

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of the Meeting
March 11, 2016

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 8:00 A.M. in the Capitol Rooms in the University Union, WIU – Macomb Campus. Chair Roger Clawson presided.

The following trustees were present and available to answer roll call:

Trustee Roger D. Clawson
Trustee Lyneir R. Cole
Trustee Cathy E. Early
Trustee Carolyn Ehlert Fuller-Absent
Trustee Todd V. Lester
Trustee Michael W. Quigley
Trustee Yvonne S. Savala

Also present for the open meeting of the Board of Trustees:

President Jack Thomas
Legal Counsel Rica Calhoun
Board Treasurer and Vice President for Administrative Services Matt Bierman
Administrative Assistant to the Board Kerry McBride
Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathy Neumann
Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter
Interim Vice President for Student Services Ron Williams
Vice President for Quad Cities and Planning Joseph Rives

Advisory Group Representatives present:

Council of Administrative Personnel President – Teresa Koltzenburg
Student Government Association President – Wil Gradle
Civil Service Employees Council President – Karen Trusley
Faculty Senate Chair – Christopher Pynes

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Lyneir Cole moved to approve the December 17-18, 2015 Board Meeting minutes. Trustee Cathy Early seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Trustee Roger D. Clawson	Yes
Trustee Lyneir R. Cole	Yes
Trustee Cathy E. Early	Yes
Trustee Todd V. Lester	Yes
Trustee Michael W. Quigley	Yes
Trustee Yvonne S. Savala	Yes

CHAIRPERSON’S REMARKS

Chair Roger Clawson greeted everyone in attendance and mentioned that he had some positive notes to share with the Board and gallery. Fifty participants received haircuts for the St. Baldrick’s annual charity event wherein \$11K was raised.

Western Illinois University's University Relations and Marketing area received honors for marketing and recruitment efforts. The 2015/2016 "I am a Success Story" and advertisement received both a silver merit and silver award. Marketing and University Relations also received top advertising awards at the 2015 Collegiate Advertising Awards ceremony for the "I am a Leatherneck" and "I am a Success" campaigns. WIU Graduate 15 media campaign received gold status, and Chair Clawson mentioned that he had seen the commercials which were great.

Troy Rhoads received the City of Macomb's Citizen of the Year award from the Macomb Chamber of Commerce from Mayor Inman. Col. Rock III celebrated his 6th birthday on March 3, 2016. The Centennial Honors College was noted as having record high enrollment. Eight hundred honors students are enrolled on the Macomb campus and forty-five students are enrolled on the Quad Cities campus. There were several "high team" honors awarded to WIU for livestock showing at the 2016 Iowa Beef Expo—Senior College Division. WIU art students were the top winners in the Galesburg Blick Madness event hosted by Blick Art. The Illinois Press Association has honored the "Western Courier" with five awards. WIU students were also honored by the Illinois Residence Hall Association annual conference.

Western was recognized as a "Tree Campus U.S.A." by the Arbor Foundation for the fourth consecutive year. Broadcast students have been awarded finalists of seven awards in the National Association of the Society of Undergraduate Electronic Media competitions of which the winners will be named in the coming week. Students raised over \$7K for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals during the 3rd Annual Dance Marathon. Last year's event raised \$53K. Several students are involved in the Alternative Spring Break which allows for students to volunteer and perform community service and environmentally conscientious work with faith based and other nonprofit based organizations. This year's work will take place in Nashville, Tennessee.

Assistant Professor of Music, Melanie Schumate, has performed again at Carnegie Hall. Western Illinois University's Distance Learning program has been recognized for the fifth time in "U.S. News" as a best online program. Chair Clawson mentioned that he attended the Ag Mech Show and that it was wonderful.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Jack Thomas mentioned that the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of South Dakota State University was visiting campus and in the gallery for the Board meeting. President Thomas asked that Dr. Dennis Papini, who is also a Western Illinois University alumnus to stand to be recognized. President Thomas added that he met Dr. Papini when he was an administrator at Middle Tennessee State University and jokingly stated that if anyone wanted to blame someone for him (Dr. Thomas) joining Western's administration they could blame Dr. Papini.

President Thomas said that he wanted to thank the Student Government Association for hosting a Town Hall State of the Student Address which was well attended and very organized. Special thanks went out to SGA President Wil Gradle, Student Trustee Michael Quigley, and Student Speaker of the Senate Jacob Tomlinson (applause). Congratulations also went out to Jillian Ross an RPTA student from Cedar Falls Iowa who was one of 179 college juniors named as a finalist for the national Truman Scholarship and only the second student from WIU selected in WIU's history.

We are in the 9th month of the state budget impasse—this is the first impasse in the 159 history of Illinois Public Higher Education. President Thomas stated that character is not defined by how one carries on during the good times but during the bad times also. He added that this is a bad time for everyone—students, faculty, staff, the community, and the economy as a whole. Illinois Public Higher Education is in dire need of a budget and MAP funding. President Thomas said that the day prior he testified before the Legislative Appropriation Committee. He shared that the lack of a budget is devastating to WIU's

students, employees, and on the State of Illinois. Other Presidents and Chancellors who testified spoke of the same devastation. Presidents and Chancellors were united in their message that “Illinois is on the verge of a complete collapse of the higher education system.” A collapse of such will send Illinois’ intellectual capital out-of-state. Post-secondary student aid identifies Illinois as a lead exporter of high school graduates. “Business Insider” magazine ranks Illinois economy as 41 in 2015, and among the 11th lowest in all 50 states ranked. Not having higher education funding is creating an issue with the middle class stability in Illinois—this is resulting in families leaving the state, significantly lower tax revenue, and increasing unemployment.

President Thomas asked that everyone work together to produce a predictable funding stream to increase access to higher education for those choosing to attend colleges and universities in Illinois. This will ensure Illinois has access to an educated citizenry. There are numerous economic and social mobility gains associated with post-secondary educational attainment. Regions with higher proportions of college graduates have lower crime rates, greater civic engagement, and improved performance socially and economically.

During testimony to the Legislative Appropriation Committee, President Thomas also stated details of the immediate needs for a budget at Western Illinois University. He stated that other University Presidents and Chancellors gave similar testimony detailing what measures colleges and universities have been forced to take in order to continue to operate and meet financial obligations. There was emphasis on the frustration derived from discussing FY17 appropriations when no funding has been received for FY16. President Thomas said that WIU Administration has had to make very difficult, unpopular, but necessary decisions as a result of no budget in order to keep the doors of the University open and still provide a quality education to the students. WIU Administration refuses to fight with individuals in Macomb or at WIU. The best approach is to continue to advocate in Springfield, with legislators, and with the Governor’s Office.

President Thomas mentioned that upwards of 400 non-negotiated personnel will undertake furloughs. Only essential positions are being filled. Only essential travel is being approved, and only essential materials are being used to operate daily. The University is focused on doing more with less while continuing to provide Western Illinois University students with a quality education. President Thomas stated that he would like to thank the 478 non-negotiated employees who are required to participate in the voluntary pay reduction and furlough program which will save the University \$1.5M. He mentioned that he realizes that this is a sacrifice that ensures the security of Western Illinois University and applauded the strength of character and dedication of those affected.

Negotiations continue with bargaining units charging unions with exercising strength of character by participating in the furlough program, giving up scheduled salary increases, and considering permanent salary reductions into the future. President Thomas asked that the entire University community take part in “shared sacrifices.” Other state institutions are sharing sacrifices. WIU is not the exception for wage concessions, furloughs, and such.

The Administration has been open and transparent with cash flow information. Some are questioning whether or not there is funding the University has that is not being disclosed. There are no additional funds held by the University. Vice President Matt Bierman will share some of the same information when he gives the reports for Administrative Services. The decision to implement furloughs and such was extremely difficult, and the frustration and disappointment is understood. Unfortunately, Western Illinois University and other state schools are caught in the middle of a political situation that is not the fault of anyone at Western. Although Western has been fiscally conservative over the last few years, there are more reductions to be made due to having no state budget support. Since FY03, the State of Illinois Public Universities general revenue funding (GRF) has decreased by over 21%. Reductions have been

made at Western near \$5M. Further reductions must be made to FY16 expenses by an additional \$4M by June 30th in order for Western to make its July and August operational expenditures. President Thomas said that if “every eligible employee would participate in the voluntary pay reduction or furlough programs from April 2 through June 30th, this would result in approximately \$4M of savings.” Without a state budget and additional cuts, payroll obligations will be difficult to meet for July and August. Despite the layoffs and such, operating budgets must be reduced for FY17 and FY18 as when state funding is received, it will be significantly less than what has been received in previous fiscal years. This makes it necessary to reduce the budget by \$20M over the next two fiscal years.

The Leadership Team and President Thomas are preparing for a variety of different case scenarios. There is a growing list of strategies to conserve resources. There may be contract term reductions for a select few administrators. Some offices may be closed or combined. There may be staffing reductions in the neighborhood of eliminating 100 positions. Some offices may have reduced hours. President Thomas stated that Vice President Joe Rives would be presenting 7 new strategies for increasing revenue and 14 new strategies to decrease expenditures.

There have been significant declines in enrollment among several institutions of higher education in the State of Illinois—some in the double digits. Western Illinois University was not among institutions suffering double digit enrollment decreases for freshmen. The uncertainty of the budget is already affecting the enrollment numbers for the upcoming fall semester. Although there has been a 15% increase in high school visits to Western, tuition has been lowered, and increases in financial aid packages, the anticipated incoming freshmen class may be much smaller. President Thomas added that smaller enrollment translates into less revenue. He asked that we (the WIU campus community) work together to reverse trends for which there may be a negative outcome. Consideration must be given to various host communities. All are questioning the State of Illinois’ commitment to higher education. Students and parents are wondering what is being done in the General Assembly for higher education and the investment of their student’s future. Western Illinois University continues to meet its organizational mission and uphold its core values.

President Thomas stated, “We will continue to do what is best for this institution to ensure a strong and viable University that exists to serve students and its host communities for decades to come.” Dr. Thomas said we have been here 117 years and we will continue on for another 117 years and beyond. He thanked the Leadership Team for the job that they are doing, hard work, the stress they have to endure, and sacrifices made to keep Western open. President Thomas added that he wanted to thank all personnel for working very hard, their commitment to the University, and for ensuring the institution moves forward (applause).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jeanette Malafa delivered a report focused on the approach public university presidents and chancellors were presenting to the state legislature and governor’s office. The overall focus was on compromising with the General Assembly by offering universities request 10% less than was received for FY15, provided that universities receive full MAP and discuss procurement reform.

Most legislators were in support of the approach/compromise university presidents and chancellors suggested in order to encourage the release of appropriated funding. As support gained momentum, a vote was taken in the House at the original 8.6% cut to public university funding. The bill is currently in the Senate. Ms. Malafa stated that there is a chance the bill will be vetoed or not acted on until after primary elections have taken place.

There are approximately 200 bills that could move and affect Western Illinois University. There are numerous procurement bills that have been filed. There is a chance that HB4639 will move and reinstate Section 1-13 exemptions. This includes an exemption of purchasing through the Midwest Higher Ed Compact. There are a few other bills moving during the early Spring Session. SB2156 provides that severance payments are not included in the definition of “earnings” in the SURS Article of the Pension Code.

SB2157 provides many stipulations for severance agreements length of contracts, public notice and other considerations with regard to Presidential contracts entered into by the Board of Trustees. SB 2170 provides that, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, a Board of Trustees of a public university may not enact a budget that contains tuition or fee increases above that of the tuition and fees set in the 2015-2016 academic year until the Auditor General has verified that the cost certification submitted by the public university has shown a decrease of administrative costs by 25% and has an amendment filed on it.

To revisit SB2174, Ms. Malafa stated that voting members of our BOT must complete a minimum of 4 hours of professional development leadership training. The public university must then maintain on its Internet website the names of all voting members of the governing board who have successfully completed the training. HB4300 would eliminate universities board of trustees’ expense reimbursements. This bill sits in a subcommittee.

