# WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of the Meeting October 3-4, 2019

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 3:00 p.m. in the University Union Heritage Room in Macomb. Chair Radosh presided. <u>Trustee Brown moved to convene to open session</u>. Trustee Aguilar seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call

Yes
Yes

#### Motion carried.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Trustee Greg Aguilar Trustee Justin Brown Trustee Erik Dolieslager Trustee Kisha Lang Trustee Polly Radosh Trustee Doug Shaw Trustee Carin Stutz Trustee Patrick Twomey

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

Acting President Martin Abraham

Legal Counsel Liz Duvall

Board Treasurer and Vice President for Administrative Services William Polley

Interim Provost and Academic Vice President William Clow

Interim Vice President for Student Services John Smith

Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives Joe Rives

#### Advisory Group Representatives present:

Joe Roselieb – President, Council of Administrative Personnel – Macomb & Quad Cities Steve Whan – President, Civil Service Employees Council – Macomb & Quad Cities Christopher Pynes – Chair, Faculty Senate – Macomb Colton Markey – President, Student Government Association – Macomb

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tom Blackford—dept of mathematics and philosophy. Commended BOT and Acting President Abraham for their hard work. Wants to keep moving forward and not go back. Believes morale from fall 2015 to

last June has never been worse. Since the arrival of Dr. Abraham morale has improved. There are many problems such as low enrollment and staffing.

Tere North—welcomed Board members. Made a series of FOIAs that uncovered an effort to discredit Dr. Abraham and resulted in the removal of two Board members. Unprecedented involvement in community from Dr. Abraham.

Bill Thompson—President of WIU chapter of UPI. Supports retaining Dr. Abraham as President due to his working with faculty.

Sarah Gibson—Admissions Counselor and former Study Abroad Director. Advocating for study abroad program, noting that the program has grown and the staffing has gone down from four to one. Asked how we can effectively support students if there is no robust program.

Chair Radosh asked Gibson how many staff members there are, Gibson responded that there is now one staff member while there used to be four.

Pat McGinty—stated that he did a straw poll of his colleagues and Dr. Abraham has the full support and confidence of the entire WIU faculty. Not appointing Dr. Abraham would result in someone who does not have the support of the faculty.

Marjory Allison—dept. of English. Wants to state support for Dr. Martin Abraham for Western Illinois University. Has been on sabbatical but is hearing that the community and faculty are pleased with Dr. Abraham's involvement. The vote of no confidence was not only in Dr. Thomas but in the entire administration.

Elaine Hopkins—Asking for support of TSPR from the university. The station is a valuable marketing tool for the university.

Chair Radosh commended Hopkins for attending every meeting for a year to ask for support of TSPR.

Christopher Pynes—Thanked new Trustees and welcomed everyone back. Addressed release and destruction of the Board minutes and recordings and requested that the recordings not be destroyed due to the ongoing investigation. Pynes also recapped the Provost search and encouraged battling together against problems. Pointed out that the Faculty Senate is still operating under a vote of no confidence (it was a referendum item) and will continue to do so until they are able to take a vote of confidence.

Trustee Lang asked for clarification on the Provost search process.

Trustee Aguilar asked for the number of faculty who voted "no confidence." Pynes stated the exact number is on the Faculty Senate website and that an overwhelming number voted no confidence.

Merrill Cole—encouraged Board not to vote anyone in as President or Interim President who was part of the Open Meetings Act violation scandal.

PK Dabu—Stated that he was about to leave WIU due to previous leadership, and when that changed he decided not to leave. Believes Dr. Abraham has presented a clear vision.

Mark Bernards—School of Agriculture. States that the hiring practices of the university have been focused on internal candidates only. Believes the "I" in WIU stands for "internal." Western Illinois University needs a culture of excellence in all areas.

Duke Oursler—Stated there has been a shift of positivity and higher morale.

