



## **Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**WSU Ogden Campus Miller Administration Building**

**Betty Hess Lampros Boardroom - 319 | 3850 Dixon Parkway, Ogden, UT 84404**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024 | 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM**

### **Trustee Members:**

Karla Bergeson, Chair

Keith Titus, Vice Chair (via Zoom)

Brent Bishop

Tammy Gallegos

Lori Belnap Pehrson

Ashley Potokar

Don Salazar

### **Excused:**

Rob Higginson

Casey Hill

Monet Maggelet

### **Attendees:**

Brad Mortensen, President

Mark Halverson, Interim Vice President for Information Technology

Ravi Krovi, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jessica Oyler, Vice President for Student Access & Success

Laís Martinez, Interim Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Norm Tarbox, Senior Vice President for Administrative Services

Stephanie Hollist, General Counsel & Board Secretary

Ray Ruiz, Staff Advisory Council Vice Chair, IT Support Specialist (via Zoom)

Jason Francis, Faculty Senate Chair, Associate Professor/Health Sciences Librarian (via Zoom)

Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Sherri Cox, Executive Assistant

John Kowalewski, Executive Director, Marketing & Communications

Deborah Uman, Dean, Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities

Emily Sorenson, WSUSA Student, Incoming Student Body President

Steve Hendricks, Director of Bands

Eric Bennick, Information Security Manager

David Fernelius, Director, Infrastructure Services

Jessica Fisher, LGBT Resource Center Coordinator (via Zoom)

Brian Shuppy, Sr. Assistant Commissioner for Budget and Planning, Utah System of Higher Education

Raissa Rohbock, Student, Presidential Leadership Fellow

Cari DeCoursey, Student, Presidential Leadership Fellow

**Excused:**

Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Karla Bergeson, Chair, at 9:33 a.m. Chair Bergeson welcomed all in attendance and asked Brad Mortensen, President, to introduce guests Ray Ruiz, Emily Sorenson, and Brian Shuppy. Chair Bergeson discussed including those on Zoom in the meetings and keeping the Board meeting business within the time constraints to end on time. She asked for the identification of any potential or perceived conflicts of interest after reviewing the agenda. Hearing none, the meeting proceeded.

**Board of Trustee Action Items**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2024:**

Meeting minutes from the January 25, 2024, Board of Trustees meeting were reviewed without discussion.

**Action:** Upon a motion to approve the Board of Trustees meeting minutes from January 25, 2024, by Lori Belnap Pehrson, Trustee, with a second by Tammy Gallegos, Trustee, the motion passed unanimously.

**2024-25 WSU Tuition and Fee Adjustments Formal Written Proposal:**

Chair Bergeson discussed the 2024-25 WSU tuition and fee adjustments formal written proposal and 2024-25 tuition and fee increase recommendations to present to the Utah Board of Higher Education (UBHE). She turned the time to President Mortensen who discussed the following four proposed tuition and general fee increases:

- Increasing general tuition rates by 2.75% for all undergraduate and graduate tuition tables, including resident and non-resident rates.
- Establishing a differential tuition, flat-rate amount of \$95 per credit hour for selected general education courses offered at Davis and Ogden-Weber Technical Colleges.
- Setting a differential tuition surcharge of \$154.36 per credit hour for the Master of Science in Systems Engineering and the Master of Science in Data Science.
- Increasing the general fee amount by 1.75%

President Mortensen shared detailed information about the background of UBHE, reasons for the increase, funding, affordability, impact on access, retention, and completion, and WSUSA student support, and compliance with policy. The draft for the Board of Trustees approval for the 2024-25 Tuition and General Fee Adjustments Board of trustees written Recommendations will be presented

on Friday, March 21, at the UBHE meetings if approved. It was noted by Chair Bergeson and Vice Chair Titus that it takes years to achieve an ROI as beneficial to students as the Weber State University ROI. Norm Tarbox, Senior Vice President, noted that this is the most comprehensive report the university has submitted in 35 years.

**Action:** Upon a motion to approve the 2024-25 Tuition and General Fee Adjustments Board of Trustees Written Recommendations by Don Salazar, Trustee, with a second by Brent Bishop, Trustee, the motion passed unanimously.

