

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 5, 2023
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois
Open Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University convened at 8:30am on December 5, 2023 in the Macomb Union, Capital Room. Chair, Carin Stutz presided.

December 4, 2023 – University Union Capital Room

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

Motion: Trustee Lang

Second: Trustee Cornell

Roll Call

Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes
Trustee Derek Wise	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes

Motion approved.

Roll Call

The following Trustees were present:

Trustee Cody Cornell
Trustee Derek Wise
Trustee Polly Radosh
Trustee Doug Shaw
Trustee Kirk Dillard
Trustee Kisha Lang
Trustee Carin Stutz

No Trustees are absent

None

Also present for the meeting of the Board of Trustees:

President Guiyou Huang

Interim Legal Counsel, Victoria Smith

Senior Executive Assistant to the President, Athena Brooks

Public Comments

Amanda L. Mangan-Grover

- UPI negotiations are finalizing pay raises
- Wage discrepancy is still a problem
- Request to correct the pay rate to bring it up to the living wage

Shanna Kreps

- Thank you to ProTech and the negotiation teams
- Unbelievably thankful
- Proud to be a Leatherneck

Patrick McGinty

- Thank you to the WIU bargaining unit for their work on negotiations
- Request for a special meeting to review and approve the ProTech contract before the next March meeting
- EAB seems Grinchy

Review and approval of October 12, 2023 Open and Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Motion: Trustee Dillard

Second: Trustee Shaw

Roll Call

Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes
Trustee Derek Wise	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Abstain

Motion approved.

Proclamation - Officer Appreciation - Bradley L. "Brad" Bainter
Mrs. Carin Stutz, Chair and President Guiyou Huang

Brad Bainter –

- Thank you to The Board and President
- Good things are happening at WIU
- Proud of the last 40 years
- Spent 37 years in Advancement and fortunate to work around such a dedicated staff

- I have had the opportunity to go in people's homes and meet many great people and wonderful Alums
- Many people want to see us succeed
- All across the country we are working with our successful graduates

Several Trustees thanked Brad Bainter for his years of service. Presentation of the Proclamation and gift to Brad from Chair Stutz and President Huang.

Chairperson's Remarks

Ms. Carin Stutz

- Thank you to Brad and the public comments
- I am optimistic and see good things happening
- All parties are aligned and WIU must evolve
- We are asking for WIU to be bold and decisive
- Make changes to be a strong regional University for years to come
- The deficit will require action
- Look for the right long-term solutions
- 2 consulting firms have been engaged to offer potential solutions
- For the Retreat we ask for positive actions, outcomes and timelines
- WIU's placement in the Wall Street ranking was very impressive
- Our social mobility ranking was 35th nationally, this is the top 10% of the 400 institutions reviewed, 2nd in IL institutions and 4th among all Colleges and Universities
- Graduation is a joyous day and I want to congratulate our graduates
- 3 Alumni achievement award winners Brian Savage, Roy Albiani and Matt Bierman
- Giving Tuesday was outstanding and Thank you to Kyle Rambler SGA President for rallying \$5500 in donations for a sensory room on campus

Cornell – It has been an honor to work with Kyle. He took this project on and ran with it

- Thankful to our student, faculty, administration and to all employees that make WIU the special place that it is and to our Board, I wish you joy in the upcoming holiday season
- It's a great day to be a Leatherneck

President's Remarks

President Guiyou Huang

- Thank you and congratulations to Brad Bainter for the years of service
- Thank you to Kyle for his contribution
- Thank you to those who gave public comments
- We are working in a financial challenging environment
- Introduction of Mark Mossman as the Interim Provost
- Review of rankings for the Wall Street Journal
- We made a positive difference in the lives of our students and their futures
- We are in a very human business by taking in students and making them better with the social mobility
- Our faculty and staff are outstanding and make this ranking possible
- We are number 10 of all publics

- Many individuals have reviewed the diversity plan and working with Thriving IL, IBHE has given us a template and Carl Ervin and the JIDE Office will continue to update and work that plan, we will be action-oriented
- There will be a new ERP and our current system is over 40 years old, this is a big investment
- Claire Thompson and the development officers in the colleges are working hard and we are at 50% of our fundraising goal
- The QC Early Childhood Learning Center will open this spring
- Student affairs is working hard on recruitment and retention plans with measurable outcomes
- Commencement on December 16th will have over 600 graduates, congratulations to those students
- Thank you to the faculty and staff during this holiday season, stay safe and warm

Reports and Discussion Items

Report No. 23.12/1

Finance Committee Report -- Budget and Financial Data for Quarter ending September 30, 2023 (Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Edwards – The ERP team, including Stacie Hunt and Ketra Roselieb, have worked hard and without them we couldn't have gotten this done.