<u>Trustee Aguilar moved to convene to closed session at 3:39pm. Trustee Dolieslager seconded the motion in the University Union Capitol Room.</u>

## Roll Call

Yes
Yes

## Motion carried.

Trustee XXX moved to convene to open session at 6:18pm. Trustee XXX seconded the motion.

#### Resolution No. 19.10/1: Acting President's Retroactive Salary back to July 1, 2019

Chair Radosh shared a PowerPoint on salary rationale for this Resolution.

There are three recommendations for salary:

- 1. Salary of \$275,000 with 2% pay cut is \$269,500 or 90% of President Thomas's salary
- 2. Recommended salary of next President is \$300,000-312,000 per Institutional Research
- 3. Bump acting/interim to low end of next president with 2% pay cut, salary would be \$294,000 or 98% of President Thomas's salary

A motion was made by Trustee Lang to approve a salary of \$275,000 with 2% pay cut (\$269,500 which is 90% of President Thomas's salary. Trustee Aguilar seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call

Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes

## Motion carried.

## **Discussion: Search for Permanent President**

Chair Radosh showed a PowerPoint outlining what she proposes as a fluid method of a search. The BOT would meet with focus groups to determine what skill set is required, form a search committee, search committee reviews data collected and committee makes a search plan, plan is presented at the December meeting. Decision would be made if an outside firm would be hired.

## **Proposed Search Committee:**

- Chairs: Faculty Senate Chair/Chair of BOT
- 5 faculty reps, nominated/elected by colleges and library
- 1 faculty rep from QC, nominated/elected
- 1 at-large faculty rep nominated/elected by Faculty Senate
- Elected reps: 1 additional BOT rep, 1 dean, 1 vp, 1 dept. chair, 1 civil service rep, 1 COAP rep, 1 SGA rep, 1 QC student rep, 1 alumni rep, 1 Foundation Board rep
- 1 community rep appointed
- Alternates for each position

# Resolution 19.10/2: Appointment of Interim President and Setting Salary

A motion was made by Trustee Lang to appoint Dr. Martin Abraham as Interim President and Trustee Aguilar seconded the motion.

## Motion to amend the original motion to reflect the annual salary to \$300,000

## Roll Call

Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

#### ADJOURN ACTION

<u>Chair Radosh called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 6:48 p.m., motion by Trustee</u> Aguilar, seconded by Trustee Twomey.

#### Roll Call

Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

## October 4, 2019 – University Union Heritage Room

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 8:03 a.m. in the University Union Heritage Room in Macomb. Chair Radosh presided. .

Trustee Aguilar moved to convene to open session. Trustee Brown seconded the motion.

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes

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

Interim President Martin Abraham

Legal Counsel Liz Duvall

Board Treasurer and Vice President for Administrative Services William Polley

Interim Provost and Academic Vice President William Clow

Interim Vice President for Student Services John Smith

Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives Joe Rives

## Advisory Group Representatives present:

Joe Roselieb – President, Council of Administrative Personnel – Macomb & Quad Cities Steve Whan – President, Civil Service Employees Council – Macomb & Quad Cities Christopher Pynes – Chair, Faculty Senate – Macomb Colton Markey – President, Student Government Association – Macomb

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Richard Filipink—History. Thanked BOT and congratulated Interim President Abraham on his duties ahead. Requested that the BOT release the meeting minutes and not to destroy any meeting minutes slated for destruction today or going forward. Stated, "Just because it's legal does not mean it's right." The recordings will con

Bill Thompson—UPI President. Requests that the BOT not destroy any verbatim record of its proceedings and by doing so would rob the public of information it has a right to know. Proposes putting the recordings in the library with an embargo regarding access. Thompson commented on the millions of dollars that the university has spent on anti-labor lawyer costs, pointing out that the money would have been better spent on admissions, library, etc.

#### REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

<u>Trustee Brown moved to approve the June 13-14, 2019 Board Open and Closed Session Meeting Minutes.</u> Trustee Dolieslager seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call

Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Abstain
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes

## Motion carried.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Chair Radosh asked for all parties to embrace progress and work together toward the good of WIU. The Board will give the work their best effort as they do what they believe is in the best interest of WIU.

#### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Interim President Abraham thanked everyone for their confidence in his activities thus far. He is open to suggestions on what may need to be addressed and improved upon. The most important challenge that the university faces is enrollment and that is a priority. Work is being done with the Vice President of Student Services, Director of Admissions and Admissions Counselors. Our retention numbers are not where they should be and that is another area of focus and there will be more engagement with that. Interim President Abraham is optimistic in the Fall 2020 enrollment numbers remaining steady and not going down. Community Engagement is a priority and people in the Macomb community comment on university employees and their community involvement. The final comment was that the university must do better with diversity in the community.

#### **FINANCE**

# **Budget Presentation: Budget Director Letisha Trepac**

Budget Director Trepac presented the following resolutions:

# Resolution 19.10/3: FY 2021 All-Funds Budget

Budget Director Letisha Trepac explained that State Appropriated funds, University Income houses primarily tuition revenues. The budget reflects senate appropriations passed with a 5% increase but is still 3.6% less than FY15. The total reduction is \$20.7M, and Trepac is expecting that the current budget will come in under projection due to attrition.

Trustee Twomey moved to approve. Trustee Shaw seconded the motion.

## Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Motion carried.

#### Resolution 19.10/4: FY 2021 Appropriated Operating Budget Recommendations

Budget Director Letisha Trepac

Chair Radosh read the resolution and Budget Director Trepac stated that the report is straightforward.

<u>Trustee Brown moved to approve Resolution 19.10/4 FY 2021 Appropriated Operating Budget Recommendations.</u> Trustee Shaw seconded the motion.

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Resolution 19.10/5: FY 2021 Appropriated Capital Budget Recommendations

Budget Director Letisha Trepac pointed out that funding already appropriated but not yet released is not reflected—Center for Performing Arts and Science Phase 2.

Trustee Stutz asked why a science building is the highest priority and what the budgeting would entail. Interim President Abraham stated that STEM and Health Sciences are a priority and the money budgeted would include renovations.

Trustee Stutz also asked where Quad Cities Phase III should fall. Interim President Abraham stated that we need to be prepared for growth in the Quad Cities and that enrollment projections are achievable. Trustee Dolieslager stated that we need to build both campuses and asked for clarification on Tillman and Stipes Halls deferred maintenance.

<u>Trustee Shaw moved to approve Resolution 19.10/5 FY 2021 Appropriated Capital Budget Recommendations. Trustee Brown seconded the motion.</u>

#### Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Motion carried.

## Resolution 19.10/6: FY 2021 Approved Depositories and Signatories

Vice President Bill Polley

<u>Trustee Aguilar moved to approve Resolution 19.10/6 FY 2021 Approved Depositories and Signatories.</u> Trustee Brown seconded the motion.

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes

Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Report No. 19.10/1: Purchases of \$100,000-\$499,999.99 Receiving Presidential Approval

Vice President Bill Polley stated that the report is thorough. Chair Radosh asked if there is any attempt to change to a renewable source of energy. Polley stated that would require building a new Physical Plant. Radosh asked if there is a small-scale capability and Polley said they will look into it.

## Resolution 19.10/7: Purchases of \$500,000 and Over

Vice President Bill Polley presented the report as submitted. Trustee Dolieslager raised a question on the digital communications proposal for WQPT. Clarification was given that the recommended vendor was achieved by following all procurement procedures. Trustee Lang asked if TSPR could be included in on the funding in this resolution. Senior VP Rives also stated was that WQPT is self-funded and that this resolution is not for the university giving them any money. Rich Eggers provided an overview on TSPR current status.