Ms. Malafa mentioned that there were several bills dealing with law enforcement. HB4463 and SB2392 would require officers to carry Tasers. SB2878 would allow for training and permission to carry, administer or assist in the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors if officers have completed the required training. HB5538 and SB2346 deal with updating training in domestic violence situations and instructions on crimes involving the internet and cell phone apps.

SB2401 would limit MAP eligibility to four years in most situations. SB2405 prohibits MAP grants for students attending for-profit institutions. SB3118 creates a tuition reduction act that would basically give half of a university’s increased appropriation as grants to students. SB2941 would not allow a university to hold transcripts or prevent registration based on money owed to the University. Ms. Malafa stated that she would take any questions or comments.

Trustee Quigley asked whether or not the bills were in discussion stage or were these bills that are about to be passed.

Bill 2941 regarding students owing a university money is currently in committee for the second time as it had been postponed previously, and so is SB3118 regarding tuition reduction, stated Ms. Malafa.

Trustee Cole stated that Senator Lightford who is a WIU alumnae member informed him that the MAP bill failed with two votes short in the Senate. Ms. Malafa stated that the bill may be acted on in the Senate next week or April 4th, but she was not certain of what the vote may be.

Trustee Early asked that the bill that does consider MAP funding have a revenue source attached. Ms. Malafa stated that there is another bill but it only pays for a quarter of the MAP funding and would prohibit the payback of certain funds that have been swept.

Trustee Cole said that he read something in Chicago where the State planned to provide financial assistance to Northwestern, Eastern, and Western and Chicago State universities. He asked what is the status of the State of Illinois with the plan to assist universities. Ms. Malafa said that what he would have read was proposed in the Ken Dunkin Bill. Currently that bill is sitting with no movement.

Chair Clawson stated that Jeanette would of course keep the BOT up-to-date with continuing education courses. She responded that currently the reform bill pertaining to board training just moved out of committee.

GENERAL COMMENTS BY VICE PRESIDENTS

Academic Services

Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathy Neumann mentioned she would provide a few highlights from Academic Affairs along with a few general comments. The third annual graduate research conference was completed on March 4, 2016. There were a combined total of 94 combined sessions (poster and podium) presented by students. This represented a 65% increase since last year. Over 240 were in attendance compared to 200 the year prior.

There are three living/learning communities around campus—humanities and liberal arts, biology, women in science. There will be three conferences this spring that will involve current or prospective students—the regional history honor society, math high school students, and psychology honor society. There is also a social entrepreneurship salon—this is a collaboration of CBT, COFAC, and COEHS. Two speakers will be a part of the salon to present their work—community development and enterprise development and promoting community wellness.

The Nursing program had a 95% completion rate reflected in the national council of licensure exams. The school of engineering and the QC Manufacturing Lab were awarded a General Electric project valued at approximately \$500K as well as a two-year contract of \$850K to develop novel armor concepts for the U.S. military. There will be a half dozen students going to the national supply chain management conference in Chicago. Western is one of only ten universities invited to participate. Western is also working with various high schools to make their students aware of what career paths are available upon earning a degree in Supply Chain Management. Computer Science hosted a technology club from Illini West which is a local high school and introduced the students to a programming language called Scratch. The event was successful and there are plans to make this an annual event.

The School of Agriculture had its annual Farm Expo, and this was a part of “Illinois Stories” featured on our local PBS stations. Provost Neumann mentioned that the Bull Sale would be that night and that it would be the largest in the history of the event with 65 bulls up for sale.

Accounting and Finance has a record amount of graduate students in the accounting program. The department will host a high school accounting challenge on April 22, 2016. COFAC continues first Wednesday’s community art night in the Department of Art. WIU took home two first place awards in the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. Throwback Thursday, a student created radio show, received an award as well.

There has been a new minor established in the Department of Communication—Computer Mediated Communication. Online course delivery is being implemented now for this integrated program with Journalism. The Communication Science Disorders has a hearing and learning clinic on campus. The CSD area served upwards of 670 individuals since the summer of 2015. The department also hosts a monthly Autism Support Group and provides off campus services to the Elms Nursing Home, Bridgeway, Wesley Village, and the Macomb school district.

The School of Music has performed 149 concerts with over 14K people in attendance. The Department of Theatre and Dance is continuing on with signing 2+2 agreements in the U.S. and a matriculation agreement in the U.K. Theatre and Dance has also started a day-in-the-life program as a recruitment tool for prospective students. Thus far, the program has yielded a 70% enrollment rate of prospective students

attending the program. There is a Youth Performing Arts series that involves over 75 area students participating in various performances and activities on the WIU campus.

The University Library hosted Moose the therapy dog during midterms. This helped to ease the angst of preparing and studying for midterm examinations for WIU students. Next, the library will be hosting “Women in Public Service and Government: American and Global Perspectives” this will be a part of the women in history panel.

Dr. Rick Carter is in Costa Rica and visiting eight high schools, a university, and the Education U.S.A. office. At the end of March, he will conduct his embassy visits with President Thomas accompanying him. There will be 19 teachers visiting from Myanmar involved in educational and leadership training. This is the third group of teachers to visit Western from Myanmar.

Summer Youth camps are being enhanced on the QC campus. There will be a youth camp on comic books and super heroes, a young writer’s camp and Math on the Mississippi. Jillian Ross is the second only finalist for the Truman Scholarship from WIU. Ms. Ross will continue on to the competition in Kansas City. IIRA is in Springfield hosting a community development conference which has over 250 attendees. The conference is one of the best community development conferences offered in Illinois with Department of Commerce Director, the Lt. Governor, representation from the Federal Reserve Bank, and other experts in the field. IIRA was awarded a \$23K grant from National Renewable Energy Lab in an effort to develop renewable energy curriculum for college and high school students.

Provost Neumann mentioned that with the implementation of furloughs, AIMS has been busy processing for Human Resources, Payroll, and Benefits to lay the foundation to properly record and run furlough days of individuals effected beginning on April 1, 2016. The AIMS area is working very hard behind the scenes to make this a smooth process. Inbox emails are beginning to be scanned. Google Aps for Education has passed on the student and on the faculty sides. Mail is being moved.

uTech is now complete after moving around some staff and new efficiencies in uTech have been established. Provost Neumann explained that President Thomas’ testimony in Springfield, IL was very well received. All University departments and units are continuing to become more efficient with their resources. Negotiations are still going forth with UPI to find mutually agreeable solutions for fiscal strain.

Nine programs are being reviewed for elimination as there are very few students graduating from the respective programs each year. Finalized recommendations should be done by the end of the semester. Another constraint posed by having lower performing programs still on the books is not being able to use resources to enhance programs that are high performing but could have the potential to be enhanced. High performing programs should receive reinvestment.

IBHE has recently updated the manner in which program efficiency is evaluated. Reporting requirements are now to list the status of bachelors programs with less than 40 majors 9 degrees conferred annually over a three year average, master’s programs with less than 10 majors and 5 degrees conferred annually and for Ph.D. level courses where there are less than 10 majors and less than 2 degrees conferred annually. The new guidelines may impact decisions going forward. Dr. Neumann thanked faculty and staff for suggestions shared with her over the past few months. She said that she knows that it is difficult for everyone. Everyone is concerned about the institution and committed to its wellbeing. Provost Neumann thanked the Board for support and guidance during such a time of fiscal uncertainty, and added that she would be happy to answer any questions.

Trustee Cole stated that he appreciated Provost Neumann under the current circumstances and was hopeful that the University would have appropriated funding soon. He added congratulations on the fact that Academic Affairs with regard to negotiations is still moving forward.

Chair Clawson stated that in spite of the circumstances that “we are still doing the job.” Chair Clawson added that when students and student success was mentioned with regard to fulfilling the University’s core values, it is evident that the University is doing what it should do. He said good job.

Chair Clawson stated that Provost Neumann made mention of emails being cleaned up and asked were emails being scrubbed. Dr. Neumann responded that as far as emails they are being scanned for sensitive data items such as social security numbers and credit card numbers. This is to ensure online safety.

Advancement and Public Services

Vice President Brad Bainter said that he wanted to congratulate Michael Quigley and Wil Gradle on a great event in the Sherman Hall 3rd floor auditorium (The State of the Student Address). He added that it was wonderful to see the space full. VP Bainter said that the message of shared blame in Springfield and shared sacrifice at Western and how our budgets are used is a message that has universal appeal and is appropriate for wide dissemination and many would benefit from hearing it.

The marketing area was recognized twice for its efforts in February by the Collegiate Advertising Awards program, for the “I am a Success,” “I am a Leatherneck Campaign,” and for the hashtag social media campaign. Western Illinois University also won an award at the 2015 Commuter Awards Creative Ads in Chicago, Illinois that had been won by the University of Illinois the previous 7 years.

VP Bainter stated that he cannot say enough about the people working in marketing. He added that most peer institutions have a Director of Marketing, but Western does not and has saved the University over \$400K by not filling the vacancy. He gave accolades to VPC, UTV, University Relations, and everyone on the design and editing staff. VP Bainter said that most institutions have seven figure budgets and hire professional firms. At Western it is done all in-house at a significant savings to the University.

Two new campaigns have been launched since the last BOT meeting. Included in recently slated marketing for Western, are full-page color ads in major papers in the Chicago area, Bloomington, Champaign, Decatur, Galesburg, Macomb, Peoria, Burlington, IA, St. Louis, Mo, Quincy, and regions surrounding the McDonough County area.

58K postcards were sent out to students featuring lower tuition at WIU. Before the holidays, 30 second spots featuring Karissa Kouchis on local and regional broadcasting outlets and movie theatres across Illinois. WGN Chicago carried the spots which gave Western Illinois University national exposure. VP Bainter stated that Karissa Kouchis, who is graduating this spring, was wonderful to work with while promoting WIU. The other campaign focused in the 9 counties surrounding the University involves a full-page ad in 22 newspapers telling the story of WIU’s impact on this region centered on the \$362M in economic impact, keeping Western Illinois University strong, and educational access to students in our own backyard.

The “Who We Are, What We Do” campaign features students, faculty, staff, and alumni. University Relations has been busy with the hosting of Col. Rock’s birthday party, the Illinois Coalition to Invest in Higher Education press conferences, and the added responsibilities as DPS is no longer in operation added to the Design and Editing staff. VP Bainter mentioned that University Relations is doing a good job handling the extra work.

Each development officer will report directly to the Development Office beginning on July 1, 2016. Previously, each was a direct report to the Vice President in their unit or area, Kellie Esters is overseeing the reorganization and implementation.

Over 1400 letters were sent out for the “Doctors for Western” campaign. These letters were sent to graduates of Western Illinois University who are now in the medical field in an effort to seek support for the science programs and nursing program. A similar program with the law profession as the target group of prospective reporters is slated to be implemented soon. VP Bainter stated that it was great to send a letter to his daughter during the Doctors for Western campaign. She graduated with a degree in Biology from WIU.

Alumni Programs is preparing for Purple and Gold day. This year’s event will be on Sunday, April 24, 2016. There will be socials in Macomb and Chicago, and on Thursday, April 28 a new effort and opportunity for giving will take place. This new effort centers around giving through social media, will span 24 hours, and is focused on engaging donors through the online medium encouraging them to give more and upgrade the donor base. Tim Hallinan, the Director of Annual Funds, is coordinating this effort. This will also bring GoFundMe into one of the tools used to raise funds from WIU.

The “Baskets for Books” as VP Bainter called the initiative Threes for Books, ended and was a collaboration between the University Library and Athletic departments. Donors pledged an amount to be given to the University for each 3-point shot scored. Suzanne Woodward, WIU Libraries Director coordinated this effort. This was a very successful initiative.