## **Board of Trustee Information Items**

### **Presentations**

#### **College Liaison Report – Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities:**

Chair Bergeson and Trustee Salazar introduced Deborah Uman, Dean of the Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities (A&H), who shared an overview of the college, the mission, strategic plan, different departments, faculty and staff accomplishments, and positive press. It was noted that Trustees can support the college by articulating the value of disciplines in the arts and humanities, and of liberal arts education as there are cultural, societal, and individual benefits.

#### **Faculty Presentation: “Growth of the Marching Band and Ways to Foster Belonging in Music Programs”:**

Steve Hendricks, Director of Bands, was introduced by Dean Uman. He gave a presentation on the Weber State University marching band, which has experienced phenomenal growth in membership since 2021, growing from 29 members to now over 73. He discussed the diversity within the band and the benefits to students and the university.

#### **Special Presentation: Information Security**

Mark Halverson, Interim Vice President for Information Security (IT), gave a presentation on “The State of Information Security at Weber State University”. He discussed that the biggest factor driving security right now is bad actors. Insurance rates are increasing and many regulations are coming (none of which include funding). IT is working to keep things flowing smoothly at the university without hiccups and trying to balance funding while keeping tuition low.

## **Weber State University Reports**

#### **President’s Report:**

President Mortensen shared the following three items, (a) the Honorary Degrees and commencement guest speaker have been approved through the Executive Committee meetings, (b) a press release just came out about a \$2.5 million grant from the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity to teach Spanish courses at WSU called “Building Puentes” and (c) the president introduced two Presidential Leadership Fellows, Raissa Rohbock and Cary DeCoursey, who each shared their Weber State story.

#### **Alumni Association Report:**

The Alumni Association Report was reviewed without discussion.

#### **Staff Advisory Council Report:**

Ray Ruiz, Staff Advisory Council Vice Chair, referred to the SAC report with survey results in the packet.

**Weber State University Student Association (WSUSA) President's Report:**

Chair Bergeson congratulated Ashley Potokar, Trustee, for her successful two years as WSUSA president and gave a special thank you to her for her service to the students. Trustee Potokar referred to the WSUSA President's Report in the packet without further discussion and expressed her enjoyment in serving on the Board of Trustees.

**Upcoming Events:**

Upcoming events were reviewed without comment.

**Academic Policy Committee**

**Action Items: Trustee Pehrson, Committee Chair**

Trustee Pehrson reported on the Academic Policy Committee meeting and turned the time to Provost Krovi who discussed the following action items proposed for approval:

**a. Policy Changes: PPM 6-2, Admissions**

Changes for PPM 6-2, Admissions, includes modifying early college admissions guidelines in line with what other institutions are doing, refining guidelines as needed, and using standardized testing and concurrent GPAs.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Salazar to approve PPM 6-2, Admissions, with a second by Trustee Gallegos, the motion passed unanimously.

**b. Curricular Changes:**

**1. Program Name Change: Network Security Technology /Certificate of Proficiency to Cybersecurity Policy and Management Certificate of Proficiency:**

The program name change from Network Security Technology Certificate of Proficiency to Cybersecurity Policy and Management Certificate of Proficiency came from an advisory board suggestion to use names for programs that are more current and relevant in the industry, and to think more about risk assurance and governance from an IT perspective.

**2. New Minors:**

**i. Exercise and Sports Science**

Exercise and Sports Science is 16 credit hours and requires no new courses or resources. The goal is to create a minor that would be attractive to non-ESS majors.

**ii. Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety**

Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety was originally designed with the intent for WSU to offer the undergraduate program and co-manage the program with the Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, which would facilitate the graduate program. The plan is to use an existing minor in safety at the U of U combined with two other minors from WSU for the course. This is a virtual program.

**iii. Outdoor Leadership**

Outdoor Leadership is housed in the Moyes College of Education. Market demands are very good and this program can be incorporated into the BIS program.

