REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Dr. Belcher stated that we are on the threshold of a transition in the provost's office. He said that we have been through an excellent search process and that process has resulted in a superb hire. Dr. Belcher thanked Dr. Beth Lofquist who retired after a stint as interim provost in 2012. Last spring, in a moment of real challenge for our university, Dr. Lofquist agreed to leave retirement to, once again, assume the mantle of interim provost while we searched for our next permanent provost. She has done an excellent job, and she has not been treading water. She has kept the momentum going on a host of efforts and, for the second time, she's leaving the Academic Affairs Division better than she found it. Dr. Belcher added that he is truly grateful to Dr. Lofquist for her generosity to her university.

Dr. Belcher introduced Alison Morrison-Shetlar, provost-elect, who will join Western Carolina on January 15. Dr. Morrison-Shetlar said that she was delighted to be here and is excited to be a part of WCU.

Mrs. Williams stated that this has been a packed agenda and everything has been great. She reminded everyone