

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 2, 2021 – Open Meeting Minutes

Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 8:30 am in University Union Heritage Room. Chair Shaw presided.

Trustee moved to convene to open session at 8:30 am. Trustee seconded the motion.

Motion: Trustee Stutz

Second: Trustee Dolieslager

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Abstain - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Abstain - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Motion approved.

Trustee moved to include Trustee Lang and Trustee Aguilar via Zoom. Trustee seconded the motion.

Motion: Trustee Twomey

Second: Trustee Tiemann

Roll Call

Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Abstain - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Abstain - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

Motion approved.

The following Trustees were present:

Trustee Doug Shaw
Trustee Greg Aguilar - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann
Trustee Erik Dolieslager
Trustee Kisha Lang - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz
Trustee Patrick Twomey
Trustee Polly Radosh

Also present for the meeting of the Board of Trustees:

President Guiyou Huang
University Legal Counsel, Liz Duvall
Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, William Clow
Vice President for Enrollment Management, Amber Schultz
Vice President for Student Success, Dr. David Braverman
Associate Provost & Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs, Mark Mossman
Interim Associate Vice President for Budget and Finance, CFO, Shannon Sutton
Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations, Jeanette Malafa
Executive Director of Auxiliary Services & Risk Management, Joe Roselieb
Executive Director of Personnel and Financial Affairs, Ketra Roselieb
Director, Undergraduate Admissions & Enrollment Service, Doug Freed
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Danielle Surprenant
President, Civil Service Employees Council, Nicky Friedrichsen
Senior Executive Assistant to the President, Athena Brooks

Advisory Group Representatives present:

Elizabeth Orwig – Student Government Association President (Macomb)
Dr. Ilon Lauer – Chair, Faculty Senate – Macomb
Sara Lytle – President, Council of Administrative Personnel
Nicky Friedrichsen – President, Civil Service Employees Council

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Jalen Carlos -- Vice President of the Black Students Association.
 - Review of the Black Student Association demands.
 - Jalen Carlos has not felt supported by this institution.
 - Concern with WIU not having the African American Studies available.
 - Jalen Carlos asked that the Board of Trustees to support Black students.

2. Shakyria Bailey -- President of the Black Student Association
 - Concern for microaggressions from professors and others.

- Our homecoming celebration is separate. We don't feel welcome.
- Black organizations on this Campus receive no recognition for the hard work that is being done.
- Concern with the loss of the previous WIU President.
- Inappropriate signs, slurs and accusations that felt like an attack on Black students.
- We gave a list of demands to the university but no actions have been taken.
- As a student it is not my job to think or to find solutions for this institution.
- Concerns when reserving rooms for meetings in this University Union.
- Understand these issues were before President Huang but how much more time is needed?

Shaw- Requests a consensus from the board for more time for Shakyria Bailey to speak (Hearing none)

Shakyria Bailey -- President of the Black Student Association

- WIU offers no programs to help Black students adjust here in this institution and separate themselves from the life that they used to live.
- We don't have enough funds for our organizations.
- Black students are tired and there will be a decrease of enrollment for this institution.

3. Kwyn Townsend Riley -- Graduate assistant in the Gwendolyn Brooks Cultural Center the advisor of the Black Student Association and the President of the Black Graduate Student Association.

- Concern for the social starvation of black programming, funding and the viral infection of Anti-Blackness.
- Kwyn Townsend Riley gave examples of what other Universities are doing to support Black students and make a commitment to anti-racism.
- Tradition of Anti-Blackness needs to end.
- Kwyn Townsend Riley gave statistics from the Illinois Board of Higher Education in the 2020 annual report regarding diversity found on campus. Concerns with the low ranking of Western Illinois University for the number of African-Americans employed.
- Request for Western Illinois University to use diversity and inclusion as a Declaration and commit to the holistic value of Black lives.
- Concern for our society that shows her that her life does not matter.
- Black students should not be burned with proof to show more needs to be done for them.
- The time is now to be on the right side of history.