### 3. **New Emphases: Exercise & Sport Science, Strength & Conditioning (S&C) Emphasis and Clinical Exercise Physiology (CEP):**

The New Emphases: Exercise & Sport Science, Strength & Conditioning (S&C) Emphasis and Clinical Exercise Physiology (CEP) program is adding two more emphases, strength and conditioning and clinical exercise physiology, which would complement the two existing emphases in existence well. This is a viable program with a good review.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Pehrson to approve Curricular Changes: 1. Program Name Change: Network Security Technology /Certificate of Proficiency to Cybersecurity Policy and Management Certificate of Proficiency, 2. New Minors: Exercise and Sports Science, Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety, and Outdoor Leadership, and 3. New Emphases: Exercise & Sport Science, Strength & Conditioning (S&C) Emphasis and Clinical Exercise Physiology (CEP), with a second by Trustee Potokar, the motion passed unanimously.

### 4. **New Academic Programs:**

#### i. **Behavioral Health Technician Certificate of Proficiency:**

The Behavioral Health Technician Certificate of Proficiency is a joint certificate between the College of Social & Behavioral Science and the Dumke College of Health Professions. The program stacks nicely in other programs related to both colleges.

#### ii. **Cloud Computing Security Certificate of Proficiency:**

The Cloud Computing Security Certificate of Proficiency program focuses on the technical side of cyber security. This is an 18-credit hour certificate and one of four certificates that will stack into the Associate of Applied Science.

#### iii. **AS of Social & Behavioral Sciences:**

The AS of Social & Behavioral Sciences program is a good completion degree with the capability to transfer credits to other degrees and a completion pathway for Social & Behavioral Sciences with market demand.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Bishop to approve the New Academic Programs: Behavioral Health Technician Certificate of Proficiency, Cloud Computing Security Certificate of Proficiency, and AS of Social & Behavioral Sciences, with a second by Trustee Pehrson, the motion passed unanimously.

### 5. **Program Reviews:**

#### i. **Accounting:**

Accounting is a large program experiencing a national trend of declining enrollment. There was concern about completion rates in the introductory Accounting course. The recommendations include finding ways for better completion rates and program outcomes. A five-year review recommendation was given that meets the accreditation cycle.

#### ii. **Finance:**

The Finance program is not a department, but a program that was moved into accounting. The review was positive with the program experiencing enrollment growth. A recommendation was made to evaluate the market need for specializations such as corporate finance, investments, etc. A five-year review recommendation was given to meet the accreditation cycle.

#### iii. **Interior Design:**

Interior Design is in the College of Engineering, Applied Sciences & Technology and had a good review with an increase in enrollment and graduates. Recommendations included developing a comprehensive strategic process and incorporating graduate feedback and six-year review based on the accreditation cycle.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Pehrson to approve program reviews for Accounting, Finance, and Interior Design, with a second by Trustee Salazar, the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Department Chair Appointment Requests**

**7. Emeritus Faculty Requests**

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Bishop to approve the Department Chair Appointments and Emeritus Faculty requests, with a second by Trustee Pehrson, the motion passed unanimously.

**Information Item:**

**a. Academic Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2024**

**Business Committee**

**Action Items: Don Salazar, Committee Chair**

Trustee Salazar acknowledged Norm Tarbox, Senior Vice President, for the many accomplishments he has made for the university. He turned the time to Vice President Tarbox, who discussed the following action items which were submitted for approval:

- a. Financial Reports (December 2023 and January 2024)**
- b. Quarterly Investment Report**
- c. Monthly Investment Reports (December 2023 and January 2024)**
- d. Investment Committee Report**
- e. Quarterly Audit Report**

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Potokar, to approve the Financial Reports, Quarterly Investment Report, Monthly Investment Reports, Investment Committee Report, and Quarterly Audit Report, with a second by Trustee Bishop, the motion passed unanimously.

**Consent Calendar Items:**

Consent Calendar items were reviewed in the packet without discussion.

**Action:** Upon a motion by Trustee Gallegos to approve the Consent Calendar items with a second by Trustee Pehrson, the motion passed unanimously.

**Information Items: Business Committee Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2024**

**Announcements/Observations/Questions:**

On March 22, Chair Bergeson and President Mortensen will attend the Board of Higher Education meeting on tuition and fees. The president will present and explain the recommendations from the university. The budget will also be discussed.

The Audit Committee will report to the Board of Higher Education Audit Committee on March 20. Chair Bergeson, Trustee Bishop, and Bryce Barker, WSU Auditor, will attend.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

With no additional business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.