<u>Trustee Aguilar moved to approve Resolution 19.10/7 Purchases of \$500,000 and Over. Trustee Brown seconded the motion.</u>

## Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Motion carried.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

# Resolution 19.10/8: Election of Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board for October 4, 2019-June 30, 2020

Chair Radosh read the resolution, briefly explaining the election process and history.

Trustee Aguilar moved to approve Resolution 19.10/8. Trustee Brown seconded the motion. Election of Vice Chair and Secretary of the Board for October 4, 2019-June 30, 2020.

The ballots were counted and Board Secretary is Justin Brown.

The ballots were counted and Vice Chair is Doug Shaw.

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

## Resolution 19.10/9: Elect Trustee to Serve on State Universities Civil Service Merit Board

Vice President Bill Polley explained that the Merit Board is the governing board of the Civil Service System. Trustee Lang was nominated by Trustee Stutz.

<u>Trustee Shaw moved to approve Resolution 19.10/9 Elect Trustee Lang to Serve on State Universities Civil Service Merit Board. Trustee Aguilar seconded the motion.</u>

#### Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

#### Motion carried.

# Resolution 19.10/10: Amendment to the Regulation of the BOT Section VI (A) Use of University Facilities

General Counsel Liz Duvall clarified that this is only the first reading of the resolution and that a second reading is required at a later date in order to take action.

Chair Radosh read through the "Therefore section" highlighting changes, and no action was taken.

### Resolution 19.10/11: Release of Closed Session Meeting Minutes

General Counsel Liz Duvall

A motion was made by Trustee Stutz to remove the third paragraph of the resolution in order to keep the referenced minutes and recordings confidential until further review for the December meeting. Trustee Twomey seconded.

Trustee Lang moved to approve the amended Resolution. Trustee Dolieslager seconded the motion.

## Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown Yes

Yes
Yes

Trustee Twomey moved to approve Resolution 19.10/11 as amended. Trustee Shaw seconded the motion.

## Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

#### Motion carried.

## **Resolution 19.10/12: Disposition of Prior Closed Session Meeting Minutes**

General Counsel Liz Duvall stated that this Resolution comes from the Public Access Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office. She also clarified that this Resolution is to release the redacted audio recordings to the public.

## Roll Call

Trustee Justin Brown	Yes
Trustee Patrick Twomey	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Erik Dolieslager	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Greg Aguilar	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes

#### Motion carried.

## Report No. 19.10/2: Enrollment, Retention and Graduation Rate Information

Director of Institutional Research and Planning Angela Bonifas, Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Enrollment Services Doug Freed and Director Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Retention Initiatives Justin Schuch, Mark Mossman, Interim Associate Provost

Trustee Stutz commended the small team on executing their plans.

Director Freed stated that we need consistency across campuses and that the office continues to work toward its goals by including alumni, faculty, staff and community.

Interim Associate Provost Mossman stated that graduate enrollment online is stable, campus enrollment down, Graduate Assistanceships opportunities are less but departments continue to raise external funding, International enrollment is down.

A lengthy discussion was held on the perception of lowering enrollment standards, international student enrollment, and admissions counselor count.

Trustee Brown moved to convene to a closed session lunch at 11:05 am. Trustee Aguilar seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call

Yes
Yes

#### Motion carried.

Trustee Aguilar moved to convene to open session at 1:30 pm. Trustee Brown seconded the motion.

#### Roll Call

Trustee Greg Aguilar Y	es
Trustee Justin Brown Y	es
Trustee Erik Dolieslager Y	es
Trustee Kisha Lang Y	es
Trustee Polly Radosh Y	es
Trustee Doug Shaw Y	es
Trustee Carin Stutz Y	es
Trustee Patrick Twomey Y	es

#### Motion carried.

#### **Report No. 19.10/3: Report on Contributions**

Paul Bubb, Executive Director of Development

## Report No. 19.10/4: Office of Sponsored Projects Annual Report

Director of Sponsored Projects Shannon Sutton briefed the Board on who and what the Office of Sponsored Projects is, the projects it assisted with, and the various campus groups it worked with.