Administrative Services

Interim Vice President Matt Bierman began with an update on the retirement incentive package offer. There were 59 individuals who took part in the retirement incentive at the end of 2015 – the bulk of which were Civil Service workers. There were 12 administrative and profession staff, 8 faculty members, and 39 civil service workers. The incentive payouts were \$914K with an added sick and vacation payouts bringing the total to nearly \$1.7M paid to those retiring. There will be a realized significant cost savings from these retirements for FY17 as some positions are eliminated and others are filled at a slower and lower rate of pay.

VP Bierman stated that he does not have an approximate number for appropriated funding owed to the University as the budget has not been passed to even gauge how much Western is owed. In other words, the University has received zero dollars of what the State of Illinois has yet to determine on what will be invested as far as appropriated funding for Illinois’ Public Colleges and Universities. At previous budget levels, the State of Illinois would have owed \$59M in funding with an additional \$11M of funding for MAP.

Cash flow continues to be a considerable concern and monitored very closely. In the next two weeks, the University will officially run out of income fund money in reserve—this is the money students have paid in tuition money. Income fund will be depleted before the end of March. In the interim, unrestricted funds will be utilized and more decisions on what has to take place next will be determined. VP Bierman stated that “things get very very tight here in the next couple of months as Dr. Thomas mentioned.” The circumstances and challenges have been shared with the State Senate as of the day prior to the Board meeting. President Thomas did a wonderful job of advocating that “the end is near” for public institutions to push for a resolution for Illinois’ Colleges and Universities.

VP Bierman said that he wanted to thank the Human Resources department, AIMS, Academic Personnel, and Payroll who all worked collaboratively to implement various furlough program parameters and processes. Some departments were left with a significantly reduced workforce after workforce members

retired. An example VP Bierman gave was that HR is almost half of the staff it was previously. The area has really compensated and taken on more to function as it had with more workforce to handle day-to-day responsibilities. VP Bierman that the workforce is doing tremendous work, and stated that it warms his heart to see those workers who earn less than \$40K asking may they contribute and be a part of the furlough program—they care that much about Western Illinois University.

The Board has been asked permission to refinance debt, and the University has completed the three refundings. \$4M in AFS debt was refinanced with a direct loan. Two COPS certificates were combined into one refinancing issue. In January a \$10M AFS issue was refinanced. The gross savings as a result of refinancing debt is \$2.2M. This saves the University roughly \$200K per year. The interest rates used to refinance debt were 2.57%, 3.24%, and 3.16%-which were very good interest rates considering the University's credit rating and limited bidders available to refinance as a result of those in the market being aware of the lack of funding from the State of Illinois. During the last attempt to refinance there were four bidders, and three dropped out the day debt was to be refinanced.

VP Bierman thanked the Business Office staff and the staff in Housing and Dining for doing an outstanding job of managing the substantial amount of paperwork involved in the refinancing processes. The Enterprise Resource (ERP) Taskforce is continuing to work on streamlining the financial systems, the human resource systems, and the student records systems which are mostly homegrown. Barry Dunn is working with the steering committee. In April the group will provide information to the President's Leadership Team. As this process has major implications for WIU as an institution, the groups will continue to work at optimal solutions and outcomes and have the piece ready to streamline and upgrade when funding becomes available to invest in the necessary changes.

There is one deferred maintenance issue that is in complete disrepair. The Memorial Hall chiller is broken thus a temporary unit will be used during the summer months and moving forward until funding becomes available to replace the unit. On the lighter side, the temporary unit was procured without a cost to Western some years ago from Northern Illinois University. The replacement costs for a new chiller is in the arena of \$1M. The temporary chiller can be used indefinitely. Facilities Management has done a good job of keeping the old units running as long as they have.

OPS under Director Scott Harris' command, has put together a "Coffee with a Cop" program. All of the area law enforcement agencies came into the University Union to encourage good interactions with local law enforcement and WIU students. Suzie Nichols and the Illinois Law Enforcement Executive Institute will host the 6th Annual "Women in Criminal Justice Conference" in Normal, IL this April. This event will draw nearly 250 women involved in law enforcement from all around the nation. This is an example of another way WIU is still a leader in law enforcement.

Trustee Cole reiterated that the chiller in Memorial Hall was in permanent disrepair. He asked what would an estimated replacement cost be, and what is the cost of the portable chiller. VP Bierman reiterated that the portable chiller represents no purchase cost to WIU. To connect the portable chiller will be approximately \$30K. VP Bierman said that a new chiller would be in the \$1M or plus range.

There are plans to ensure the chiller purchased for Memorial Hall has the capacity to chill both Memorial and Browne Halls. This would be a cost savings to the University.

Trustee Cole asked what kind of timeline the University was working with to replace the chiller in Memorial Hall. VP Bierman mentioned that Facilities Management was working on engineering selections currently and asked Director of Facilities Management, Scott Coker to elaborate on the timeline.

Director Coker stated that the proposed plan was to work with the temporary chiller until this summer and plan on replacement during the fall for use during the fall and next summer provided funding becomes available. If budget does not allow for the purchase of a new chiller, the temporary unit may be used however long it takes.

Trustee Cole stated that he wanted to find out whether or not the process needed to be expedited or this project is something that could be held up until better budgetary times. Dir. Coker stated that his only concern is what if another old chiller would go out. There is not another temporary/portable chiller available. The University is using two of two chillers that are temporary, but the bids and engineer selection will include plans to cool both Memorial and Thompson Halls.

Quad Cities and Planning

Vice President Joe began by stating that there was a “Superstar” among us. Parent of the Year is Trustee Yvonne Savala as the next freshman class welcomes Marissa Savala. He asked that we give Trustee a round of applause for raising Marissa right (applause).

VP Rives said that he would like to testify to some of the things the University workforce does above and beyond our everyday jobs. Director Bill Brewer is known for going to many classes on the Quad Cities (QC) campus. This affords students the opportunity to learn more than what is contained in the classroom and more about the environmental commitments, the design, and construction of the classroom. Tami Seitz was not available to attend the meeting as at the time of the Board meeting she was involved in negotiations for a marketing contract that may place Western Illinois University on the Iowa network for educational advertisement.

Curtis Williams works with Students Services to push students toward registration and graduate school. Student enrollment is up due to individuals like Curtis Williams who strongly encourage students to register. Curtis Williams also works with the linkages between WIU and the community college system around the QC region. A new agreement has been signed with Elgin Community College. Paul and Carol have been working diligently with VP Rives to establish more corporate relationships. A similar model is forthcoming for Central Illinois and the St. Louis region. There are nine new potential corporate partnerships on deck that should be in motion before the June Board meeting.

Debbie Kepple-Mamros has been leading the Persistence and Completion Academy. This is all-inclusive of the Macomb, QC, and Distance Learning platforms which works with uTech to identify students who may be slipping academically or otherwise so that Student Services may reach out, address the students’ issues, and retain the students. This is a prime example of the realization of “use of distributed data to inform decision-making.”

Mary Pruess had a very successful Champagne on the Rocks event. This is the primary fundraising gala in the QC, and this year’s event drew record attendance and record revenue. VP Rives joked that blackmail photos are available of Chair Clawson and his wife Pat.

Imagination Station will begin soon 4000 tickets have been distributed. The event will run two days. In eight hours, 4000 tickets were gone. VP Rives said that the McBrides (Administrative Assistant to the Board, Kerry, and her family) would be at the event.

WQPT completed an awareness survey involving questions that probe the community regarding services that Western Illinois University provides as well as connected marketing and branding such as WQPT being a broadcasting service of WIU. Ninety percent of those surveyed were aware of the direct connection between WIU and WQPT. Two years ago, only thirty percent of those surveyed were aware.

The School of Engineering is going to have a spot on WQPT featuring a campaign called, “So You Want to be an Engineer.”

VP Rives reiterated that it is “heart-warming and humbling” to see employees that are not eligible for voluntary pay reduction or furloughs to say they wish to contribute to the University. WQPT had a staff meeting and all eight on staff stated they wish to contribute. They are not eligible as they are not State of Illinois funded employees. This speaks to the “commitment and passion” that all of the Western Illinois University work-staff has for the University.

VP Rives has been selected as the Illinois-Iowa Educational Leader by the Department of U.S. Army. He will be going to Fort Jackson in June to learn helicopter piloting and training. VP Rives is honored to have been asked to work with military cadets with engaging in online learning. He will use this piece to teach online learning success and as a vehicle to promote Western Illinois University Distance Learning opportunities. John Deere has partnered with the Department of Army to form a coalition promoting “An Educated Army” of elite army cadets.

VP Rives congratulated Trustee Quigley on his pending commencement and graduation after the next Board meeting (applause). He asked were there any questions, comments, or feedback.

Trustee Cole asked about the enrollment for nontraditional students and online students and whether or not the enrollment had increased. VP Rives stated that there are more online courses offered as a whole. On-the-ground courses offered for nontraditional students are increasing at the rate the online classes have increased overall. An example on the growth of on-the-ground class initiatives in the pipeline is the partnership developing between the ATT call center and WIU where 80 call center employees will be on campus to hear what Western has to offer as far as educational opportunities to continue education. The manager of the call center is a WIU alumnae member. President Thomas is pushing for more initiatives that have similar growth potential.

Trustee Early mentioned that Dr. Rives was recently recognized for the 2016 Athena Awards and Male Champions of Change for work with establishing relationships in the community to build more awareness of Western and positively impact the community through leadership and engagement as well as encourage women’s leadership. Champions of change embrace women’s empowerment and gender diversity. Trustee Early congratulated Dr. Rives on the great award recognition (applause).

Student Services

Interim Vice President Ron Williams began by making the Board aware of the admissions receptions for prospective students in the Chicago area. There were 106 students and over 200 family members attending in February. Experience Western drew 102 students. This was an overnight program where students came to campus and had an opportunity to experience a day in the life of a current WIU student. The next Discover Western will be on April 2, 2016.

Financial Aid letters were mailed in January and over 3600 applications have been processed. 10K more applications are anticipated before the fall semester begins. Over 400 Foundation Scholarship applications were received. Award letters for Foundation Scholarships will be sent to students in March.

The Women’s Center is sponsoring several events during the month of March for Women’s History Month. The Office of Student Judicial Programs is providing training to panelists for next year. There have been a series of in-service meetings and workshops on current campus issues.

Student Publications has been honored for feature photo for Karissa Kouchis with a third place award, a second place award went to Nick Stewart for a photo essay, a first place award to Nick Stewart for

headline writing, and a third place award went to the Courier staff for general excellence. Jessie Matias received an honorable mention for a photo competition.

There were 70 businesses featured at the Spring Career Fair. Two hundred eight-six students attended the event. During Black History Month, the Gwendolyn Brooks Center held numerous activities and programs across campus. Each event celebrated the accomplishments and contributions of blacks in the United States including the contributions of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. There was a commemorative program in his honor.

The Disability Resource Center's Disability Awareness Day is scheduled for April 6, 2016. The Interhall Council received several awards at the Illinois Residence Hall Conference in February. Club Wetzel was selected as the Program of the Year. Justin Schuch was selected as the Advisor of the Year. Ryan Zurek was selected as President of the Year. Alexis Hill received an Outstanding Service Award. Western hosted the Illinois State Resident Assistant Conference in February.

As a result of the budget impasse and current circumstances, the three contractors involved in demolition projects for East Village, Lamoine Village, and Higgins Hall have agreed to extend their bid numbers for 90 days. John Biernbaum, the Associate Vice President for Student Services was chosen to serve as faculty for the second consecutive year at the Great Lakes Housing Association Professional Development Institute. Dr. Mishelle Oaks was chosen for the midlevel institute for the same organization. Ada Neighbors has been honored for 30 Years of Service to Sodexo Food Service.

The Inaugural State of the Student Address took place and was orchestrated by Wil Gradle, Michael Quigley, and Jake Tomlinson. VP Williams stated that it was great to hear the perspectives of students on what is going on with the budget and that we are very proud of the students. Rebroadcast will run on local access channel 3 as well as access on the University Website for those who did not have an opportunity to attend.