4. Victoria Adesola -- Graduate Assistant

- Concern that some people were on their phones as public comments were being made.
- The protest happened in 2020. Why has nothing been done about the demands?

President Huang

- The President shared that there is a report written up indicating progress on the demands. A meeting is scheduled for next week with the leadership of the Black Students Association, the report will be fully shared with the group.

Polly Radosh -- Board Trustee

- Voiced her involvement is supporting the protests and participating in the march.
- As the Chair of the Board at that time she gave some background information on steps taken by the administration.
- Voiced past experience with not being able to attract diversity to this region.
- Explained how the process works for adding the African American Studies into the curriculum and that it takes a very long time.

Victoria Adesola -- Graduate Assistant

- Asked that it be a requirement for every staff and faculty to take the African-American class.
- Voiced concerns with a lot of microaggression on this campus.

5. Byron K. Oden Shabazz - Building Service Foreman

- Voiced the intent to respond to the BOT in writing regarding the comments made today.
- Concern with communication breakdown between what the students feel and what is being done.
- The student's perception is that there is no change but I know administration is working on it.
- There is a need for a clear relationship and ongoing communication as to how we can resolve concerns.
- The progress and outcomes are not felt by the students.
- Validity in the comment that there will be a decline on campus because of word of mouth.
- There is a need for Western to get the African-American Studies Program and hire more Black staff.
- Communication with the students needs to be ongoing and tangible.
- Offered to act as mediator be of help to the Board of Trustees.

Polly Radosh -- Board Trustee

- Explained that the University and Board listens and discusses what can be done as a community. It's discussed with the administration, the Board of Trustees members, the faculty and at committee meetings.
- WIU has a continual effort to try to address these issues.
- Explained that things work very slowly including a change in curriculum.

Speaker from the crowd

- Voiced concern the they have attended meetings for a year-and-a-half.
- Concern that she was told that bringing back the African American Studies Department is problematic.

- Previous administration met with students every two weeks to go over the progress and there was movement.
- Concern that there has not been a notable change in the inclusiveness of the hiring process because it does not show.
- Voiced concern that for the past two years black students have been suffering.

Polly Radosh -- Board Trustee

- Explained that the people that we are hiring now won't be on this campus until next fall.

Speaker from the crowd

- Voiced concern that those with a microphone have tried to gaslight students.

6. Carrissa Tinsley - Graduate Assistant

- Read comments from our fellow sister Rochelle.
- We need more Black Representatives on campus.
- Talked about recent events and how they affect Black students but nothing has been done on the Western Illinois University campus to support them.
- MCC is the only place on this campus that has even made a push forward for us.
- The Department of Theater, there is no Black representatives in there.
- Concern with the hiring process to increase black staff.
- The Sociology Department has needed more black professors.
- Being told to just suck up the harassment we faced is not fair.
- Talked about her personal experience and concerns as a Black student athlete at WIU with zero resources.
- When requested that the Athletic Department speak up for black lives matter, met with the conclusion that the basketball team would be a better representative of black lives matter, even though none of those athletes had participated in any events with BAA.
- Ask that the professional staff and this Board of Trustees not be the oppressor.
- Request this Board of Trustees and staff to be the people pushing support for to us.
- The amount of microaggressions faced on this campus is not fair.
- Voiced concerns of unprofessional comment made about my hair and this staff is still here on this campus.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Review and Approval of September 9th and 10th, 2021 open and closed session minutes.