- Thank you to our recent retirees of WIU
- Please thank Troy Rhodes for his years of service as he retires.
- There will be raises for non-negotiated groups
- Salary survey results will be completed soon

President Huang – Everybody will receive a raise. We are doing all we can to make sure that happens.

- Question presented to Paul in regards to the discount rate
- Looking to make the right decision to grow more revenue and cut less

Report No. 23.12/2

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

(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Cornell – EAB excited to hear new ideas and solutions it will bring.

- Excited about the new ERP and the changes it will bring
- Please take the time to look into the School of AG and the good work they are doing
- Stutz – The Board does not make the decision to bring in groups like EAB

Report No. 23.12/3

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

(Director of Sponsored Projects, Shannon Sutton)

Sutton – We have engaged faculty and staff looking into fun and exciting grants. We are right on track to increasing our grant funding.

Dillard – We have amazing faculty that work hard to bring in those grants. How do we let the community know what we are doing to bring money to the area?

Sutton – Yes, we work close with our community partners to make these grants happen.

Report No. 23.12/4

Undergraduate Admissions and Student Success

(Interim Vice President for Student Success, John Smith and Admissions Director, Doug Freed)

Shaw – Thank you to Trustee Wise for his recruitment efforts

- Review of the recruiting matrix and how often data is reviewed
- Conversation about the acceptance rates
- Group discussion on school visits and how they work
- Review of low staffing in the department along with pay range
- Group discussion about getting good news out to future students
- The benefit to using our alums, faculty and volunteers to recruit
- There is a need for collaboration across campus

Report No. 23.12/5

Academic Affairs Report

(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Mossman – Review of report and highlights.

- Review of what Western Connection is
- Group discussion on course schedule, overload, and reducing cost and increasing revenue

Report No. 23.12/6

JIDE Initiatives

(Director for Justice, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, Carl Ervin)

Ervin – Review of report and how to take action and make a positive impact

- Review of events across campus
- Discussion about the Campus Climate Survey
- Anti-Racism Taskforce is to be transparent and informative
- Review of mandatory training
- Group discussion about incident off campus including a peaceful protest and partnering with the community

Cornell – Report of the NAACP 5 areas of concern from our campus chapter President.

Report No. 23.12/7

Report on Contributions

(Vice President for Advancement, Alumni Relations and Athletics, Clare Thompson)

Thompson – Review of reports and events

- Our Alums are change makers and they are willing to help recruit students
- Giving Day a great success with three goals: Student success / Learning / Scholarship
- Review of Stipes Hall renovation
- Law Enforcement and AG programs should be #1, we will invest in Western

Report No. 23.12/8

Quad Cities Campus Priorities, Strategies, and Highlights

(Vice President of QC Campus Operations, Kristi Mindrup)

Mindrup – Review and highlights of report

- Career focused while working with students and employers
- JIDE office has included the QC campus in their goals and objectives

Report No. 23.12/9

University Marketing and Communications

(Interim Assistant Vice President of Communications, Marketing, and Media Relations,
Alisha Looney)

Looney – Review of report, highlights and data.

- Review of acknowledgments and awards that have been reported on
- Carnegie contract started driving applications and inquiries to WIU

Verbal Reports and Updates

Athletics Director, Paul Bubb

- Three new sports could bring 60 new students
- Updates on the changes in football staffing and the current search
- Review of hires for the department
- Report on fundraising and the Leatherneck Club
- 26k raised on giving Tuesday
- Review of athletic awards
- Academic Improvement plan has been sent into the NCAA
- Our motto-Many teams / One goal / Student success

Request to move the Council of Administrative Personnel report up in the agenda to be presented by President, Paul Bubb – Approved

- COAP has not been communicated with during the contract process
- Concerned voice in regards to non-represented groups and a possible raise for them

Director of Governmental Relations, Zach Messersmith

- Review of bills from the veto session
- Senate Bill 1699, hope to see the governor's office sign this bill to promote agreement for solar energy
- No supplemental funding granted
- IBHE Executive Director Ostro visited WIU. Deferred maintenance was reviewed and the group toured the construction of the CPA building
- January 16th back in session

General & Advisory Group Reports and Comments

Student Government Association, Kyle Ramlow (Macomb)

- Three Goals:
 1. Build a bridge between students and administration
 2. Have a structured SGA
 3. More collaboration
- Help to make Western as inclusive as possible