Beu Health Center received reaccreditation in January for the lab and licensure renewal for the Alcohol and Drug Resource Center through May 2017 by the Department of Human Services. As a part of operations and service to Western Illinois University students, there were 12,320 patient visits, 3,256, injections, and 12,929 prescriptions and medications dispensed.

There is a Beu Health initiative called "Get Yourself Tested" is part of a national campaign encouraging college students to seek testing for sexually transmitted diseases. The dance marathon raised over \$70K for the Children's Hospital of St. Louis. Chair Clawson mentioned that St. Baldrick's raised over \$11K and 50 individuals shaved their heads to help fight juvenile cancer. There was a great deal of participation among students and University Housing Staff. Dr. Williams asked were there any questions.

Trustee Quigley mentioned that working with Dr. Williams has been "phenomenal." He added that Wil Gradle and he appreciated Dr. Williams support in putting together the State of the Student Address event with Student Government Association. Trustee Quigley thanked Dr. Williams for moving forward with necessary changes to Student Judicial Programs.

ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

Student Government Association President—Wil Gradle

Wil Gradle mentioned that it was a pleasure working with Dr. Williams and having his support and guidance on organizing the State of the Students Address.

The Student Government Association has enjoyed a productive semester in its continual efforts to advocate the interests of students. We want to thank all of those who have come to SGA to speak about the effects of the budget impasse on WIU. We specifically want to thank President Thomas, Dr. Neumann, and Matt Bierman.

The senate, a body representing students from every corner of campus, has renewed its opposition to placing a page limit on printing. A bill proposing a 1500 page per semester limit failed in senate.

SGA, in careful discussion and with regard for the University's efforts to price its self competitively, approved a bill of resolution supporting a 0% increase in tuition and fees for incoming freshmen.

This semester, SGA is seeking to double down its efforts to advocate for the passage of a complete state budget that fully funds higher education. This past Wednesday, SGA unveiled a social media campaign entitled “#ImpasseImpact” to highlight the effects of the budgetary stalemate on the higher education community. This campaign will be comprised of videos, photos, and stories of students, faculty, and community members adversely affected by the impasse.

The Address was a great success. He gave many thanks to Darcie Shinberger, the students who were able to attend, and the faculty, staff and administrators for their involvement and support. Special thanks to Dr. Pynes for his consistent encouragement along with President Thomas and Dr. Williams.

President Thomas stated that the University has some of the best student leaders in the nation and added that the student leaders did a tremendous job. He appreciates the outstanding job SGA and student leaders did in Springfield for MAP and regarding the budget impasse. President Thomas said that he commends the student leaders on the job that they have done and continue to do.

Council of Administrative Personnel Macomb President – Teresa Koltzenburg

She mentioned that the report details were in the report that she submitted and that she was happy to entertain any questions.

In late February, the Council of Administrative Personnel (COAP) Executive Committee awarded the \$100 Spring 2016 COAP Professional Development Scholarship to Career Development Center Assistant Director Michelle Howe. The award will be used toward her attendance at the Global Career Development Conference (Chicago, IL), set for late June/early July this year.

The COAP Executive Committee received a total of five applications for the Spring '16 Professional Development Scholarship Award and appreciates the dedication COAP members demonstrate toward personal professional development and Western Illinois University. The next COAP Professional Development Scholarship application period will be announced later this spring; the next Scholarship will be awarded in Fall 2016.

The 2016 COAP Employee of the Year (EOY) nominations are due on or before Friday, April 15, 2016. One notice regarding the COAP EOY Award and deadline has been posted on the News Bulletin Board. Two Tele-Stars messages will be sent out in mid- and late March as reminders about the award and nomination-submission deadline, with additional reminders set to be posted on the News Bulletin Board before the deadline.

Finally, the COAP Executive Committee has scheduled the Spring Open Forum with President Thomas for **10 a.m. Wednesday, May 4**, in the University Union Capitol Rooms (Macomb) and QC Complex 1418 (via CODEC to the Quad Cities).

Faculty Senate Chair – Christopher Pynes

The following is a summary of some of the major activities and initiative the Faculty Senate has engaged in since the 18 December 2015 BOT meeting.

- Brian Stone, Chair of the Council on Campus Planning and Usage, presented a report on active shooter situations as they relate to campus facilities. An update of locking mechanisms for classrooms on the Macomb campus and Run-Hide-Fight training were included.
- Director of Admissions Andy Borst discussed spring enrollment. He outlined the new admissions plan and asked senators to write personal notes to potential freshmen on notecards that he provided. Admissions will mail the notecards on senators' behalf.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Civility presented its report recommending that the University develop a civility policy.
- The Academic Program Elimination Review committee elections were concluded including a tiebreaker election.
- Jim Olsen, Chair of the Council on Intercollegiate Athletics, presented its annual Student-Athlete Absence Report.
- Faculty Senate approved required Title IX language to add to the Course Syllabus Policy.
- Faculty Senate discussed models of votes of no confidence, including how peer institutions address these votes. The Faculty Senate Constitution (Article VII) includes procedures to petition the Senate by obtaining the signatures of 20 percent of the faculty, which could be used to mandate that the Senate submit a vote of no confidence to its constituents.
- The President's performance survey was approved and is currently underway.
- Faculty Senate reviewed its biennial reapportionment, which did not result in any changes to representation. The Executive Committee is considering the reapportionment process, specifically the assignment of the at-large seats.
- Faculty Senate passed a resolution protesting the "indiscriminate and unilateral elimination of faculty positions as contrary to the mission of academic excellence established in the University's core values and detrimental to the educational experience of its students."

Items Under Consideration

- Disruptive Student Policy reporting procedures
- Quad Cities full cost accounting for instruction
- Development of independent performance standards for academic programs other than number of majors in a program

Consent Agenda: Civil Service Employees Council, Council of Administrative Personnel, Faculty Senate, and Student Government Association:

The four constituency groups formally submit the included report items as part of the consent agenda.

We want to recognize all the leadership groups on campus for the jobs they are doing during these difficult budgetary times. We encourage the BOT to continue with clear leadership and vision, and we

hope that a budget will soon be enacted by the State of Illinois. We share in the appreciation of outgoing Trustees Phil Hare and William Epperly, and we formally welcome Trustee Todd Lester.

We encourage the BOT to keep our student and our four core goals in mind when making important decisions and long term planning: Academic Excellence, Educational Opportunity, Personal Growth, and Social Responsibility.

Dr. Pynes stated that he would take any questions. Chair Clawson asked what the disruptive study was. The Faculty Senate controls the policy on disruptive students in the classroom and mentioned that there was an incident in which the student followed a faculty member out of the classroom. He added that there was an altercation. Dr. Pynes said the question remaining was “How this should be reported?” Faculty members asked Faculty Senate for the appropriate manner in which to report instances such as this.

Faculty Senate responded by inquiring of former VP Julie DeWees who stated they should discuss matters with the University Attorney, who stated that they should discuss the matters with VP Julie DeWees, who said maybe they should discuss the issue with EOA. Faculty Senate was “bounced around.” Since there is already an established policy for reporting disruptive students in the classroom, there are plans to make the policy broader. What would be ideal is to have a reporting process in place that if a student has lots of inappropriate interaction with a faculty member others will be able to find the data points to identify that the student is a “real risk.” The question that remains is whether or not actions that are taken outside of the classroom are covered under the existing policy. Clarity on the policy is currently being sought by Faculty Senate.

Trustee Cole said that if Faculty Senate is looking for a policy to deal with issues of this nature when the student may have initiated an unsafe action or behavior shouldn't the faculty members actions be considered as well? Shouldn't there be a policy for when faculty are disruptive? Trustee Cole stated that the policy should not be one-sided. Trustee Cole added this was the issue with the Judicial Board when a case was active. The student was being judged by several faculty member and one student. Trustee Cole stated that “no one is exempt from having a bad day.”

Dr. Pynes stated that he completely agrees, and in fact early in the report representing Faculty Senate there is mention of the development of a more general civility policy. That to which Trustee Cole is focused would be most appropriately placed in a civility policy. Dr. Pynes added that students do have access to a rights and responsibility page that provides the necessary tools to report a faculty member who may be a risk to campus safety. Dr. Pynes said that he agreed that everyone on the campus should behave. The issue with the students in question was that the student had multiple incidents and none of the people involved knew that disruptions had occurred elsewhere due to the reporting method.

The Faculty Senate does not control the University policy on disruptive faculty members. Faculty senate controls policies about students. That would be a policy that the Board would want the Provost or an administrative group to deal with. That said, Dr. Pynes said that Faculty Senate can only deal with the locus of control of Faculty Senate. Dr. Pynes reiterated that for guidance and discussion to develop a disruptive faculty policy the discussion should be with the Provost.

Trustee Cole stated that he and Provost Neumann would discuss disruptive faculty in the future. Dr. Pynes asked were there any other questions.

Civil Service Employees Council Macomb President – Karen Trusley

Civil Service Dependent Scholarship applications are being distributed. The Civil Service Book Award program will continue. Book awards are given to Civil Service employees who continue their education. Connie Lincoln has spearheaded a program that shows appreciation for Western Illinois University Civil

Service employees. Cookies will be delivered to Civil Service workers over the next few days to thank them for their service and investment of time.

The Civil Service Employee of the Month for January was John Buren, Building Service Worker, in Facilities Management. The February Civil Service of the Month was Renee Georges, Budget Analyst II, in Budget Office. The March Civil Service Employee of the Month is Sherry Banninga, Admissions/Records Officer in the Center for International Studies. We would like to thank all the employees of the month that will be recognized this year for their service to the University, and to their nominators for helping to recognize them for their outstanding service.

We are planning our upcoming spring luncheon. It will be held April 28th from 11:30am-1:00pm and feature an 80's theme. We hope that you will join us!

We truly appreciate the support that we receive from the Board of Trustees, President Thomas, Interim Vice President of Administrative Services Matt Bierman, and HR Director Pam Bowman in order for the Council to continue the important work of assisting the WIU Civil Service employees.

Chair Clawson called for a recess from Board proceedings.

The Board of Trustees took a break at 9:29 a.m.

The Board of Trustees reconvened at 9:43 a.m.

Chair Clawson reconvened after the break.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Report No. 16.3/1: Report on Contributions

Trustee Todd Lester asked for the Board to direct their attention to the Report on Contributions. He turned the report over to VP Brad Bainter. VP Bainter joked about Dr. Papini being a Dean at an affluent university, and a Western Illinois University alumnus, and that as Dr. Papini is paid so well he would like to have dinner with him tonight (inferred donor opportunity, laughter).

During the Foundation's Executive Board meeting the Foundation Board has approved what is available to offer of foundation resources to assist the University in making payroll. This would be in the form of a short term interest free loan to the University that would be paid back once tuition funds began to come in for the semester. The Foundation Board has asked that VP Bainter investigate the possibility of a loan taken against the Foundation's assets. The Foundation Board would like to see shared sacrifice by the Western community in exchange for the support being provided.

In December fundraising was slow, but currently gifts to the University are beginning to increase in momentum. There was a \$150K pledge with \$50K given to the University up front from Roselyn Chown for the golf pro shop initiative; \$50 as an estate gift from Robert Krause; \$25K of a \$100K scholarship; \$33K of continued support from Laverne McIntyre for scholarships in Engineering; \$60K from Dave and Jackie Thompson with \$50K for a Rock Hanson statue and \$10K for the pro shop initiative: life insurance inheritance from the estate of Miriam Rock, and the finalization of a trust agreement of \$50K for scholarships and list of other significant donations, gifts, and endowments. There was also an anonymous donor who gave an estate gift of land for Western Illinois University's agricultural department valued at \$1.5M and \$2M.

VP Bainter mentioned that he would like to acknowledge those who memorialized Dr. Brattain through donations and gifts. It was a testament to Dr. Brattain’s reputation and time at Western as an employee and as a retiree.

