

Minutes  
Weber State University  
Board of Trustees  
March 17, 2015

**Trustee Members:**

Ms. Louenda Downs  
Ms. Karen Fairbanks  
Mr. Joseph Favero  
Mr. Alan E. Hall, Chair  
Mr. Nolan Karras  
Mr. Andre Lortz  
Mr. Scott Parson  
Dr. Jeff Stephens  
Mr. Kevin Sullivan, Vice Chair

**Excused:**

Mr. Steve Starks

**Weber State University Officials:**

Dr. Charles A. Wight, President  
Dr. Norm Tarbox, VP for Administrative Services  
Dr. Mike Vaughan, Provost  
Dr. Brad Mortensen, VP for University Advancement  
Dr. Jan Winniford, VP for Student Affairs  
Dr. Eric Amsel, Faculty Senate Vice Chair  
Mr. John Kowalewski, Executive Director, University Communications  
Ms. Debbi Murphy, Chair, Staff Advisory Committee  
Ms. JoAnne Robinson, Executive Assistant, President's Office

**Others Present:**

Dr. Rachel Bachman, Assistant Professor, Mathematics  
Dr. Jean Reid Norman, Signpost Advisor

**Press Present:**

Ms. Becky Wright, Standard Examiner

Welcome

I. Meeting convened at 9:30 a.m.

II. Chair Alan Hall welcomed those present.

Minutes

III.

On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Jeff Stephens, the minutes of the February 3, 2015, Board of Trustees meeting were approved unanimously

On a motion by Andre Lortz and seconded by Scott Parson, the minutes of the February 3, 2015, Business Committee and the Personnel and Academic Policy Committee were ratified unanimously.

President's Report

IV. President's Report - President Wight gave a report covering the following items:

(Master of Health Administration Recognition)

1. Fifty universities lead the nation with innovative Master of Health Administration programs, and Weber State University tops that list as most affordable, according to a new survey by the online site *Top Master's in Healthcare Administration*. Tuition for WSU's on-campus MHA is \$15,775. The average tuition price nationally is \$44,850.

(Latinos in Action)

2. Weber State University partnered with Latinos in Action to host its annual Northern Utah Conference in March for almost 1500 Latino students, 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

(Intermountain Sustainability Summit)

3. WSU and the Utah Recycling Alliance hosted the sixth annual Intermountain Sustainability Summit March 5-6. The conference featured sessions covering a range of

- sustainability topics, including food and agriculture, renewable and alternative energy, air quality, water and recycling.
- (FAFSA)
4. The rate at which Utahns apply for federal student aid is the lowest in the nation, and it is through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that students in low-income homes can qualify for millions of dollars in financial assistance to help pay for college. In an effort to help reverse that trend, Weber State University's Education Access & Outreach (EAO) office sponsors FAFSA Frenzy. High school seniors and their parents receive free help completing the financial aid process, no matter what college or university they plan to attend.
- (FIRST Tech Challenge)
5. Weber State University hosted Utah's FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Championship in February. FTC is a robotics competition for students, ranging from seventh to 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The competition engages students in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and promotes problem solving and creative thinking.
- (SeaPerch Northern Utah Underwater Competition)
6. More than 300 Utah students from sixth to 12<sup>th</sup> grades came to Weber State University for the SeaPerch Northern Utah Underwater Competition in March. SeaPerch gives students the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science and mathematics while building an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).
- (Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist Matt Richtel)
7. Sending a text can wait. This is the message Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Matt Richtel will share March 19 at Weber State University. Richtel will also join a panel discussion with University of Utah psychology professor David Strayer. They will discuss how the science of attention affects culture and everyday life.
- (John A. Lindquist Award)
8. The John A. Lindquist Award is given each year to a faculty or staff member who demonstrates sustained and outstanding commitment to mentoring WSU students in learning through community involvement. Two recipients were selected this year. Mike Moon, Assistant

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <p>Director of the Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL), is the first staff recipient of the Lindquist Award. Dr. Leah Murray, Political Science Professor and Faculty in Residence in CCEL is being recognized for mentoring students through democratic engagement.</p>  |
| <p>(LGBT Resource Center)</p>   | <p>9. The new LGBT Resource Center opened on January 27. The center will offer training for students, faculty and community members to help people better understand the LGBT community and its unique challenges and terminology.</p> <p>The detailed report is attached to these minutes.</p>  |
| <p>WSUSA President's Report</p> <p>(Legislative Session)</p> <p>(Convocations)</p> <p>(Student Elections)</p> <p>(Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign)</p> <p>(Student Fees Recommendation Committee)</p> | <p>V. President Joseph Favero gave a report covering the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student leaders and others from Weber State and the State of Utah were able to attend a number of events on Capitol Hill during this year's legislative session.</li> <li>2. The grandson of Nelson Mandela, Ndaba Mandela, drew a large crowd as part of the WSUSA Convocations on February 10.</li> <li>3. After a lovely Spring Break, we are in the heat of WSUSA Executive Elections this week. Legislative elections are still to follow.</li> <li>4. WSUSA is teaming up with Chief Dane LeBlanc of WSU's Police Department, and others, to run a Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign in April.</li> <li>5. Thanks to the amazing forethought and organization of many past committee's this year's Student Fees Recommendation Committee had a remarkably smooth process despite the overwhelming amount of requests.</li> </ol> <p>The detailed report is attached to these minutes.</p> |
| <p>Alumni President's Report</p>  | <p>VI. President Andre Lortz gave a report covering the following topics:</p>  |

