



WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
FOUR HUNDREDTH AND SEVENTH MEETING
Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.**

Endeavour Room, Student Union 156

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gunlock called to order the December 11, 2025, meeting at 12:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call

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

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

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 26-19

RESOLVED that the Wright State University Board of Trustees agreed to hold an Executive Session on December 11, 2025; 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
- Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(4); and
- Matters Required to be Kept Confidential Pursuant to Federal Law or State Statute pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(5).

Trustee Kejriwal moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Platt seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (9,0,0).

III. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Chair Gunlock, reconvened at 3:03 p.m. Chair Gunlock asked Board Secretary Palmer to call the roll and a quorum was present.

IV. STUDENT PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Chair Gunlock recognized Mr. Jerry Noble and the student percussion ensemble to play several musical pieces for the Board.

V. RECESS

With no objection, Chair Gunlock moved the Board of Trustees into recess to begin the committee meetings.

VI. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Chair Gunlock, reconvened at 5:23 p.m. Chair Gunlock asked Board Secretary Palmer to call the roll and a quorum was present.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION 26-20

RESOLVED that the Wright State University Board of Trustees agreed to hold an Executive Session on December 11, 2025; and be it further

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

- Matters Required to be Kept Confidential Pursuant to Federal Law or State Statute pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(5).

Trustee Peters moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Thompson seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (9,0,0).

VIII. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Chair Gunlock, reconvened at 7:12 p.m. Chair Gunlock asked Board Secretary Palmer to call the roll and a quorum was present.

With no objection, Chair Gunlock moved the Board of Trustees into recess until 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 12th.

IX. RECONVENE

A. Roll Call

The Board of Trustees, at the calling of Chair Gunlock, reconvened at 9:00 a.m. Chair Gunlock asked Board Secretary Palmer to call the roll and a quorum was present.

B. Disposition of Previous Minutes

Trustee Platt moved to approve the minutes from October 2, 2025 Public Session and November 14, 2025 Special Meeting and Trustee Kejrival seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved (9,0,0).

X. PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED DISSERTATION AWARDS

Provost Denniston recognized the recipients of the Fall 2025 Trustee's Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award.

The awardee was Maram Abdulaziz Almodhwahi from the Computer Science & Engineering PhD Program, with her dissertation titled "Facial Expression-Aware Edge AI System for Driver Safety Monitoring."

Provost Denniston also recognized as Morgan Michelle Highlander from the Engineering PhD Program as the honorable mention. Her dissertation was titled "Unlocking the Potential of Motoneuron Data: Consideration of Biological Variables and a Revolutionary Approach to Structural Analysis."

XI. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Gunlock began his remarks by noting it was an exciting time of celebration to send a new class of graduates into the world. He added that moments like this reminded him of the tremendous impact Wright State has on the lives of the students and the broader Miami Valley. He noted that the university had grown into a powerful engine for opportunity, shaping the region's workforce, and strengthening the communities it serves.

Chair Gunlock noted that 2025 was a year focused on maturing many of the strategic partnerships that will transform Wright State and the region, including collaboration with Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, operationalizing the affiliation with Premier Health, and finalizing an operating

agreement with Dayton Children's. He added that these achievements reflect not only institutional progress but the increasing confidence the partners place in Wright State.

Chair Gunlock concluded by stating that these relationships were maturing in powerful ways, including the Center for Civics, Culture, and Workforce Development being fully up and running and emerging as a leader across the state. He added that its programs were strengthening civic literacy, expanding workforce development efforts, and earning significant recognition through highly competitive federal grants. These successes demonstrate that Wright State's Center will be a transformational unit within the university's operations.

A. Reports

Chair Gunlock noted that the written reports as presented to this meeting were approved and contained in the meeting's attachments.

XII. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Chair Gunlock recognized President Edwards for the report of the President.

President Edwards began her report by highlighting the staff and faculty award winners that were recognized at the annual employee recognition ceremony and thanked each of them for their dedicated service to Wright State University. President Edwards also highlighted the success of the Wright State baseball team, including Boston Smith being drafted in the MLB draft. Finally, President Edwards highlighted the Wright State Police Department on their annual food drive for the Wright State food pantry and well as Raidersgiving, the annual campus-wide celebration before Thanksgiving.

A. Approval of Fall 2025 Graduates

Next, President Edwards offered the Fall 2025 graduates for approval.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

RESOLUTION 26-21

RESOLVED that the candidates for degrees for Fall 2025 are hereby confirmed and approved.

Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve and Treasurer Ferris seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

B. 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 26-22

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

Trustee Ebbing moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Miller seconded. Chair Gunlock asked that each Board Member review the names and confirm that they do not have a conflict. A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0).

C. Approval of Research Contracts and Grants

President Edwards shared that Wright State University had recorded 111 awards totaling over \$37 Million in external funding for the period of July 1, 2025, to October 31, 2025.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF RESEARCH CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

RESOLUTION 26-23

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

Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Goyal seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

XIII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

A. Academic Affairs and Student Success

Trustee Bucklew, on behalf of Trustee Ebbing, noted that the Board received several comprehensive updates across several areas of the university, including reports from Enrollment

Management, Student Success, and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. He also noted that the committee reviewed the recent work of the Academic Effectiveness and Efficiency Committee, which had spent the past several months conducting a full comprehensive review of all academic programs. He indicated this effort resulted in several important program modifications, a number of strategic mergers, and the closure of a few low-enrolled programs.

Trustee Bucklew stated that with the initial review now complete, attention would be turning toward strengthening and expanding the academic portfolio with priority towards enhancing existing programs and developing new ones aligned with the workforce needs of the region.

