

**Minutes of a Regularly Scheduled Meeting  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Board of Regents  
October 24, 2016  
Stage, Center for the Arts**

**Call to Order**

A regular quarterly meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents convened at 9:30 a.m. on October 24, 2016 on the Stage at the Center for the Arts at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky. Mr. Craig Turner, Chair of the Board, presided. Mr. Turner noted the presence of a quorum. The following members were present:

**Present:**

Ms. Nancy Collins  
Ms. Janet Craig  
Mr. Alan Long  
Mr. Bryan Makinen  
Ms. Collin Potter  
Dr. Richard Day  
Mr. Lewis Diaz  
Mr. Craig Turner  
Mr. Craig King

**Absent:**

Ms. Holly Wiedemann  
Mr. Vaus Vasudevan

**Other persons present at the meeting were:**

Dr. Michael Benson, President  
Dr. Janna Vice, Provost & Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Dr. Laurie Carter, Executive Vice President & University Counsel  
Mr. Barry Poynter, Vice President for Finance & Administration  
Mr. Stephen Lochmueller, Director of Athletics  
Dr. David McFaddin, Vice President for Engagement & Regional Stewardship  
Mr. Nick Perlick, Vice President for Development & Alumni Relations  
Mr. Jeremy Raines, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Regents  
Ms. Dana Fohl, Deputy University Counsel & Secretary to the Board of Regents  
Members of the faculty & staff  
Members of the media

## **Information Items**

### **A. Committee Reports**

In the interest of time, some committees held subcommittee meetings within the larger Board of Regents meeting.

#### **Student Life, Discipline & Athletics Committee**

The Student Life, Discipline & Athletics Committee was called to order by the New Committee Chair, Regent Lewis Diaz. Mr. Diaz commented that student life and the student experience is very important to him, and he considered it a privilege to serve as the chair of this committee. The committee had one action item. A motion was made by Alan Long to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting of the Student Life, Discipline, & Athletics Committee. The motion was seconded by Colin Potter. The motion passed by voice vote. There was no new business. A motion was made by Alan Long to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bryan Makinen. The motion passed by voice vote, and thereafter, the meeting of the Student Life, Discipline & Athletics Committee was adjourned.

#### **Institutional Advancement & Honors Committee**

The Institutional Advancement & Honors Committee was called to order by the New Committee Chair, Regent Craig King. A motion was made Richard Day to approve the minutes of the June 20, 20016 meeting of the Institutional Advancement & Honors Committee. The motion was seconded by Nancy Collins. The motion passed by voice vote. There was no new business. A motion was made by Nancy Collins to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Richard Day. The motion passed by voice vote, and thereby, the meeting of the Institutional Advancement & Honors Committee was adjourned.

#### **Audit & Compliance Committee**

Mr. Alan Long, Chair of the Audit & Compliance Committee, reported that the committee reviewed an audit presentation by Pete Ugo from Crowe Horwath. Mr. Long noted that the University had timely filed its audit. The audit revealed no findings or deficiencies. The committee approved the external audit for June 30, 2016 to come before the full board for final approval. Mr. Long reported that Mark Maier, Assistant Counsel, Policy & Compliance, brought an update on Colonels Comply. The committee approved the minutes from the June 20, 2016 meetings of the Audit & Compliance Committee. The minutes will be placed on the consent agenda for approval by the full board.

#### **Finance & Planning Committee**

Ms. Janet Craig, Chair of the Finance & Planning Committee, reported that the committee reviewed a presentation from Mr. Barry Poynter regarding the financial update as of September 30, 2016. The committee then reviewed a presentation from Mr. Paul Gannoe, Associate Vice President Facility Services and Capital Planning, regarding an update on campus construction

projects. The committee then reviewed a presentation by Ryan Green, Executive Director of Budgeting, on the FY16-17 Budget Book. The committee approved the minutes from the June 20, 2016 meeting of the Finance & Planning Committee. The committee further approved the University master plan and the FY16-17 budget. These items will be placed on the consent agenda for approval by the full board.