(Dixon Awards)

1. The WSU Alumni Association has selected the recipients of the 2015 Dixon Awards. Dr. Judy Elsley, Professor of English, will receive the faculty award and the staff award will be presented to Dr. Michael B. Vaughan, Provost and V.P. Academic Affairs.

(Student Alumni Council)

2. **YCC Service Projects:** The Student Alumni Association has been partnering with the YCC in Ogden. Each week, our Council volunteers to clean the gym floor at the YCC's building.

**Ice Skating Activity:** The Student Alumni Association hosted an activity for members at the Weber County Ice Sheet. There were approximately 90 attendees. Skating, skate rentals, and refreshments were complimentary to all in attendance.

**Leadership to Legacy:** Our final Leadership to Legacy mentoring dinner for the 2014-2015 academic year was held on February 24. There were 76 students and 46 alumni/professionals in attendance.

(Emeriti Alumni)

3. WSU Day at the Capitol was held on February 10. Weber State University alumni, staff, faculty members and undergraduate students proudly wore their Wildcat colors. Alumni members and guests were introduced on the floors of the House and Senate and enjoyed hearing from guest speakers Senator Ann Millner and Representative Brad Wilson and Representative Carol Moss.

Emeriti Alumni Council members gathered to help the Weber Cares Pantry assemble newly purchased rotating shelving for their food storage.

Emeriti Alumni Council members have been asked to judge the WeberCan Sculptures competition on March 4. WSU student groups were encouraged to create sculptures using canned goods that will be donated to the Weber Cares Pantry after the competition.

(Weber Historical Society)

4. Michael W. Homer, lawyer and award-winning independent historian discussed his recent book,

(Marketing & Membership)

*Joseph's Temples: The Dynamic Relationship between Freemasonry and Mormonism* on February 23. More than 200 people attended.

- 5. **Phonathon:** Comprehensive data segmenting lists have proven to be successful for the WSU Alumni Association. FY14/15 membership fulfillment rate is at 46% and paid gifts are up 60% from FY13/14.

**License Plates:** Alumni Relations is working with Young Automotive Group to promote the WSU license plate with displays and flyers at their seven stores surrounding Weber State University.

**West Coast Marketing:** During a West Coast Marketing Conference, Amber Robson and Nancy Collinwood presented "The Art of the Campaign." This was an interactive presentation showcasing the artwork of Eric Dowdle. The other institutions loved the idea of capturing their schools' traditions and pride in such a project.

The detailed report is attached to these minutes.

Faculty Report

- VII. Dr. Eric Amsel, Vice Chair of Faculty Senate, introduced Dr. Rachel Bachman, Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Bachman said that she started out teaching classes where math wasn't the main topic but it was what was holding students back. She earned her Masters and Doctorate looking at different ways to teach math. She stated that traditionally we've told students if you follow these steps on this problem you'll get the right answer and another type of problem you follow a different set of steps. That method works well for students who can memorize lots of steps. She advised the Trustees that 68% of students enrolling at Weber State need developmental math, which says more about the way we teach math than about the students' abilities. Dr. Bachman's primary job here is to teach teachers how to teach math. She stated that teachers need to teach "why" a process is done and not just "how". We will see a greater change if we begin to teach math concept instead of math procedure.

After beginning at WSU Dr. Bachman became involved in the pattern/play concept with a math/dance course. Math and dance both require recognition in repetition of patterns. Students explore patterns in a physical way and can say, "I understand because my body just did it." She added that one thing they were seeing in these students was a level of perseverance in problem solving that is rarely seen with traditional methods. Students were more likely to say they could figure it out.

Dr. Bachman is also working with developmental math department faculty and talking about how to approach math in a different way, because teaching the same way students didn't learn before doesn't work again. She is also working with the math department's quantitative literacy committee to align with recommendations from the State on entrance requirements for quantitative literacy and how they might be changed a little to be more accommodating for students. Dr. Bachman is also working with seniors from a local high school who have been identified as under-prepared for college level math.

Trustee Jeff Stephens stated that this is precisely what school districts are trying to do now. Students need to learn to solve problems, not equations. He described the push-back schools receive from parents who don't understand why a more comprehensive approach to math is being adopted. Trustee Louenda Downs thanked Dr. Bachman for her efforts.