47K planned giving letters will go out to alumni soon with a planned giving newsletter. The planned giving inventory on file is between \$30M and \$40M. There will also be a letter going out to those who have planned gifts that Western will be here for many years to come.

Due to market fluctuations, Western’s endowment is down about \$3M. The alumni have been very supportive during such difficult times. The turnouts for WIU events around the country have been great. The positive notes and email have been great. VP Bainter mentioned that he thanks his staff members that are making sacrifices financially to keep Western afloat. The Vice President for Advancement and Public Services area celebrated their accomplishments with a “Dilly Bar Pep Rally” last week.

Trustee Quigley said thank you to the members of the gallery and Board whose names are on the donation list.

Report 16.3/2: Purchases of \$100,000-\$499,999.99

VP Bierman mentioned that the Purchases of \$100K through nearly \$250K (as there were no purchases above \$250K made) were in front of the Board for review.

Trustee Early stated that the repairs to Western Hall’s balcony are due to safety concerns. VP Bierman responded yes. Trustee Lester asked were there any questions.

Resolution 16.3/1: Utility Easement – McDonough County

Digger Oster, the Assistant to the VP for Administrative Services said that the resolution was for a waste water utility easement that is situated to the west of Thompson Hall and serves an area north of WIU’s campus. Trustee Early said that she thought it was good that WIU established that the University is not responsible for any repairs on the infrastructure in question.

Trustee Lester asked was there a motion. Trustee Lyneir Cole made the motion, and Trustee Yvonne Savala 2nd the motion.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS the City of Macomb is requesting a Utility Easement as part of the following tract:

Western Illinois University 4th Addition to the City of Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois; and Lots One, Three, Five and Seven of Woodland Hills Subdivision, to the City of Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois except that portion of the Southwest corner of Lot One known as the Coop 3rd Addition to the City of Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois; and a part of the East half of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 25, and the South half of the

Northwest Quarter, all in Township 6 North, Range 3 West, except the West part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, of the Fourth Principal Meridian, City of Macomb, in McDonough County, Illinois; and a part of the Western Illinois University 1st Addition to the City of Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois, located in part of the Southwest and Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 6 North, Range 3 West, and part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 36, Township 6 North, Range 3 West, of the Fourth Principal Meridian, City of Macomb, in McDonough County, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS the City of Macomb is requesting the easements for the purpose of placing, constructing, operating, repairing, maintaining, rebuilding, replacing and removing a wastewater sewer line; and,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees agrees to grant and convey a Utility Easement to the City of Macomb, Illinois the tracts described and attached hereto.

Resolution 16.3/2 Access and Utility Easement – McDonough County

Digger Oster stated that this was an access and utility easement to provide access to a mobile tower on campus. There is a 5-year term followed by several 10 year consecutive terms. He asked were there any questions.

Trustee Quigley made the motion, and Trustee Early seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS SBA Communications is requesting an Access Easement as part of the following tract:

being a part of Lot 12 of the Western Illinois University 3rd Addition commencing at the Southwesterly corner of said Lot 12, thence South 86 degrees 57 minutes 24 seconds East along the South line of said Lot 12, a distance of 1267.08 feet; thence North 03 degrees 02 minutes 36 seconds East perpendicular to the last described course, 62.23 feet; thence North 02 Degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds East, 90.00 Feet for a point of beginning; thence continuing North 02 Degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds East, 40.00 feet; thence South 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds East perpendicular to the last described course, 115.72 feet; thence North 02 degrees 25 minutes 03 seconds East, 621.96 feet to the south right-of-way line of West University Drive; thence South 87 degrees 34 minutes 57 seconds East along said line, 20.00 feet; thence South 02 degrees 25 minutes 03 seconds West, 642.00 feet; thence North 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds West, 35.76 feet; thence South 02 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds West perpendicular to the last described course, 20.00 feet; thence North 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds West perpendicular to the last described course, 100.00 feet to the point of beginning; and,

WHEREAS SBA Communications is requesting a Utility Easement as part of the following tract:

being part of Lot 12 of the Western Illinois University 3rd Addition commencing at the Southwesterly corner of said Lot 12, thence South 86 degrees 57 minutes 24 seconds East along the South line of said Lot 12, a distance of 1267.08 feet; thence North 03 degrees 02 minutes 36 seconds East perpendicular to the last described course, 62.23 feet; thence North 02 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds East, 90.00 feet; thence south 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds East perpendicular to the last described course, 100.00 feet for a point of beginning, thence continuing south 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds East, 134.47 feet; thence South 28 degrees 25 minutes 56 seconds East, 81.74 feet; thence South 51 degrees 35 minutes 16 seconds East, 24.62 feet; thence South 38 degrees 24 minutes 44 seconds West perpendicular to the last described course, 10.00 feet; thence North 51 degrees 35 minutes 16 seconds West perpendicular to the last described course, 26.67 feet; thence North 28 degrees 25 minutes 56 seconds West, 78.13 feet; thence North 87 degrees 28 minutes 59 seconds West, 128.80 feet; thence North 02 degrees 31 minutes 01 seconds East perpendicular to the last described course, 10.00 feet to the point of beginning; and,

WHEREAS SBA Communications is requesting the easements for the purpose of accessing and running utilities to a mobile communication tower; and,

WHEREAS the initial term will be five (5) years plus ten (10) consecutive options to renew for five (5) years each, for a potential of fifty-five (55) years:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees agrees to grant and convey an Access And a Utility Easement to SBA Communication the tract described and attached hereto.

Resolution 16.3/3: Property Lease – McDonough County

Asst. VP Digger Oster stated that this would be a property lease to Ameren where the former Cinemas and Godfather’s Pizza Restaurant stood. Ameren would like to use the acreage for storm staging in the event of severe weather. This would be on an intermittent and availability basis determined by Western over 4 years.

Trustee Quigley made the motion, and Trustee Cole seconded the motion. The motion was called to a vote.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois is requesting a property lease as part of the following tract: 2.75 Acres located in SW ¼ of Section 30, Township 6 North, Range 2 West, Fourth Prime meridian, McDonough County, Illinois; and,

WHEREAS Ameren Illinois is requesting the lease for the purpose of utilizing the site on an intermittent basis, when available, as a check point location for Ameren Illinois’ contractors and employees, during an emergency period; and,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees agrees to grant and convey a Property Lease to Ameren Illinois, for a period of four years, the tracts described and attached hereto.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Trustee Early stated that the first report the Annual Report on Financial Aid Programs.

Report No. 16.3/3: Annual Report on Financial Aid Programs

Interim Vice President for Student Services, Dr. Ron Williams stated that the report was before the Board and that he or Mary Lawson would be happy to answer any questions.

Trustee Early asked how most of the financial aid was directed toward tuition as opposed to room and board as opposed to books. How can students use their financial aid?

Director Mary Lawson answered that some of the fees are only for tuition and fees such as the MAP grant. There are other awards that are only for books. Most of the aid disbursed is for any educational expenses—a combination of indirect and direct costs to the University.

Report No. 16.3/4: FY2017 Student Cost Guarantee

Vice President Matt Bierman stated that the tuition for undergraduate students was reduced by 3% in December of 2015. He also added that today the Board would consider fees at zero increase as well as room and board. VP Bierman said that when talking with colleagues that they do not like the tuition reductions at Western as this is hurting other universities recruiting efforts. They would like Western to stop advertising the tuition reduction. WIU may fall to 8th lowest tuition in the State of Illinois out of 12 universities.

Resolution No. 16.3/4: FY2017 Room and Board/Housing Rates Recommendation

Ketra Russell, the Assistant Director for Residential Facilities began by saying that Housing would like to support the Universities mission to remain affordable. There are continued efforts to ensure housing and dining have competitive and affordable rates when compared to other institutions.

Trustee Early asked where the University was with the contract with Sodexo—which year? The University is currently in the 4th year of a 5 year contract. There are three renewable years. Trustee Quigley asked after the 5 year contract has been completed how does the University go about getting more bidders. Asst. Dir. Russell answered that with the stipulations WIU places on the contractor for food service, Sodexo was the only organization that would agree to the stipulations which allows for the University to have primary control over the contract. VP Bierman added that other vendors are not willing to give up the control that Sodexo does as far as rates and such.

VP Bierman mentioned that Sodexo has also been very flexible with payment schedule. This represents Sodexo's commitment to Western. The current arrangement is on that the University is thankful for especially over the next couple of months. Trustee Quigley stated that it is good to work with the University as Sodexo does, but student approval and satisfaction is important as well.

Asst. Dir. Russell said that she encourages the students to complete the students' satisfaction survey. When students complete the survey this allows for UHDS to do a thorough job of holding Sodexo accountable. President Thomas asked how students were voicing their concerns. Trustee Quigley asked for SGA President Wil Gradle to weigh in on student satisfaction with Sodexo. He added that the pricing model does not make sense for the average student. Trustee Quigley stated that it is more affordable for students to go to Burger King to get a meal than eat in the cafeteria. Wil Gradle stated that he could not

provide much insight as the topic usually goes through Inter-Hall Council (IHC). Wil Gradle said that the general consensus especially in the convenience stores is that the prices are “exorbitant.”

Ms. Russell stated that she would take responsibility for the price setting mechanism as Sodexo does not set the prices University Housing and Dining Services (UHDS) sets the prices. She added that she would be willing to sit down with student government leaders and the student Board Trustee to explain the rationale behind the price setting mechanism as Sodexo does not “deserve the blame for that.”

President Thomas said he asked the question because he meets with Sodexo regularly to meet to ensure the students are being heard and Sodexo is meeting the needs of the students. Trustee Lester asked what the student participation rates were for the surveys administered. Ms. Russell said that this year there was an incentive offered for students who participated in the survey. The incentive was to donate water to Flint Michigan. There were over 900 students that participated in the most recent survey—that would be 900 of nearly 3500 students living in the residence halls and that is considered a good participation level.

Trustee Cole asked how would the students approach UHDS with lowering the prices in the cafeterias/dining halls. Ms. Russell mentioned that the process begins in the residence halls and IHC where the prices are approved. She added that once the rationale is given that explains why prices are what they are students generally understand that UHDS is not just “taking their money and hiding it somewhere.” Trustee Cole asked would the pricing issue affect the item the Board was about to vote on currently, and Ms. Russel answered no impact.

Trustee Cole made the motion to approve, and Trustee Savala seconded the motion. The motion was called to a vote.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS room and board rates are to be established annually by the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees; and,

WHEREAS the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees carefully considered the Fiscal Year 2017 Tuition, Fees, Room and Board Cost Guarantee (Report No. 16.3/4); and,

WHEREAS general guidelines established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education were followed; and,

WHEREAS appropriate groups on campus were involved in the establishment of room and board rates for FY2017; and,

WHEREAS the double occupancy rate would not increase for new students only, which would result in an increase of 0.00% per year for those students who live in the Residence halls for 4 years; and,

WHEREAS Western Illinois University maintains a commitment to access and affordability:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves room and board charges for FY2017 (effective Fall Semester 2016) as enumerated in the FY2017 Room and Board/Housing Rates Recommendation document which follows.

Resolution No. 16.3/5: FY2017 Fees Recommendation

VP Williams stated that the resolution was before the board and said that the recommendation was that there is no increase in fees for FY2017. He stated that Student Services would be happy to answer any questions. VP Rives stated that the “we” in this are the students and added a thank you to the student governance group leaders for demonstrating that affordability is a priority for Western Illinois University. Trustee Lester asked whether or not the fact that Western is not increasing fees is advertised for prospective students and their families as a reason to choose Western.