### **Executive & Academic Affairs Committee**

Mr. Craig Turner, Chair of the Executive & Academic Affairs Committee, stated the committee heard a report from Dr. Laurie Carter on enrollment data. Mr. Turner noted that he was excited to see that the retention rate is at an all-time high. Actions items for the committee included minutes, the personnel report, and recommendation of tenure for Dr. Powers. There was no new business, and the committee adjourned.

### **Additional Reports to the Board**

#### **Mr. Craig Turner, Chair**

The Chairman gave the following report:

This year has been an active year on behalf of Board as well as faculty, staff and administration regarding budget challenges. We have had a lot of meetings this year, which is abnormal, and many thanks to Regents for attending and being engaged. The budget this year is \$355 million. We will be meeting against on 12/5 to announce the final budget cuts. I am excited about the construction updates. Moving forward, we need to determine the priority of merit awards and how they affect graduation rates, retention and performance based funding. Finally, we had a nice attendance for Homecoming, and we also had a good attendance for family weekend a few weeks back.

#### **Mr. Collin Potter, SGA President**

Mr. Collin Potter, the current SGA President, delivered the following report:

#### **Student Government Association**

- SGA hosted a campus wide workshop with Dr. Roger Cleveland on September 29 titled “Diversity and Inclusion on a College Campus” – The workshop went well with over 50 students in attendance.
- SGA will be hosting a workshop in November focused on scholarships available to ECU students.
- SGA Executive Vice President, Sebastian Torres, has been selected by Governor Matt Bevin to serve as the student representative on the CPE.
  - More information can be found at this link: <http://stories.ecu.edu/people/senior-student-representative-cpe>
- SGA held a membership orientation on Friday, September 30 to prepare all members for their terms as student representatives. A special thank you is in order for the ECU

Facilitation Center for conducting a communications workshop and preparing the Student Activities Council as they begin to plan events for the spring 2017 semester.

- SGA continues to promote the safety app, LiveSafe, purchased last year. The Student Senate will begin evaluating future alternatives to pay for the smartphone application in the spring semester.
- The Manchester Extended Campus elected SGA representatives in September to represent the campus and students

### **Student Senate**

- Former ECU Student Body President and ECU Professor, David Fifer, has been selected to serve as the Student Senate Advisor.
- Former Morehead State University Student Body President and ECU Professor, Jason Marion, has been selected to serve as the Student Senate Advisor.
- Student Senate held the Registered Student Organization funding meeting on Tuesday, September 27. The following student organizations received funding:
  - ECU Veterans Club \$250
  - Pre-Vet Club \$2,056.22
  - Criminal Justice Student Association \$2,502.35
  - Agriculture Club \$1,261
  - PGA Golf Management \$1,370
  - American Association of Airport Executives \$1,128.12
  - Minority Collegiate Connections \$157.39
  - Marketing Club \$300
  - Archery Club \$1,346
  - Student Athletic Training Association \$2,430
  - ECU Men's Rugby \$1,742.15
  - Ballroom Dance Club \$422
  - Alpha Eta Rho \$828
  - African Student Association \$103.75
  - Cynders Inn \$169.57
  - Alpha Phi Omega \$615.71

### **Student Activities Council**

- SAC hosted comedian, Eric O' Shea, in September.
- During ECU Family Weekend, SAC hosted a movie night for students and guests. Finding Dory was shown on the ECU Intermural fields.
- SAC has devised a new marketing plan focused on social media promotions and personal promotion with members directly discussing events with students.

### **Student Court**

- Melinda Murphy has been selected to serve as the Student Court Advisor.