Committee Reports  
Business Committee)

VIII. Business Committee - Scott Parson outlined the following matters discussed and acted upon during today's Business Committee meeting: (For a detailed report of actions taken, see the attached Business Committee minutes for March 17, 2015.)

There are four items for approval.

- 1. Quarterly Investment Report

On a motion by Nolan Karras and seconded by Louenda Downs, the Quarterly Investment Report was approved unanimously.

2. Student Fees Budget 2015-2016

On a motion by Karen Fairbanks and seconded by Kevin Sullivan, the Student Fees Budget 2015-2016 was approved unanimously.

3. Tuition Differential for Athletic Training

On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Andre Lortz, a Tuition Differential for Athletic Training was approved unanimously.

Trustee Karen Fairbanks asked how many programs have differential tuition. President Wight responded that all Masters courses and upper level business courses have differential tuition.

4. 2015-2016 Tuition and Fees Schedule - The schedules reflect a 3% increase in tuition and fees. The tuition increase will be addressed by the State Board of Regents on March 27

On a motion by Kevin Sullivan and seconded by Jeff Stephens, the 2015-2016 Tuition and Fees Schedule was approved unanimously

5. Monroe Property Purchase

This property is being purchased for the future home of Weber State's educational outreach center.

On a motion by Andre Lortz and seconded by Louenda Downs, the purchase of the Monroe Property was approved unanimously.

Trustee Karen Fairbanks asked if the buildings currently on the property would be torn down. VP Tarbox said one of the buildings would probably be torn down soon,

(Personnel and Academic Policy Committee)

but the other building is currently leased. The university doesn't have funds to build the new building right now.

Personnel & Academic Policy Committee - Kevin Sullivan outlined the following matters discussed and acted upon during today's Personnel and Academic Policy Committee meeting: (For a detailed report of actions taken, see the attached Personnel and Academic Policy Committee minutes for March 17, 2015)

The committee had six items for approval

1. Administrative Leave - this leave is intended to give Provost Vaughan time to transition back to teaching.

On a motion by Kevin Sullivan and seconded by Nolan Karras, the administrative leave for Dr. Michael Vaughan was approved unanimously.

2. Bachelor/Master of Science in Computer Engineering

On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Scott Parson, the Bachelor/Master of Science in Computer Engineering was approved unanimously.

3. Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality

Trustee Kevin Sullivan informed the Board that Weber State University is one of 26 institutions chosen to take part in a study by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). There will be no physical facility for this center. Dr. Michael Vaughan will be the director.

On a motion by Andre Lortz and seconded by Louenda Downs, the Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality was approved unanimously.

Trustee Nolan Karras stated that this center could have far-reaching implications. He added that the religious community needs to be made aware of this center. Trustee Louenda Downs added that a lot of groups in

the surrounding area are trying to help and may be interested in partnering. She hopes they will target education efforts to provide a hand up, not a hand out.

Chair Alan Hall requested a presentation on the center in the future.

4. Program Reviews

Trustee Kevin Sullivan reported that the committee had not been able to address all of the program reviews and had requested more information on some reviews. The following reviews were submitted to the full Board for approval:

- Athletic Therapy
- Athletic Training, Undergraduate
- Athletic Training, Graduate
- Teacher Education, Undergraduate
- Teacher Education, Graduate

On a motion by Louenda Downs and seconded by Karen Fairbanks, the following program reviews were approved unanimously:

- Athletic Therapy
- Athletic Training, Undergraduate
- Athletic Training, Graduate
- Teacher Education, Undergraduate
- Teacher Education, Graduate

5. Policy on Sabbatical Leaves

Kevin Sullivan reported that the Trustees had requested information on how many faculty leave their position after being granted a sabbatical leave. In the past several years 29 leaves were granted. Twenty-eight of those faculty members are still here two years later. The other one left as a mutual decision between them and the department.

Commencement  
Speaker and Honorary

- IX. President Wight proposed that four honorary degrees be awarded at Spring Commencement to John E. Lindquist,

Degree Recipients

Ray Kimber, Thomas (Tim) Dee III and Mary Hall. Mary Hall was also nominated to be the commencement speaker.

On a motion by Andre Lortz, seconded by Louenda Downs, and approved unanimously, honorary degrees will be awarded to the following individuals:

- John E. Lindquist
- Ray Kimber
- Thomas (Tim) Dee III
- Mary Hall

Mary Hall was also approved as the commencement speaker.

Questions

X. There were no questions.

Next Meeting Date

XI. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on May 5, 2015, at the Davis campus.

Adjourn

XII.

On a motion by Nolan Karras, seconded by Andre Lortz and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
JoAnne Robinson, Secretary  
WSU Board of Trustees



\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles A. Wight, President  
Weber State University