VP Bierman answered that this is not being advertised as far as marketing, but when families compare financial aid packages they are able to see the value in savings of Western’s aid and affordability over other institutions of higher learning. The packages went out two weeks before the board meeting. President Thomas stated that after the board approves the resolution there will be a press release. Trustee Quigley stated that SGA is in support of the resolution. Trustee Quigley added that he would note that there was a 0% increase in technology fees, but hopes that technology remains a top priority for students.

Trustee Cole made the motion, and Trustee Quigley seconded the motion. The motion was called to a vote.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS fees are to be established annually by the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees; and,

WHEREAS the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees carefully considered the Fiscal Year 2017 Tuition, Fees, Room and Board Cost Guarantee (Report No. 16.3/4); and,

WHEREAS general guidelines established by the Illinois Board of Higher Education were followed; and,

WHEREAS appropriate groups on campus were involved in the establishment of fees for FY2017; and,

WHEREAS the rate would not increase the per credit hour rate for new Macomb campus students only, which would result in an increase of 0.00% per year for those students who attend for four years; and,

WHEREAS the rate would not increase the per credit hour rate or for new Quad Cities campus students

only, which would result in an increase of 0.00% per year for those students who attend for four years; and,

WHEREAS Western Illinois University maintains a commitment to access and affordability:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves fees rates for FY2017 (effective Summer Semester 2016) as enumerated in the FY2017 Fee Recommendation document which follows.

FY2017 Fees Recommendation

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Proposed FY2017		
				Amount	\$ Change	% Change
I. MACOMB CAMPUS STUDENT FEE ALLOCATIONS						
<u>Academic Year (Based on 30 SCH)</u>						
Activity	\$ 103.50	\$ 103.50	\$ 103.50	\$ 103.50	\$ -	0.00%
Fine Arts Activity	76.50	76.50	76.80	76.80	-	0.00%
Athletic	500.10	522.90	537.00	537.00	-	0.00%
Bond Revenue	809.40	833.40	851.40	851.40	-	0.00%
Technology	137.70	138.00	144.60	144.60	-	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	474.90	536.40	546.30	546.30	-	0.00%
Health Center	278.10	281.10	282.30	282.30	-	0.00%
Publication	26.70	29.10	29.10	29.10	-	0.00%
Talent Grant	49.20	49.20	51.30	51.30	-	0.00%
Transit	78.60	80.40	81.30	81.30	-	0.00%
Total Per Academic Year	\$ 2,534.70	\$ 2,650.50	\$ 2,703.60	\$ 2,703.60	\$ -	0.00%
<u>Fall or Spring Semester Per Credit Hour</u>						
Activity	\$ 3.45	\$ 3.45	\$ 3.45	\$ 3.45	\$ -	0.00%
Fine Arts Activity	2.55	2.55	2.56	2.56	-	0.00%
Athletic	16.67	17.43	17.90	17.90	-	0.00%
Bond Revenue	26.98	27.78	28.38	28.38	-	0.00%
Technology	4.59	4.60	4.82	4.82	-	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	15.83	17.88	18.21	18.21	-	0.00%
Health Center	9.27	9.37	9.41	9.41	-	0.00%
Publication	0.89	0.97	0.97	0.97	-	0.00%
Talent Grant	1.64	1.64	1.71	1.71	-	0.00%
Transit	2.62	2.68	2.71	2.71	-	0.00%
Total Per Credit Hour	\$ 84.49	\$ 88.35	\$ 90.12	\$ 90.12	\$ -	0.00%
<u>Summer Semester Per Credit Hour</u>						
Activity	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.21	\$ 2.21	-	0.00%
Fine Arts Activity	1.63	1.63	1.64	1.64	-	0.00%
Athletic	10.67	11.16	11.46	11.46	-	0.00%
Bond Revenue	17.27	17.78	18.16	18.16	-	0.00%
Technology	2.94	2.95	3.09	3.09	-	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	10.13	11.44	11.65	11.65	-	0.00%
Health Center	5.93	6.00	6.03	6.03	-	0.00%
Publication	0.57	0.63	0.63	0.63	-	0.00%
Talent Grant	1.05	1.05	1.09	1.09	-	0.00%
Transit	1.68	1.72	1.74	1.74	-	0.00%
Total Per Credit Hour	\$ 54.08	\$ 56.57	\$ 57.70	\$ 57.70	\$ -	0.00%

FY2017 Fees Recommendation

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Proposed FY2017		
				Amount	\$ Change	% Change
II. QUAD CITIES CAMPUS STUDENT FEE ALLOCATIONS						
<u>Academic Year (Based on 30 SCH)</u>						
Activity	\$ 127.20	\$ 127.20	\$ 128.70	\$ 128.70	\$ -	0.00%
Athletic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technology	130.50	135.30	140.40	140.40	-	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	211.80	211.80	211.80	211.80	-	0.00%
Health Center	-	-	-	-	-	-
Publication	25.80	26.70	27.30	27.30	-	0.00%
Talent Grant	82.20	83.10	83.10	83.10	-	0.00%
Transit	129.00	143.40	149.10	149.10	-	0.00%
Total Per Academic Year	\$ 706.50	\$ 727.50	\$ 740.40	\$ 740.40	\$ -	0.00%
<u>Fall or Spring Semester Per Credit Hour</u>						
Activity	\$ 4.24	\$ 4.24	\$ 4.29	\$ 4.29	\$ -	0.00%
Athletic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technology	4.35	4.51	4.68	4.68	-	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	7.06	7.06	7.06	7.06	-	0.00%
Health Center	-	-	-	-	-	-
Publication	0.86	0.89	0.91	0.91	-	0.00%
Talent Grant	2.74	2.77	2.77	2.77	-	0.00%
Transit	4.30	4.78	4.97	4.97	-	0.00%
Total Per Credit Hour	\$ 23.55	\$ 24.25	\$ 24.68	\$ 24.68	\$ -	0.00%
<u>Summer Semester Per Credit Hour</u>						
Activity	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.72	2.75	2.75	-	0.00%
Athletic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technology	2.78	2.88	2.99	2.99	\$ -	0.00%
Facilities Enhancement & Life Safety	4.52	4.52	4.52	4.52	-	0.00%
Health Center	-	-	-	-	-	-
Publication	-	-	-	-	-	-
Talent Grant	1.75	1.77	1.77	1.77	-	0.00%
Transit	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Per Credit Hour	\$ 11.77	\$ 11.89	\$ 12.03	\$ 12.03	\$ -	0.00%

Resolution No. 16.3/6: FY2017 Student Health Insurance Fee Recommendation

Trustee Early stated that the Board would consider Student Health Insurance Fees Recommendation. She mentioned that she previously served on a subcommittee on student health insurance, and she knows that the fee is a minimal increase and is a vendor driven fee. Trustee Early asked the Assistant to the VP for Administrative Services, Digger Oster, was the University still experiencing declining participation from students. To clarify understanding she asked compared to the past was opting out of student health insurance much simpler now as a result of the Affordable Care Act and Obama Care. Mr. Oster answered yes. As the pool of students is much smaller, the group rate imposed by the vendor requires an increase as fewer students are in the pool. Mr. Oster answered yes to this as well. He added that the 2.1% increase was a result of several modifications with varied carriers. Co-insurance impacted 14 students (less than half of a percent).

Trustee Cole stated that the students increase in deductible was not affordable as it was “already high.” Trustee Cole emphasized, “Can they (the students) afford that?” Trustee Cole stated that the University is increasing the students’ out-of-pocket cost and they cannot afford the increase. He added that it appeared to him that as a result of the Affordable Care Act and fewer students participating in Student Health Insurance, the University is taxing the students remaining on the plan.

Digger Oster stated that this should not be viewed as taxing the students as 14 students were affected by having to pay co-insurance out of 3,500. When looking at the whole program, the plan savings is significant for the 3,500 enrolled by way of lower premiums. VP Bierman stated that with a lower deductible, 3,500 students would be charged \$200 more. Only 14 students will be charged \$250 the other students will only experience a \$20 increase in their rate.

Trustee Cole stated that he had a student call him about the “unaffordable” insurance deductible, and this is the reason he believes students are being taxed as a result of enrollment participation decreasing. He stated the student said he went to Beu Health Center and the deductible was extremely high, so the student could not afford it. Mr. Oster mentioned that with selecting this plan 100% of medical services and pharmacy are covered at Beu.

Trustee Cole asked what percentage of coverage is available to students who go to McDonough District Hospital (MDH). There is a \$200 co-pay for the Emergency Room and for medical services and pharmacy the coverage is 80/20. Trustee Quigley asked has the idea of not providing student health insurance been explored as the students would have to get insurance by federal law. He added that why is the University providing student health insurance when the federal government says is required by law. This was considered by the Leadership Team, the Student Health Advisory Committee, and Beu Health met on this issue and collectively decided it was in the best interest of the students to continue to make student health insurance an option available for Western’s students. Not having student health insurance available would leave MDH with a significant amount of unpaid claims. The University does not want to leave its community partners left with the responsibility of unpaid student bills.

Trustee Cole asked if an individual visited the emergency room, when would the person be responsible for paying the deductible? Mr. Oster stated that if the person was hospitalized or had to have surgery then the deductible would have to be paid. Trustee Lester stated that it does sound as if “due diligence was done.” He mentioned that this occurs as costs for insurance costs and healthcare costs increase. Trustee Quigley agreed that he believes due diligence was done, but he does not believe that raising the deductible was a good thing. He added that as a student \$1K is a lot of money, and said that as an adult with a fulltime job \$1K may not be a lot of money.

Trustee Lester stated that if the increase only affects 14 individuals he believes Administrative Services has done their “homework.” Trustee Cole asked who determines the 14 students that are affected. Trustee Lester explained that this was the number of students affected during the last enrollment period. VP Bierman explained that if the deductible had not been increased the overall increase would not be 2.1% but instead 20% increase. Trustee Cole asked to make a recommendation. He asked that the report be given to the Board in advance for review. Administrative Assistant to the Board, Kerry McBride reminded Trustee Cole that he received the report two weeks prior to the Board meeting.

Trustee Cole stated that the Board has to be considerate of the fact that students do not have an income. He added that most of the decision-makers on student health insurance receives pay bi-weekly. He asked, “Where do we consider the student in this.” Trustee Cole stated that the students have not been considered in the fee increase. He said that the downside is the student having medical bills when they leave Western. Trustee Cole said he has the same reservations as he did two years ago.

Trustee Savala said that she considers offering student health insurance to Western's students as another option of protection. She added that if their parents are able to cover them that is one option, but this is another option. If parental coverage of State coverage is more affordable, students may opt out if necessary as explained by Trustee Early. It is easier for them to opt out of student health insurance today than it was a couple of years ago. The students generally are left to choose the most affordable option. The option with the lower deductible would cost the whole student body \$680K more in student insurance costs. There were four different carriers considered. Western chose the most affordable option for the students. VP Bierman mentioned that the cost was going to increase. The University chose to spread the increase in cost over the entire group enrolled at a 2.1% increase instead of having the enrolled group pay a 20% increase in premiums.

Trustee Cole asked does the University survey the students on their interest in student health insurance. Students may opt out if they have secured equal or better coverage under another plan. Carriers do not offer an "ala carte" version of student insurance to Universities. The cost would be too great. Trustee Early confirmed that this product is not bid in such a way to colleges and universities. Trustee Cole asked what is the University's cost versus the students' cost. Mr. Oster stated that the cost is covered 100% by student fee. Trustee Early stated that if there was no further discussion that she would look for a motion and a second.

The motion was made by Trustee Savala and seconded by Chair Clawson.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	No
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Abstain
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Western Illinois University has reviewed the Student Health Insurance options for Western Illinois University students; and,

WHEREAS Western Illinois University proposes that the Student Health Insurance rates increase from \$690.00 to \$705.00 per half year or \$1,410.00 per full year which represents a 2.17% increase; and,

WHEREAS Western Illinois University will implement the Student Health Insurance rate beginning August 01, 2016; and,

WHEREAS special provisions have been made for students attending outside the designated terms of August 1 to January 31 and February 1 to July 31:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Western Illinois University Student Health Insurance Program rate for Fiscal Year 2017 as proposed.

PRESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT and EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Presidential Assessment and Evaluation Committee consist of Trustees Yvonne Savala and Carolyn Ehlert Fuller. Directives will be forthcoming shortly to the Board.

GENERAL DISCUSSION and ACTION ITEMS

Report No. 16.3/5: Quarterly Long Term Plan Update

Vice President of Quad Cities and Planning Joe Rives began with an update on the corporate recruitment initiatives and outreach. Fourteen regional partners have been identified and contacted wherein initial conversations focused on assisting the University with student recruitment, sponsored credit options, and if the organization is favorable to enter into sponsored credit what would be a most convenient location for Western to provide education and training.

Hybrid education represents the height of interest that corporations are focused on when considering partnership potential with Western Illinois University. One of the other considerations Western poses to corporate entities is whether or not internship opportunities are available to students studying in related fields of discipline. Opportunities are offered to corporations to serve on the Advisory Board for Quad Cities and University Planning. There will likely be a separate Advisory Board formed that consists of Corporate Organizations to provide an assessment of how well and deeply Western is connected with the region and various communities and to form respective insights on strengths and best practices of each culture (the higher education culture and the corporate organization culture).

The outcomes that were reviewed in the Quarterly Long Term Plan Update gave a snapshot of where the planning was. Corporate Recruitment efforts yielding 29 new partners to the University are not a result of 29 meetings but instead countless outreach efforts to seal and maintain the partnerships. The process may be viewed as a marathon and not a sprint. As a part of long term planning and future updates, output and outcome measures that will be tracked and provided to the Board. This will give the Administration an opportunity to actually see how many employees attend information sessions about WIU, how many employees take advantage of tuition waivers to attend Western, how many companies are sending their workforce members to Western. The I-80 Group, which is home of the world's largest truck stop, will be sponsoring credit in the area of purchasing.

Tyson foods is considering Western's resources in English as a Second Language for its workforce. The site Tyson, Inc. has chosen is the Esperanza Center in the Floreciente District of Moline, IL for its sponsored credit location. The Floreciente community has an 8% educational attainment level. The need for educational resources in the Floreciente community is tremendous, and Western Illinois University plans to be in the community to fulfill this tremendous need.

Dir. Amy Spelman will be working with the Long Term Planning team to identify areas and organizations in which Western Alumni live and work to tap into the Leatherneck network. Dr. Rives thanked the President and Board for their support and approval. He asked were there any questions.

Trustee Quigley asked what the outcomes are on the feasibility study undergraduate and graduate interests in technology, health care, sales, and engineering. The full report will be available soon on undergraduates. Trustee Savala gave positive feedback on the new partnerships being forged. President Thomas mentioned that this is the wave of the future—alternatives in getting funding and revenue streams versus the dependence on appropriated funding. President Thomas mentioned the group that was taken to the St. Louis Metro area consisting of university deans and vice presidents and such to assess the potential of private public partnerships between Western Illinois University and corporations in the St. Louis area as well as partnerships with smaller technology based schools.

VP Rives made a statement about the powerful impact that meeting with corporations holds when a brand such as Western makes organizations aware that we want to assess some of your educational resource needs “We are here. We’ve been here, and will be here.” When organizations have an opportunity to hear the Western story WIU gets buy-in which materializes in mutually beneficial partnerships. QC Development Director received multiple accolades for the tremendous body of work with fundraising and outreach he has been instrumental in creating in the QC region so much so that expansion is on the horizon for the St. Louis Metropolitan area. Dr. Rives extended a special thank you to Dir. Paul Plagenz (applause).

Report No. 16.3/6: The Statewide Budget Context and Western Illinois University’s Mission-Driven Planning Results

President Thomas stated that he asked VP Rives to put together a PowerPoint presentation to demonstrate clearly the context of the budget with regard to how Western Illinois University is striving to accomplish organizational goals and objective in spite of not receiving appropriated funding from the State of Illinois.

VP Rives mentioned that this is a collaborative effort made possible by President Thomas and the Leadership Team. Dr. Rives added that it is important that the Board have the proper context from which to work to find plausible solutions to the current budget issues.

Illinois Public Institutions did not create the current fiscal crisis. External experts in the field of budget and finance concur. The Public Universities could not have seen or forecast the current financial crisis. This is the first time in 159 years that there has been a budgetary impasse of this magnitude. Western Illinois University does not have plans to close.

There are different sources of funds under which the University is able to operate. GRF (general revenue fund) is state tax revenue. GRF and tuition make the state appropriation for Western Illinois University. There are funds received for auxiliary facilities, and the University receives fees. The state appropriated dollars may be used in an unrestricted manner for general purposes. Fees the University receives are restricted and must be used for a specific purpose or area. It is against the law to use Capital Funding for university operations.

Foundation income is not included in the institutional budget as Foundation dollars are raised in a legal 501(c) 3 organization. As Western Illinois University has become accustomed to budget decline, the Leadership Team and BOT should take this time to consider the budget circumstances over the last 13 years. It is evident that the State of Illinois is investing significantly decreased amounts in public higher education.

Funding for the 12 Illinois public universities has declined from \$1.5B to approximately \$1.2B. The slide demonstrated that Western is not in a unique budget situation as other public institutions in Illinois are suffering the same financial crisis. The funding levels have been extremely unstable for all public institutions. Between FY02 and FY10 there was a distinct difference in the budgeting trend that occurred between FY11 and FY 15.

During the FY02 and FY10 the trend was such that funding was unpredictable, so travel and workforce vacancies were closely monitored in gauging the necessity of each on a case-by-case basis. This allowed for the University to establish a reserve fund to prepare for times in which funding released was low or slow and payment obligations remained constant. Building the reserve allowed for the University to combat cash flow issues. The magnitude of budget and finance decisions has grown from wondering how to arrive at \$1M for a chiller to how to generate \$54M for university operations. There was no need for layoffs or furloughs at that time.

FY11 began the trend of not receiving appropriated funding on time or the slow release of appropriated funding trend. In response, the University delayed salary increases, cancelled other salary increases, and approached enhancing the reserves by closely monitoring cash balances. Prior to the cash flow issues, the University did not have to exercise extreme conservatism with regard to budgeting, but was allowed to focus on the growth and development of Western's campus. In addition to structuring salary increases, the University also introduced retirement incentives. Although this is another approach to cost saving, there is a tremendous loss of history and experience when groups of individuals all retire at the same time.

Dr. Hawkinson (retired Provost and Academic Vice President) and the current provost, Dr. Neumann worked to get zero based budgeting in Academic Affairs. There have been numerous consolidations to streamline administrative costs and increase efficiency for nearly a decade just as the current Governor suggests public universities do now. uTech was created as the trend developed of low funding for higher education in Illinois. Ways in which to centralize services across both campuses were implemented as well (advising, graduate studies, outreach, and such). Operating budgets have been withheld until the University knew that funding would become available to make all necessary payments. Last June former Provost Hawkinson announced the phasing out of low enrolled programs. \$16.9M was saved by instituting numerous cost saving measures including decreasing the workforce by 3 layoffs since FY03.

Western Illinois University received tenure reaffirmation of accreditation at the highest level of accommodation and no concerns during the most turbulent budget crisis in the University's history. Tuition and fee revenue is becoming more crucial as the University receives less, or in this case no appropriated funding. Even under such circumstances, the University maintains as an objective putting the student first by reducing tuition so that an increased body of students may support generating more tuition dollars versus charging existing students higher rates. As VP Matt Bierman has characterized the budget crisis, Western has gone from a "state supported institution (at 75% support) to a state assisted institution (at 39%)." This is the same case with other public universities.

Donor money has made it possible for various areas to continue to grow and develop in a manner consistent to which the program had become accustomed. Otherwise, the state funding has not supported the growth and development of such programs on Western's campus. Faculty and staff have done their due diligence in increasing dollar amounts of grant funded opportunities for our campus. Western's instructional costs are below the statewide average at 20% lower. This demonstrates efficiency. Western is 24% below the statewide average for administrative costs. The trend of Western to fall below the statewide average for administrative costs will continue as voluntary furlough days, voluntary pay reductions, and not filling positions increase. Western is far from an example of administrative bloat as the University consistently falls in the two lowest institutions with regard to administrative costs and is very efficient.

The Mills at Riverbend Commons apartment complex is a partnership with the Renew Moline organization to provide riverfront housing adjacent to the WIU QC campus. Western Illinois University did not incur any cost that allows for WIU students to live in close proximity to the QC campus. There are 292 student beds and two new restaurants that are a part of the Mills at Riverbend Commons apartment complex.

One of the external sources that further validates the financial management of Western Illinois University is KPMG (Klynveld, Peat, Marwick, Goerdeler, one of the Big Four auditors). This organization uses financial ratios, which is how the federal government evaluates the financial management report cards of higher educational institutions, to indicate how well or poorly an institution is doing financially. KPMG created a composite financial indicator of 1. When an institution falls below 1, this triggers a review by the HLC (Higher Learning Commission). VP Rives explained that a visit would translate into a series of

questions from the HLC as to whether or not Western should continue to administer financial aid to 75% of the students receiving aid packages to attend Western.

As depicted in the graph on the slide, there is no concern regarding the financial management of Western Illinois University as the line representing WIU on the graph is far above the threshold indicator mark.

KPMG also looks at the financial stability of higher educational institutions. In spite of GRF issues and critical funding levels, and cash flow issues, Western's trend in financial stability is consistent. If the line representing Western Illinois University had gone in a downward trajectory this would have indicated weakening financial stability and health of the University. Unlike private institutions, Western may not carry over surplus revenue into the next year.

KPMG also looks at whether or not an institution has the ability to pay its bonds back. As a result of Western being a strong and fiscally conservative school, we have been able to withstand the budget impasse thus far. Nonetheless, Western is still in "dire need of a budget." FY2016 and beyond paints a very different picture. Having a low or slow appropriation is much different from having no appropriation at all. It is not realistic for communities who do not know to estimate that Western can carry the burden of a 21% cut in funding levels. The issues of cuts are also impacting the University in where the cuts will occur. Funds allocated with restrictions do not help to solve the budget issues that fall under the unrestricted category such as operations and payroll. In other words, restricted funds do not solve the majority of unrestricted budget obligations that must be paid.

The Administration and Board are trying to address the \$51.4M reduction and the \$11M cost shift unfunded mandate with MAP. There is no question that MAP had to be funded in order to keep decisions in the best interest of the students. No funding MAP would have resulted in catastrophic consequences to pay with low enrollment numbers. The University could not afford the projected drop in enrollment were MAP not funded for WIU students. Operating has been streamlined, attrition, and other cost saving measures combined with finding solutions to low enrollment numbers has rendered Western Illinois University as fiscally healthy as it can be considering the negative impact of current constraints.

The University will continue to find new approaches to generate revenue. The corporate recruitment initiative is going forth and expanding, dual enrollment agreements and outreach efforts will expand, and new degree programs are at 90% capacity. The University remains committed to access and affordability. As revenue increases the University must decrease expenditures. The courses that have been eliminated are primarily electives. The average class size at Western is still at 20 students for undergraduates. For graduate coursework, the class size is around 22 which is comparable to other institutions.

Administrative contracts are being reduced when this does not interfere with or impede services. In January, the Leadership Team began its voluntary pay reductions. Voluntary pay reductions by the Administration are an example to other members of the workforce that concessions must be made in order to remain a sustainable organization that is here for students, faculty, staff, and the community. The current furlough program affects non-negotiated employees that earn less than \$40K annually. This affects 479 members of our workforce of 1,001 members. Those excluded from the furlough program have expressed their desire to contribute and volunteer furlough days in light of the current budget crisis conditions.