- Campus safety walk completed
- Several student concerns being addressed this spring
- The sensory room is a result of several people's work and Phi Kappa Phi matched the funding raised. We will be one of 14 universities in the United States with this very important inclusive project
- Patience and teamwork can make the Dream Work

Faculty Senate Chair, Julia Albarracin

- 90% of Faculty are expecting their students to attend classes
- Not everyone made a connection between attendance and performance
- Review of changes to the president's evaluation
- Concerned voice with a possible change in GPA standards. A requirement for a higher GPA will limit our diverse population
- Faculty are concerned with the financial problems
- There is a committee reviewing the legitimate uses of AI in the classroom
- Review of the grant received related to immigration and advocating for fair immigration policies. We have many students with family members that are dreamers or undocumented
- Our students met with legislators from both political parties in regards to these concerns

Faculty Council Co-Chair, WIU-Quad Cities, Everett Hamner

- A plea to support our admissions people. The morale is low and they need to feel our support
- AI recent developments in this area being reviewed
- American Academy of religion conference focused on AI and environmental problems
- Review of the "Good News" newsletter
- China is investing in solar panels the size of 20 Central Parks, this is a very positive development
- Good news for the QC is VP Edwards is thinking strategically about our budgets. During our meeting we felt like our concerns were heard and being addressed
- The QC based faculty, staff and administration want to be partners to make Western go and not just be part of the ride

(Break for lunch)

Stutz - The board has agreed to work on scheduling a special meeting of the board when we are here for graduation.

McGinty - The contract is not yet ratified so we will work on getting that done.

Civil Service Employees Council, Ted Renner

- We are continuing to lose employees
- Review of the employees of the month award winners
- 300 civil service members thank you for reviewing a raise for those non-negotiated groups
- Civil service appreciation luncheon will be held in the spring

Resolutions and Action Items

Action

Resolution No. 23.12/1

Action

Disposition of Closed Session Written Meeting Minutes and Verbatim Audio Recordings
(Interim General Counsel, Torrey Smith)

Motion: Trustee Cornell

Second: Trustee Lang

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh Yes

Trustee Doug Shaw Yes

Trustee Kirk Dillard Yes

Trustee Carin Stutz Yes

Trustee Kisha Lang Yes

Trustee Cody Cornell Yes

Trustee Derek Wise Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 23.12/2

Action

Update to Western Illinois University Benchmarking Institutions
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Motion: Trustee Wise

Second: Trustee Shaw

Roll Call

Trustee Doug Shaw Yes

Trustee Kirk Dillard Yes

Trustee Carin Stutz Yes

Trustee Kisha Lang Yes

Trustee Cody Cornell Yes

Trustee Derek Wise Yes

Trustee Polly Radosh Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 23.12/3

Action

Amended Resolution No. 23.10/9 - International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-
CIO Local Union No. 399 – Landscape Maintenance 2023-2026 Bargaining Agreement
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Motion: Trustee Cornell

Second: Trustee Lang

Amended: change 2% to 3%

Motion: Trustee Cornell
Second: Trustee Lang

Roll Call

Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes
Trustee Derek Wise	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 23.12/4

Action

Resolution Authorizing the Financing of Technology Improvements
(Vice President of Finance and Administration, Paul Edwards)

Motion: Trustee Lang
Second: Trustee Shaw

Roll Call

Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes
Trustee Derek Wise	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes

Motion approved.

Resolution No. 23.12/5

Action

Amendment to the Regulations of the Board of Trustees of Western Illinois University
Section II Subsection (B)(7) Distinguished Service Professorship
(Interim Provost and Academic Vice President, Mark Mossman)

Group discussion

Request made to move the first reading to the March meeting.

Motion: Trustee Lang
Second: Trustee Shaw

Roll Call

Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes

Trustee Derek Wise	Yes
Trustee Polly Radosh	No
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes

Motion approved.

Old Business

New Business

- None

Next Meeting

- March 21 and 22, 2024 - Macomb Union, Capital Room

ADJOURN ACTION

Trustee moved to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Trustees at 1:15pm.

Motion: Trustee Wise

Second: Trustee Stutz

Roll Call

Trustee Polly Radosh	Yes
Trustee Doug Shaw	Yes
Trustee Kirk Dillard	Yes
Trustee Carin Stutz	Yes
Trustee Kisha Lang	Yes
Trustee Cody Cornell	Yes
Trustee Derek Wise	Yes

Motion approved.

Carin Stutz, Chair
Athena Brooks, Senior Executive Assistant to the President