

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

H.F. Robinson Building, Room 510

March 1, 2019

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University met in regular session on March 1, 2019 in room 510 of the H.F. Robinson Building. Chair Kaemmerling called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chair Kaemmerling, Mr. Kinney, Ms. Dugan, Mrs. Boliek, Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Schlosser, Mr. Haskett, Mr. Messer, and Mr. Opinski.

Via telephone: Mr. Townsend and Mr. Lupoli.

Absent: Mrs. Battle and Mr. Roberts.

Also present: Interim Chancellor Morrison-Shetlar, Mrs. Mathis, Administrative Assistant; Ms. Woody, Budget Officer; Mr. Causby, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources; Ms. Broom, Staff Senate Chair; Dr. Sink,

increase in graduate students, and, most striking, a 36.8% in undergraduate transfers. This is very reminiscent of what we saw in the fall 2018 semester and it won't surprise you if you've been on campus and noticed the full parking lots, busy sidewalks, long lines at the dining halls, and the packed classrooms. We've been asked frequently over the last six months what is driving these robust increases. The answer is not singular. The reality is that WCU has been growing seven out of the last eight years by roughly 300 students per year. However, it's not just growth in numbers – Western has also seen concurrent increases in quality. High school GPA of our entering class has increased to 3.92. Freshman retention is steady at 80%

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million to 2 million by 2030. As our economy grows, the vast majority of new jobs require more than a high school diploma—something that less than half of North Carolinians ages 25-44, and even fewer from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, currently have. This goal is more than an aspiration; it is an imperative and Western Carolina University must do its part to advance this goal.

In that spirit, Western Carolina University is emerging as a leadership hub with a focus on improving leadership development opportunities in our region. Beginning March 11, WCU will offer a 5-day leadership development certificate for individuals who want to take their career to the next level to become a high impact leader. Today's leaders face significant challenges including building dynamic and productive teams,

REPORT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

There was one item of action in open session. Dr. Causby presented the WCU Annual Summary Human Resources Report for review and approval. The summary report required BOT approval. The committee made a motion and second to approve the report to the full board. For discussion Dr. Burton provided information on WCU's SACSCOC accreditation, an update on new academic programs, and programs in the planning process.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNANCE, AND TRUSTEESHIP COMMITTEE

There was one item of action. Ms. Denise Drury Homewood, Executive Director, Bardo Arts Center, presented the WCU Fine Arts Museum Core Documents for Accreditation for approval. Committee recommended the WCU Fine Arts Museum Core Documents for Accreditation to the full Board for approval. Mr. Opinski gave the SGA report. Mr. Townsend Lenihan, SGA Senator, presented a proposal for a Student Union. Ms. Lewis presented an update on the Lead the Way Campaign. She also shared the Third Annual I Love WCU initiatives, three divisions have 100% participation including Chancellor's Division, Athletics, and Advancement. Ms. Lewis shared progress towards the \$60 million campaign goal, which as of January 14, 2019, was at \$58,708,511. Legislative update was given by Ms. Meredith Whitfield, Director of External Relations. She gave a reminder about the WCU Legislative Policy Agenda. She noted that the legislative session officially began on January 30th. She is continuing to meet with legislators to discuss the legislative agenda. Legislative reception invitations were mailed to BOT members for April 2nd event. Ms. Whitfield shared that the House officially introduced a bond that would include \$200 million for the university System to split – new capital or R&R. Senate introduced legislation that would create a debt-free capital fund that would split \$2 billion three ways between the State, University System and community colleges and will be disbursed over 9 years. She mentioned the university is monitoring the Voter ID amendment and implementation and shared that there is a large, responsive team working on it for WCU. Dr. Wargo, Mr. Byers, and Mr. Browning discussed proposed changes from the UNC BOG to the delegated duties and authority for the campus Boards of Trustees. Dr. Wargo shared the background and reviewed the scope of authority and functions of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Byers shared proposed changes to trustee duties and authority around approval levels related to

Mr. David Steinbicker spoke about the 2018 financial statements. 2018 was a good year financially with a clean audit opinion from the state auditor. The board was provided with a complete update of 4 major projects. Ms. Lisa Gaetano introduced Hillary Matthews, a new addition to the auditor's office.

FACULTY SENATE INFORMATION REPORT

Dr. Sink thanked the board for the opportunity to work with them. He discussed faculty salaries and the need for increases. Pleased by BOG legislative request to augment retention fund from \$1 million to \$10 million. Discussion of open letter to Chancellor search finalists. Faculty Senate would like search to be more open and transparent. They were appreciative for the opportunity to allow some faculty to be involved in the search during receptions or lunches. Senate agrees with keeping final decision of Faculty Hearing process at campus level. Dr. Sink briefly discussed a faculty survey that was sent out. Finally, he discussed working with Staff Senate chair, to convene a joining faculty and staff committee to look at the make-up and selection process for University Athletics Committee. (R (n)21.7 1 (i)17.1e

RESUMPTION OF OPEN SESSION

Chair Kaemmerling recognizes Mr. Townsend for approval of item discussed in Closed Session. **There was a motion to approve the Tenure and Promotion Candidates. The board unanimously approved.**
Chair Kaemmerling

Chair Kaemmerling asks for a motion for approval of personnel matter discussed in closed session. **The board unanimously approved.**

Chair Kaemmerling asks for a motion and a second to adjourn. **Motion and second to adjourn from an unidentified board member. Unanimously approved by board.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.