As Dr. Neumann stated, Dr. Rives reiterated that when a program is eliminated, the students are given the full opportunity to complete the program as it is gradually phased out and not abruptly cut from the college's curriculum. In other words, those enrolled may complete the program. Dr. Neumann mentioned in her report the areas that are under review currently. There is currently a hiring freeze to also assist with payroll reductions.

The Administration of Western Illinois University will define where the University's fiscal destiny is and determine the ultimate fiscal health of the University. This is not the responsibility or role of the State of Illinois. The University will still use the "Higher Values in Higher Education" strategic plan as guiding principles despite the difficult decisions that have been made and going forward. The University will not allow the Western's students to be casualties of "political stalemates and budgetary impasses." Ultimately, the faculty, staff, and the administrators must work collaboratively and in the utmost socially responsible manner to accomplish fair and reasonable terms of bargaining and negotiations.

All must do what is best for the institution and the students that the institution serves. There are respectable numbers of programs and initiatives strategically planned to aggressively generate new and increased streams of revenue to benefit the students and the University income fund from both internal and external sources of funds. Foundation and Development is going forward to create outcomes that ensure the University's success in its fundraising campaigns. "Dr. Thomas is the champion in advocating with all for fair and predictable funding for higher education." The strength of the plan to maintain the fiscal health of the institution depends on the strength of the institutions "voice." There were 1,101 members of the WIU workforce responded to the survey asking how best to approach the budget challenges the institution faces. Most of the decisions posed are a result of that survey.

There will be more concessions that are enacted currently in order to decrease expenditures. Some mentioned were continuing the hiring freeze, layoffs, closure and combinations of offices and units, cancellation of salary increases, shared sacrifice, furloughs, and increased voluntary pay reductions. All measures that assist with reducing and conserving operating funds will be implemented as a means to continue to provide a quality education and college experience for Western Illinois University students. The University is aware of the "immediacy and the severity" of the situation that Illinois' public university's face. There may possibly be reduced hours of service.

The overall sentiment the University must come to terms with is, "United we stand," as explained and highlighted by VP Rives. He continued with stating that he hoped that everyone found the slide presentation informative and that everyone should be appreciative of the strong leadership that President Thomas is providing for the Leadership Team as the University is positioning for the next 117 years. Dr. Rives asked were there any questions or concerns.

Report No. 16.3/7: Western Illinois University Response to Higher Learning Commission Questions Raised to All Illinois Public Colleges and Universities

There is a corrected table since the rescission bringing the state GRF appropriation for FY'14 down from \$52.6 to \$51.4M. There is a bullet point that shows the reduction as well and also details WIU's 20% enrollment decline. The letters in the point show what was presented to the HLC as Western has received consistent accolades and recognition from the commission for the content and manner in which correspondence represents the University.

Resolution No. 16.3/7: Release of December 17, 2015 and January 25, 2016 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Trustee Cole made the motion to approve, and Trustee Savala seconded the motion. A vote was taken.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 5 ILCS 120/c of the Open Meetings Act, the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University will eliminate the recordings of the minutes of October 3, 2014; and,

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act, the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University has reviewed the minutes of the closed session minutes of December 17, 2015 and January 25, 2016, to determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists with respect to all or part of the minutes:

THEREFORE be it resolved the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University has determined that the need for confidentiality still exists and it will review the December 17, 2015 and January 25, 2016, minutes again at the June 10, 2016, Board Meeting to make a final determination with regard to its release.

Resolution No. 16.3/8: Calendar Year 2017 Board Meeting Schedule

Trustee Cole made the motion to approve, and the motion was seconded by Trustee Quigley.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes
Trustee Quigley	Yes
Trustee Savala	Yes

Motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Western Illinois University is subject to the requirements of 110 ILCS 690/ which states: “Meetings of the Board shall be held at least once each quarter on the campus of Western Illinois University...;” and,

WHEREAS the Vice Presidents, Budget Director, Board Treasurer, University Attorney, Institutional Research and Planning Director, Equal Opportunity and Access Director, Internal Auditor, Alumni Director and the Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations have been consulted regarding the State of Illinois, IBHE and Board of Trustees deadlines and regulations; and,

WHEREAS the members of the Board of Trustees have been consulted beginning on December 10, 2015 about the 2017 proposed meeting schedule:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the following meeting dates for calendar year 2017:

March 30-31, 2017 – WIU, Macomb
June 8-9, 2017 – WIU, Quad Cities
September 28-29, 2017 – WIU, Macomb

December 14-15, 2017 – WIU, Macomb

July 2017 Board Retreat date and location will be determined by the Board after the 2016 Retreat

Resolution No. 16.3/9: Election of Secretary of the Board, March 12, 2016-June 30, 2016

Legal Counsel, Rica Calhoun, issued ballots for the position of Secretary of the Board. She explained the secret ballot process and asked that the nominations go forth. Trustee Early nominated Trustee Quigley to be considered for the vacant office. Trustee Quigley accepted the nomination. Trustee Early mentioned that the same situation rendering a need for a vacancy to be filled did occur in the past. In the past the student trustee was dutiful in filling the vacancy following nomination and a vote. There were no other nominations and the votes were counted by Legal Counsel Calhoun.

Trustee Quigley was voted as BOT Secretary by unanimous vote.

Votes by Secret Ballot

Six votes were recorded.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Section 35-25 of Senate Bill 241 states:

“Members of the Board shall elect annually by secret ballot from their own number a chairman who shall preside over meetings of the Board and a secretary”; and,

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees Bylaws, Section VII.A.1., stipulates:

“The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary shall be elected annually by secret ballot by a majority of the voting members of the Board then serving and shall hold office until their successors are elected. Trustees who are elected to serve as the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary may be elected to those positions for one successive term, after which an intervening term must occur before re-election to the same officer position”; and,

(History of Officers of the Board Attached)

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees at its July 25, 1997, meeting, agreed to elect officers in conjunction with the fiscal year; and the Western Illinois University fiscal year is July 1-June 30:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the person elected at the March 11, 2016 meeting of the Board of Trustees for Secretary shall serve as Officer of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees for March 12, 2016-June 30, 2016.

Resolution No.16.3/10: Trustee Appreciation – Phil Hare

Chair Clawson read the resolution showing appreciation for the time and efforts Trustee Phil Hare contributed during his tenure as a Board member.

Trustee Early moved to approve the resolution, and Trustee Quigley seconded the motion.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson	Yes
Trustee Cole	Yes
Trustee Early	Yes
Trustee Lester	Yes

Trustee Quigley Yes
Trustee Savala Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Trustee Phil Hare has admirably served Western Illinois University as a member of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees beginning March 15, 2012 through February 21, 2016; and,

WHEREAS Trustee Hare conscientiously served on the Board of Trustees in his role as the Secretary of the Board where he partnered with the Board Chair ensuring checks and balances were carefully observed as a signatory on University bond sales to protect the fiscal well-being of the University; and,

WHEREAS Trustee Hare was instrumental with other Board members in approving the Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences, and saw the successful conclusion of the Capital Campaign; and,

WHEREAS Trustee Hare has dutifully served as the Chair of the Audit Committee, served on the Finance Committee, and the served on the Presidential Evaluation and Assessment Committee thereby demonstrating his active engagement in strategic decision making on multiple committees; and,

WHEREAS Trustee Hare, during his tenure, witnessed and encouraged tremendous growth and development of several stages of the University's Master Plan and Strategic Plan exemplified in the completion of Phase I and the groundbreaking and construction of Phase II of the Quad Cities Riverfront campus, construction of the Grand Entrance to the Macomb campus, renovations to Thompson, Corbin/Olson, the University Union, the 3-D Art Facility, and the construction of the Agricultural Department's Greenhouse; and,

WHEREAS Trustee Hare has served as an advocate for the faculty union, WIU faculty members, and sustained his responsibilities and roles as a Western Illinois University Board member among his peers on the Board and according to the Board's Statement of Mutual expectations:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees expresses its heartfelt gratitude and congratulations for the invaluable service he has provided to Western Illinois University, the Board of Trustees, and the State of Illinois as a member of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees from March 15, 2012 – February 21, 2016.

Resolution No. 16.3/11: Trustee Appreciation – William Epperly

Chair Clawson read the resolution.

The motion was made by Trustee Cole, and the motion was seconded by Trustee Early.

Roll Call

Trustee Clawson Yes
Trustee Cole Yes
Trustee Early Yes
Trustee Lester Yes
Trustee Quigley Yes

Trustee Savala Yes

The motion carried.

Resolution:

WHEREAS Mr. William Epperly has admirably served the students, staff, faculty, Administration, and fellow Board members of Western Illinois University as a member of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees beginning July 1, 2004 and will continue to serve through December 18, 2015; and,

WHEREAS Mr. Epperly conscientiously served the citizens of the State of Illinois as a member of the Board appointed by the Governor of the State of Illinois as confirmed by the General Assembly to serve as a Western board member as well as serving as the Chair of Western Illinois University's Board of Trustees in 2006, 2007, 2011, 2012, and 2013, and served as Secretary of the Board in 2005, 2006, and 2011; and,

WHEREAS Mr. Epperly, during his tenure, has participated in the campus and area-wide VolunteerNow of Macomb, Illinois, donated to and supported the New Deal for Illinois Federal Art Project Collection of Western Illinois University, received both the Alumni Achievement award and the Distinguished Alumni award due to his outstanding accomplishments as a businessman and expert in marketing and insurance consulting, collaborated with the University Administration and college Deans to support the creation of academic programs that will give Western graduates a competitive edge globally; and,

WHEREAS Mr. Epperly continues to distinguish himself as a Leatherneck from the class of '68 who gives back to the University by investing his personal time, donating funds, and by promoting and marketing the great reputation Western Illinois University has established during his domestic and international travel, and is a committed and dedicated alumnus who engages with student leaders and has mentored several student representatives to the Board of Trustees; and,

WHEREAS Mr. Epperly, during his tenure has provided oversight, supported, and seen the development of the Spencer Recreational Center, Quad Cities Riverfront growth and expansion, the creation of the Multicultural Center, the overhaul and renovations made to Hanson Field, the extensive remodeling and renovations made to Grote Hall, Corbin/Olson Hall, Thompson Hall, the University Union, the restoration of the Sherman Bell Tower Cupola, the addition of the new Grand Entrances and numerous campus beautification projects both structural and organic:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees expresses its heartfelt appreciation and congratulations for the invaluable service that Trustee William Epperly has provided to Western Illinois University, the Board of Trustees, and the State of Illinois as a member of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees from July 1, 2004 – December 18, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business reported.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Clawson stated that he would like to give mention to the results of the last alumni survey. One year after graduation 88% of Western Illinois University students are employed and 19% are pursuing opportunities to continue their education with graduate study. Five years after graduation 98% of alumni members are employed and 29% are in an additional career. Nine years after graduation 98% are still employed and 37% earn an additional degree. Chair Clawson stated that this is a positive reflection on the quality of education received at Western which is good news. These facts and percentages were included in one of the letters sent to the HLC.

NEXT MEETING

Trustee Clawson ended by stating that we are all cognizant that the University is still without appropriated funding. Time is of the essence and the University does not have the luxury of risking the future of such a great institution of higher learning. Chair Clawson added that he was speaking for the Board as a collective when he charges President Thomas to take the steps required to preserve Western Illinois University. The Board is in support of the steps that have been taken thus far. Although the decisions are tough, there are no other options. The Board values the contributions and commitment of the entire campus community and does so with much gratitude. It is evident that Western is a priority and holds great importance to the campus community as much as it does with every member of the Board of Trustees. Western Illinois University will get through the tough and disparaging budgetary times. He thanked those in attendance.

Chair Clawson called the meeting of the Board to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. Trustee Cole made the motion and Trustee Quigley seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed.

The next meeting will take place on June 9, 2016 on the Western Illinois University Quad Cities Campus.

Roger D. Clawson, Chair
Kerry McBride, Administrative Assistant to the Board

mmf