Motion: Trustee Twomey

Second: Trustee Stutz

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	No vote - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes

Trustee Kisha Lang	No vote - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Motion approved.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Chair Shaw

- Homecoming was a success.
- Chair Shaw toured the WIU food pantry and asked Professor Emily Shupe to speak here today.
- Acknowledged the unrest in our nation. Our work will not be done until all students feel welcome at WIU.
- BOT Office in Sherman Hall and plans to set up an office in the QC campus in the future. Chair Shaw is committing to visiting WIU more. This office is available to all trustees, it can be scheduled with the President's office.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Huang

- Thank you to the Trustees and happy for the semester that is going well.
- Feeling good and encouraged by the WIU winning Basketball teams.
- Failed search for the VPFA position. Shannon Sutton will continue as interim. Both candidates were minorities and neither accepted.
- Search for a new Provost has started.
- The 10-year Strategic plan is in place and endorsed. The plan reflects our priorities. How do we make WIU stand out? We are good but, in many ways, we can improve. A top goal is enrollment.
- The budget impasse is still deeply felt.
- Students have requested a fall commencement. Due to restrictions we will not be holding the full commencement but will do a walk through with photo opportunities. All student will be invited back in the spring for an outdoors commencement.
- The Black Student's Association demands have been reviewed and many are in progress while other are complete. I said "It will take time." I never said "No" to changing or adding to the curriculum request. We are making an aggressive effort and meeting with a large group to discuss next week at the MCC. Racism happens and has happened to me. We need to make positive change. I recognize the micro-aggressions and do not condone any of it. We all need to do more to protect our students and staff. It is my job to find the resources. If you have ideas, bring them. I will focus on the issues.
- Stay safe!

WIU Food Pantry Presentation

Professor Emily Shupe and Student President of the WIU Food Pantry, Brittany VanTine

- 1 in 5 student say their grades have suffered due to food insecurities.
- The WIU pantry is ran by students for students.
- Volunteers run the pantry and these students are learning real world skills.
- By September we had helped over 1000 students.
- We write grants, work with local stores and churches for food and donations.
- Now raising funds for a box truck.
- Along with non-perishable items we also have perishable, personal hygiene and even baby items.
- Our goal is to be self-funded.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Report No. 21.12/1

Finance Committee Report -- Budget and Financial Data for Quarter ending September 30, 2021 (Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration, Shannon Sutton)

Sutton – Reviewed the highlights from the Finance Committee Report.

Trustee Radosh – Utility costs are high. I will continue to encourage the change to renewable resources. Why are telecommunications costs so high?

Sutton and Georges – We centralized our expenses.

Georges – Explained how expenses are allocated in the budget.

Report No. 21.12/2

Purchases of \$100,000 - \$499,999.99

(Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration, Shannon Sutton)

Sutton – Reviewed the report.

Trustee Radosh – Do any other flights get chartered other than football?

Surprenant – She explained that the distance of the trip dictates the mode of transportation for the team. Not all are chartered.

Report No. 21.12/3

Report on Externally Sponsored Grants and Contracts for the 1st Quarter

(Interim Director of Sponsored Projects, Russ Morgan)

Morgan – Does anyone have questions?

Trustee Tiemann – What is being done with funds from higher education?

Morgan – Justin Schuch will help answer that question.

Schuch – The GEAR funding was allocated to help students pay for tutoring and fees. Funding was also used to update technology.

Report No. 21.12/4

Report on Contributions

(Executive Officer of the Foundation, Brad Bainter)

Bainter – Reviewed the report and alumni events.

Trustee Stutz – Thank you for helping the food pantry.

Report No. 21.12/5

Diversity Initiatives

(Assistant to the President for Diversity and Inclusion, Sterling Saddler)

Saddler – Working on issues in a positive and meaningful way. He read part of the University Diversity Statement. He also discussed the establishment of the Presidents council on communities engagement.

Trustee Radosh – Are students on the council?

Saddler – Yes, 2 students have been asked to be on the committee.

Trustee Dolieslager - We must treat each other well and increase the communication.

Trustee Tiemann – How were the 14 people identified?

Saddler – Discussion with the co-chairs resulted in the committee.

