seminar implementation for the upcoming Fall 2024 semester.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Conway stated there was no new business before the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Kejriwal moved to adjourn and Trustee Peters seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FINANCE, AUDIT, GOVERNANCE, AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 25, 2024
Immediately Following the Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Dicke Hall – Lake Campus

MINUTES

Present: Chair Ferris, Vice Chair Ebbing, A. Platt, D. Fecher, B. Whiteside, C. Jenkins

Absent: B. Langos

Guests: President Edwards, G. Sample, B. Kawosa, S. Todd, M. Grushon

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ferris called to order the April 25, 2024 meeting at 2:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

A. Roll Call

Chair Ferris asked the secretary, Daniel Palmer, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Chair Ferris read the Chair's statement and the Conflict of Interest Statement.

Chair's Statement:

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B. Disposition of the Previous Minutes

Trustee Platt moved to approve the minutes and Trustee Fecher seconded. Chair Ferris asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions, or discussion to the minutes.

The minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

C. Remarks from the Committee Chair

Chair Ferris welcomed everyone to the final Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance Committee meeting of the academic year.

Chair Ferris began her remarks by stating that every public four year institution in Ohio is evaluated by the Ohio Department of Higher Education with regard to their financial strength and health. The weakest rating is 0 with the highest rating a 5. Universities that score below a 1.75 for two consecutive years are placed on fiscal watch and subject to more scrutiny and oversight from the State of Ohio.

She noted that at its lowest point in 2017, Wright State University received a Senate Bill 6 score of 0.8. She added that it went without saying that score brought much attention and reflected how difficult the financial and operational situation was at the time.

Chair Ferris indicated multiple steps were taken by the Board of Trustees and administration since 2017 to bring stability to the University's financial situation with much progress over the past few years.

Chair Ferris reported that ODHE had completed their evaluation and Wright State was recognized with a Senate Bill 6 score of 5.0. She added that Wright State was the only four year institution in the state of Ohio to achieve a score of a 5.0 for FY 2023.

Chair Ferris added that it was very important to note that achieving a SB6 score of 5.0 was not an explicit goal or target of the overall financial plan, noting that the financial governance policy called for the University to hold a Senate Bill 6 score of at least 3.0. She said the University should celebrate the recognition, but also understand the score will fluctuate in future years, influenced by key strategies and investments the University elects to pursue.

Chair Ferris also highlighted Moody's upgrade of the University's Bond Rating to an A2, Stable outlook, marking the third rating increase in as many years. She emphasized the significance of this achievement, especially when the University, at its lowest point, had a Baa2 rating with a negative outlook.

Chair Ferris concluded her remarks by noting a perfect Senate Bill 6 score, a third consecutive credit rating increase, and a budget with a positive funds balance at the end of the year is truly

unique in the higher education industry, and perfectly illustrated that the University is on the right path and are executing a solid financial management strategy.

II. REPORTS ON UNIVERSITY OPERATIONS

A. Remarks from the Chief Operating Officer

Chair Ferris greeted Greg Sample and turned the meeting over to him to provide opening remarks.

Greg provided brief remarks and introduced Burhan and Sommer to present the Finance and Investment reports.

B. Finance and Investment Reports

Ms. Todd and Mr. Kawosa presented the Finance and Investment reports to the Board.

III. CONTRACTS AND EXPENDITURES

Mr. Matt Grushon presented the contracts for Board approval.

Chair Ferris asked Secretay Palmer to read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

RESOLUTION 24-42

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 further

RESOLVED that authorization is granted for the accompanying contracts exceeding \$500,000 before the Board of Trustees; and be it further

RESOLVED that approval for any contract dated July 1, 2024 or later is subject to appropriation by the Board of Trustees at the June 2024 Budget Meeting.

Chair Ferris indicated there would be a separate vote on the WOEf Board Contract since Trustee Ebbing is a member of their Board.

Trustee Platt moved to approve the WOEf Board contract and Trustee Fecher seconded. The motion was approved by a roll call vote with Vice Chair Ebbing abstaining (5,0,1).

Vice Chair Ebbing moved to approve the remainder of the Contracts and Expenditures and Trustee Platt Seconded. A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (6,0,0).

IV. BYLAWS REVISION UPDATE

Chair Ferris recognized Trustee Fecher to provide an update on the Bylaws and Policies revisions. Trustee Fecher indicated a clean copy would be provided to the Board ahead of the June Budget meeting for final approval.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Ferris stated there was no new business before the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Platt moved to adjourn and Vice Chair Ebbing seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. by a unanimous voice vote.