

**Western Washington University
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 20, 2017**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice Chair Chase Franklin called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University to order at 3:02 p.m., at Olympic College, Room 221, in Poulsbo, WA.

Board of Trustees

Sue Sharpe, Chair - *Absent*
Chase Franklin, Vice-Chair
John Meyer, Secretary
Karen Lee
Betti Fujikado
Mo West
Earl Overstreet
Abigail Ramos

Western Washington University

Sabah Randhawa, President
Brent Carbajal, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Eileen Coughlin, Senior VP, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services
Richard Van Den Hul, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
Stephanie Bowers, Vice President for University Advancement
Earl Gibbons, Vice Provost for Extended Education
Stephanie Cheng, Associated Students President
Kerena Higgins, Assistant Attorney General
Paul Cocke, Director of University Communications
Barbara Sandoval, Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Rayne Rambo, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no changes to the draft minutes as distributed.

MOTION 04-01-2017: Trustee Ramos moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, approve the following Minutes:

- Board of Trustees Meeting February 10, 2017

The motion passed.

3. UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

President Randhawa highlighted faculty achievements to the board including; faculty marine scientist, Susan Strom, from the Shannon Point Marine Center. Strom was part of a group of scientist that was awarded six million dollars from the National Science Foundation. The work of

the group focused on establishing long term ecological research site, one of which will be in the northern Gulf of Alaska. The group also studied the impact of climate change and human change on ecological systems. President Randhawa noted that Joseph Trimble, Professor of Psychology, was recently awarded by the American Psychological Foundation with the 2017 Gold Medal Award of Life Time Achievement in Psychology. His work has been focused promoting psychological and social culture research with indigenous population especially American Indians and Alaska native.

President Randhawa mentioned that Western hosted the 2017 Energy Symposium that was led by the Institute for Energy Studies. The focus of the symposium was envisioning a new future for transportation energy. Partners of the event were Governor Jay Inslee, Boeing, Alaska Airlines, City of Seattle, and David Roberts of Vox Media as the keynote speaker.

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Accreditation Commission seven year comprehensive site visit occurred at the end of March. President Randhawa stated that the draft report from the visiting team is expected soon, and noted it was a successful visit. The chair of the visiting team recognized in the participation of the Board of Trustees. There were a few recommendations from the visiting team. President Randhawa said he will appear before the commission in late June with Western representation for the final decision. Trustee Meyer added that the process was efficient and they were prepared in gathering information.

President Randhawa provided updates regarding students: work continues with undocumented students given the uncertainty that still exists. The Bluegroup suggested that Western provide training for many of the individuals that work with undocumented students. A lending library has been created in response to the cost incurred by students who are working with these issues. He noted that concerns have been raised regarding Resident Advisors. These issues were brought forward by the Associated Students and a team was established to create an open forum for students to express concerns. President Randhawa believes that many of the issues are able to be resolved by the start of Fall 2017.

4. ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

Associated Students (AS) President Stephanie Cheng reported to the board that the Residence Advisor (RA) issue was a main focus for the AS Board. The open public forum was very helpful in opening the lines of communication. Cheng reported that the AS Board wrote a letter of support in the form of a resolution and the Washington Student Association also wrote a letter supporting the RAs. Cheng said that the Associated Students elections are currently underway and a proposed restructure and new constitution is on the ballot for a vote. AS Vice President for Government Affairs will be presenting updated information at the June 2017 Board of Trustees meeting.

5. WESTERN'S EXTENDED EDUCATION: TODAY AND TOMORROW

Provost Carbajal introduced the discussion regarding defining the role of Extended Education at Western in Bellingham and on the peninsula. Provost Carbajal introduced the panel; Earl Gibbons Vice Provost of Extended Education, Steve Hollenhorst, Dean Huxley College of the Environment, David Mitchell, President of Olympic College, and Rovy Branon, Vice Provost for Educational Outreach at the University of Washington.