#### Report No. 19.10/5: Annual Report on Athletics

Director of Athletics Danielle Surprenant shared highlights from her report including clearing up the misconception that the majority of WIU athletes are on scholarship. Only 24% of athletes have a full

scholarship while the remaining 76% have partial or no scholarships. Athletics has partnerships with Broadcasting and Athletic Training to allow students to perfect their craft. Athletics operated with a forecasted deficit of roughly \$1.4M last year due to the department taking on additional fees, insurance and memberships that they did not previously incur.

## Report No. 19.10/6: Quarterly Planning Update

Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning and Initiatives Joe Rives presented his report as submitted and added that he is working on planning for the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN), Quad Cities Innovation Center (QCIC). The IIN is a consortium of twelve institutions and discovery partners. Dr. Rives has been elected to the executive committee.

#### ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

# <u>Consent Agenda: Civil Service Employees Council, Council of Administrative Personnel, Faculty Senate, and Student Government Association:</u>

The four constituency groups formally submitted the included reports as part of their consent agenda:

Joe Roselieb – President, Council of Administrative Personnel (COAP) presented the consent agenda. Roselieb reiterated what COAP is and the professional development they have facilitated. The annual open forum meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16.

Colton Markey – President, Student Government Association presented a resolution for gender-neutral royalty for Homecoming. The group is also looking to have a Student Forum with Interim President Abraham and the Mayor's Round Table.

Christopher Pynes – Chair, Faculty Senate reported that the Faculty Senate had a reception on September 24 celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Faculty Senate. There will be a proposal for a new and improved standard for admitting students with a model that predicts higher retention and graduation.

Steve Whan – President, Civil Service Employees Council reported that the CSEC Employees of the Month are as follows:

Sue

Shelby

Donna

Sarah

Amy Betts

Brad Utter

The fall luncheon for CSEC will be December 5 with a theme "Betting on Western."

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations Jeanette Malafa addressed the Board as follows:

Veto Session is in session. There is a piece of legislation barring participation of athletic teams whose members are compensated for the use of the likeness and logo of their institution. This legislation was passed in California and the piece in Illinois models the California legislation.

#### VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORTS

#### **Academic Services**

Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Billy Clow reported that there are two Dean searches—CBT and COEHS. There is a newly approved policy for gender friendly first name preference. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of OAS and also anniversary of IIRA.

#### **Student Services**

Interim Vice President for Student Services John Smith reported that his report is as submitted.

# **Administrative Services**

Vice President Bill Polley indicated that there are many facilities projects in the works. Billing and Receivables has automated applying book awards as a retention piece. Human Resources will be offering professional development. Fallen Soldiers 5K was last weekend and was successful.

## **Strategic Planning and Initiatives**

Sr. VP Rives emphasized the importance and activities for retention.

Career Fair and Graduate Admissions Counselor Kellie Larrabee is writing letters to enrolled students to promote the integrated programs.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Lang would like the BOT and Interim President to present student, faculty and staff awards anyone who is excelling in community service.

Chair Radosh has been asked to live stream the BOT meetings and has asked the opinion of the rest of the Trustees.

Chair Radosh discussed the Board Committees and the need for the members to be on the committees. The Board Chair and President are ex-officio members.

Academic and Student Services—Greg Aguilar Finance—Carin Stutz Audit—Doug Shaw Presidential Evaluation and Assessment—Mark Twomey

#### **NEXT MEETING**

December 13, 2019 – University Union Grand Ballroom

## **ADJOURN ACTION**

Trustee Aguilar made a	a motion to adjourn t	the meeting of the	Board at 2:32 p.m.,	seconded by Trustee
Brown.	•		•	·

A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

Trustee Polly Radosh, Chair Melinda McFadden, Administrative Assistant to the Board

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