Report No. 21.12/6 (25 – 30 minutes)

Enrollment Management Report

(Vice President for Enrollment Management, Amber Schultz)

Schultz - Reviewed the Enrollment Management Report

Report No. 21.12/7

Provost and Academic Vice President Report

(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Billy Clow)

Clow – Asked if anyone had questions about the Provost and Academic Vice President Report

No questions were asked.

ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Student Government Association –

Elizabeth Orwig, President – Macomb

SGA is growing and will have a full cabinet. SGA will continue to enforce the Governor’s mandate for vaccination and testing.

Dr. Ilon Lauer –Chair, Faculty Senate – Macomb

The Senate held its first meeting last week and are working on restructuring. Trustee Stutz asked what is Dr. Lauer’s viewpoint on the student to faculty ratio. He said that he believes that 22:1 is a bit high and some things may be lost and focus on a particular number may also distract from what is important. More faculty = more courses and a broader experience.

Sara Lytle – President, Council of Administrative Personnel

Meet with constituents across campus and goals are professional development and open lines of communication.

Nicky Friedrichsen – President, Civil Service Employees Council

Reported on the frustrations of Civil Service employees and their request for a salary increase.

OTHER REPORTS & COMMENTS

Vice President for Student Success, David Braverman

Vice President for Quad Cities Campus Operations, Kristi Mindrup

Director, Institutional Research and Planning, Angela Bonifas

Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations, Jeanette Malafa

Director of Athletics, Danielle Surprenant

RESOLUTION AND ACTION ITEMS

Resolution No. 21.9/5: Second Reading, Revision to Board *Regulations*, II.B.12.d and II.C.7.C
Holidays

President Guiyou Huang

Motion: Trustee Radosh

Second: Trustee Twomey

Discussion was held to approve Juneteenth now but further discuss how to honor our veterans without making Veterans Day a holiday due to university recruitment opportunities. New motion.

Motion was made to amend the resolution to remove Veterans Day.

Motion: Trustee Twomey

Second: Trustee Stutz

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Motion approved.

Motion made to approve the amended resolution.

Motion: Trustee Radosh
Second: Trustee Twomey

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 21.12/1: Purchases of \$500,000 and Over
Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration, Shannon Sutton

Motion: Trustee Stutz
Second: Trustee Radosh

Roll Call

Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 21.12/2: Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council 2021-2023 Bargaining Agreement
Interim Vice President of Finance and Administration, Shannon Sutton

Motion: Trustee Dolieslager
Second: Trustee Tiemann

Roll Call

Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 21.12/3: Release of Closed Session Meeting Minutes – General Council, Liz Duvall

Motion to amend the resolution to keep the September 27, 2018 written minutes confidential.

Motion: Trustee Twomey
Second: Trustee Stutz

Roll Call

Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes

Motion approved.

Motion to approve the amended resolution.

Motion: Trustee Twomey
Second: Trustee Stutz

Roll Call

Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	No
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes

Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Abstain
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 21.12/4: Revise the FY 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates
General Counsel, Liz Duvall

Motion: Trustee Stutz
Second: Trustee Lang

Roll Call

Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes

Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

President Huang

- Recent failed search for the Vice President of Finance Administration position
- This makes for two failed searches. Regulation does not require the board's approval but I am requesting support for the use of a search firm for the next search. There are requirements that need to be met for this request and we met all of them.

Radosh

- How many applicants in the past two searches?

President Huang

- 22 applicants / 2 finalists
- 14 applicants / 4 finalists

No one from the board opposed the use of a search firm.

NEXT MEETING

QC campus – March 10th and 11th, 2022

ADJOURN ACTION

Motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 2:37 p.m.

Motion: Trustee Stutz

Second: Trustee Dolieslager

Roll Call

Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kinsey Tiemann	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes - Via Zoom
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes - Via Zoom

Motion approved.

Doug Shaw, Chair
Athena Brooks, Senior Executive Assistant to the President