Trustee Bucklew noted the committee approved two resolutions, beginning with the following:

APPROVAL OF THE CIVIC LITERACY COURSE EXEMPTION CONDITIONS

RESOLUTION 26-24

WHEREAS, Section 3345.382(D)(3) of the Revised Code requires each state institution of higher education to adopt a resolution specifying the conditions under which the institution's president, or their designee, may exempt a student from the Civic Literacy course requirement; and

WHEREAS, Wright State University reaffirms its commitment to implementing the Civic Literacy requirement in accordance with state law and the directives of the Ohio Department of Higher Education; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Wright State University American Civic Literacy Plan, including exemption conditions for the Civic Literacy course requirement, as submitted to this meeting is hereby approved and shall be codified in the University's policy register; and be it further

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

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

Trustee Bucklew offered the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC AND PROGRAM CHANGES

RESOLUTION 26-25

WHEREAS, University policy permits changes to academic programs with concurrence of the Board of Trustees; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed academic and program changes as submitted to the Board of Trustees are hereby approved.

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

B. Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance

Trustee Ferris noted the Finance, Audit, Governance, and Compliance Committee received an outstanding presentation from Raider Asset Management, the student-run investment portfolio team. She noted their professionalism and depth of analysis were truly impressive.

Trustee Ferris stated the committee reviewed operating and investment performance for the first four months of Fiscal Year 2026. She added that as noted at the prior meeting, Fall 2025 enrollment exceeded budget projections, and the financial impacts of that positive result, along with several related items, were discussed as part of the overall performance report.

Trustee Ferris noted that the Retirement Plan Oversight Committee met four times this year and that the university was working with CAPTRUST for investment advisory services. She added that the committee evaluated all current retirement plan providers, investment lineups, contracts, and enrollment trends and a transition away from higher-cost variable annuities to lower-cost mutual funds—both active and passive—had been implemented.

Trustee Ferris stated that the committee approved three resolutions. She read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

RESOLUTION 26-26

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).

Trustee Ferris offered the following resolution:

**APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 – 2027 UNDERGRADUATE TUITION,
FEES, AND RATES**

RESOLUTION 26-27

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 3345.48 of the Revised Code, Wright State University offers undergraduate students the “Wright Guarantee Tuition Program,” under which students in the cohort are guaranteed fixed rates for tuition, housing, and dining for four years; and

WHEREAS, eligible students for the Fall Semester 2026 will be assigned to Cohort Group 9; and

WHEREAS, the change to said rates relative to the prior cohort are governed by section 3345.48 of the Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, tuition rates are also set for continuing, graduate, and professional programs; and

WHEREAS, any such adjustments require prior Board approval; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Wright State University Board of Trustees delegates authority and discretion to the President, or her designee, to set final tuition rates, room rates, and meal plan rates, and any other charges effective Fall Semester 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED where applicable, any changes to tuition and other rates are not to exceed the amount authorized by section 3345.48 of the Revised Code; and be it further

RESOLVED that the President or her designee is authorized and directed to take and perform all other lawful actions reasonably necessary in order to effectuate the Board’s directives herein.

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

Trustee Ferris offered the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2025 AFFORDABILITY AND EFFICIENCY REPORT

RESOLUTION 26-28

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 21, 2025 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.

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

XIV. REPORT OF THE FACULTY PRESIDENT

Dr. Wooley delivered the Faculty Senate report and discussed the work of Faculty Senate during the current semester.

XV. REPORT OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEES

Chair Gunlock invited student Trustees Ella Vaught and Lauren Johnson to provide their report. Trustees Crabtree and Johnson provided an update on student activities during the Fall 2025 semester, including an update on athletics, Student Government, and World Mental Health Day.

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

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

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Gunlock noted there was one item of new business.

Chair Gunlock stated that Wright State University, the namesake of the Wright Brothers, had the unique opportunity to receive a gift that will benefit the students and surrounding community. He added that the Board of Trustees was very fortunate to have Ms. Helen Naughton at the meeting. Chair Gunlock allowed Greg Sample to introduce Ms. Helen Naughton and present the gift to the University.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

ACCEPTANCE OF THE GIFT OF THE REPLICA HAWTHORN HILL HOUSE

RESOLUTION 26-29

WHEREAS, Ms. Helen Naughton commissioned a miniature replica model of the Wright Brothers' Hawthorn Hill House to be designed and constructed by master builder Mr. James Landers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Landers collectively spent over 1,000 hours designing and constructing the replica model, comprised of over 40,000 hand-laid bricks, nearly 50 windows, and eight columns, each of which took 42 hours to 3-D print; and

WHEREAS, the model is a highly accurate, museum-quality representation of the Wright Brothers' residence, reflecting exceptional craftsmanship, historical accuracy, and significant artistic value; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naughton, after considering various options, has selected Wright State University to permanently display the replica of Hawthorn Hill, the historic home of Orville Wright, benefitting our students and surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, Wright State University recognizes the significance of this gift in advancing public appreciation of the Wright Brothers, enhancing educational and historical programming, and strengthening the University's role as a steward of regional and national aviation heritage; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Wright State University hereby formally accepts the miniature replica of Hawthorn Hill from Helen Naughton with gratitude and appreciation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board expresses its sincere thanks to Ms. Naughton for her generosity in entrusting this historically significant piece to Wright State University, and further extends its commendation to Mr. Landers for his exceptional craftsmanship in constructing the replica and contributing to the preservation and celebration of the Wright Brothers' legacy.

Treasurer Ferris moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Thompson seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved by a roll call vote (8,0,0).

Chair Gunlock stated to Ms. Naughton that on behalf of the Board of Trustees, the University appreciated her generous gift.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Vice Chair Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Peters seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.