Vice Provost Gibbons explained that Western's Extended Education activities and presence has been growing substantially over the last few years. In terms of numbers of people involved, breathe of programming, numbers of colleges and academic departments that involved in various

programs which led to a reorganization of Extended Education into five practice areas which includes Western on the Peninsulas, Satellite Locations along I-5 Corridor, Central Services, Communications, and International. Gibbons introduced Ed Stern, Poulsbo City Councilman, who was in attendance for the meeting to represent the City of Poulsbo. Gibbons noted Kitsap and the Olympic Peninsulas includes a population of 350,000 people and is underserved by public four year higher education. Western's presence is highly regarded as it is providing opportunities for local communities.

Dean Hollenhorst, explained that the idea of serving non-traditional students is at the heart of Western on the Peninsula, adding that the student population is the most diverse and oldest of all of the Western campuses. He said that the goal is to have more traditional students be part of Western on the Peninsula's and complete their four year degree while staying in their communities. In the past, these courses have mainly been taught by non-tenure tract faculty. Vice Provost Gibbons has helped facilitate these positions and they are now starting to be filled with tenure track faculty using self-sustaining funds. The faculty are able to connect and teach students in all of Western's satellite campuses with Interactive Television technology, (ITV), and rotate from campus to campus to be present with the students on a rotating basis.

David Mitchell, President of Olympic College welcomed the board to Olympic College in Poulsbo. Mitchell stated that the Bremerton campus was his initial vision of Olympic College. Washington State partnered with Olympic College after receiving special funding through the legislature to start a mechanical engineering program in Bremerton. This program continues to grow with electrical engineering being added in the fall. Students receiving these baccalaureate degrees would not have had access without this partnership and bringing the four year university to their region. Enrollment has increased since students see the pathway to Western and realize they will have a baccalaureate degree upon completion. President Mitchell said that it is important to tell the story, to high school students, military personnel and the community and to ramp up the programs that are currently offered. Mitchell stated there is great potential to continue to build pathways for the non-traditional student. The partnership between Western and Olympic College is strong and it shows in the growth of the programs and student population.

Rovy Branon, Vice Provost for Continuum College, University of Washington, highlighted the similarities between the Continuum College and Western on the Peninsula's. Continuum College serves about 50,000 students out of University of Washington office. Branon stated that the challenges are also similar with Olympic College when looking at the hyper-global and applying it to the hyper-local.

Trustee Franklin inquired about the population of the potential higher education students that have the desire to further their education but have limited access versus the population that doesn't consider themselves to be students or are unaware that higher education opportunities exists. President Mitchell stated that 40% of the high school graduates in Kitsap county which is close to the state average, do not go on to college after graduation. He explained that there is not sufficient research to explain why, but stressed that there is a lack of information about opportunity and programs such as Olympic College's partnership with Western. Vice Provost Gibbons added that there is a difference between the two demographics with the distinctive difference in what keeps them from pursuing higher education. He said that one of the largest obstacles for the adult students is psychological. They are acutely aware of their obstacles such as, financial, family, work, and they juggle all of these responsibilities. Gibbons explained that a majority of these students have credits from multiple institutions and that the Multidisciplinary Studies program offered at Western on the Peninsulas helps to personalize the approach to completing their degree, this is especially important to adults.

Trustee Overstreet requested that the panel share what they perceive to be the most challenging obstacle to moving faster in terms of improving and what they would suggest to overcome that

obstacle. Rovy Branon responded by emphasizing that resources are always a challenge. Resources become a continual process, creating self-sustaining programs creates flexibility in the approaches and alternative revenue flows. President Mitchell added that access and degree completion is an obstacle. College students in dramatic percentages deal with food security issues, housing security issues and homelessness which makes degree completion challenging.

It was stated that the uniqueness of the partnership between Olympic College and Western offers the peninsula community many benefits. It is the community driven partnership that has led to programs that support the needs of the community. This partnership is allowing Western to expand and is creating excitement with programs like the Cyber-Security program. The general consensus was that Western on the Peninsula's is on the cusp of really taking off and growing in a community that is greatly benefiting from its presence on the peninsula.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.