### **ECU Student & Student Group Recognition**

- EKU Student Senate recognized the following groups for their contributions to the university:
  - Wylie Caudill
  - 9/11 Memorial and Stair Climb
- EKU Men's Golf for winning the WKU Kenny Perry Invitational
- EKU Women's Golf for winning the Rocket Classic

**Shirley O'Brien, Faculty Senate Chair**

***A. General Update:***

Dr. Shirley O'Brien, Chair of the Faculty Senate, delivered the following report:

If I were to categorize the start of this academic year, it would be the year of hyper-change. Change creates tensions, consternation with resource allocations, resulting in visceral responses to the change process and ambivalence present in faculty voices. Faculty are concerned with impending changes impacting peers, colleagues, staff and students. The hyper-change to programs, healthcare, construction and uncertainty of performance-based funding creates an environment challenging faculty work.

To move toward compliance with Open Meetings statutes, we have instituted several measures. We are using an electronic voting system for all votes at the Faculty Senate meetings. Standing Committees have scheduled regular meetings, share and publish minutes on the Faculty Senate website. This change has increased to duties for all, particularly the Faculty Senate Secretary.

On a positive note, the DEEP Program has launched, providing professional development opportunities online for faculty here at EKU. This initiative for Faculty Development is in direct response to a need existing as a result of policy changes. The learning management system exploration is in the sandbox stage of review. Faculty are actively engaged in exploring trials at this point in time.

Thank you for the opportunity to share faculty updates.

***B. Presentation on Workload/Reassigned Time Committee Report***

Dr. O'Brien then proceeded to make a presentation as the head of the Faculty Workload and Reassigned Time Committee. A copy of the presentation is incorporated herein by reference and included with the official copy of these minutes.

**Ms. Ann Cotton, Staff Council President**

Ms. Ann Cotton, President of Staff Council, delivered the following report:

Chair Turner, President Benson and Board of Regents, thank you for allowing me to present to you today regarding Staff Council's initiatives.

I want to start my report on an extremely positive note, and with something we are very excited about. Staff Council is moving forward in the training and educating of the Staff Diversity

Advocates. We had a luncheon meeting hosted by the Diversity Office and our guest speaker was the wonderful Ms. Sheila Pressley who gave her enlightening perspective on Diversity issues facing ECU. At the end of the luncheon we went around the room and expressed why "Diversity" and the understanding of helping others to know how to deal with diverse issues, etc., was so important to us as individuals, and why we wanted to serve ECU staff in this capacity. Since we have a very diverse group of staff serving on this committee, each person will bring a different skill set to this group. Training will continue until everyone feels comfortable enough to be on their own to start serving staff, and help to teach all staff, by accelerating their understanding through education. The goal will be to teach acceptance of each other.

I would like to say how much fun everyone seemed to have at all the Homecoming festivities! Kudos to all the staff that was involved in making the events a wonderful success. Staff Council was more involved in Homecoming this year. I served on the Homecoming Committee, and chaired the sub-committee on "Campus Community Events". Staff Council not only hosted the Homecoming Campus Community-wide Day of Service on October 20<sup>th</sup>, which was very wet but successful, but also judged windows in downtown Richmond for "Paint the Town Maroon", hosted and judged the "Maroon Day Photo Contest" (which by the way...ECU's Registrar Office received first place), and also had a presence in the Homecoming parade in support for ECU staff. The week was busy and fast paced, but hopefully gave staff and faculty a short reprieve from talking or think about budgets issues.

The ECU budget, and its solutions, are on the minds of most faculty, staff, and students. Keeping morale up, and problem solving ideas flowing, has not been easy at all for most in this room. Staff Council has taken its share of negative remarks from fellow staff members, but has tried to focus on the positives, and continues to move forward. Whatever changes are brought about by the budget crisis, or what future faculty or staff changes are imposed, the general consensus that Staff Council is hearing, is the importance for all to understand how future budgetary solutions are and were reached and why certain decisions were made. As Albert Einstein stated, "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding".

I will be happy to take any questions at this time.

#### **Dr. Sherry Robinson, Vice Provost**

Dr. Sherry Robinson provided an update on the QEP process to the Board.

Dr. Robinson also noted that the SACSCOC review committee would be on site on February 21 -23 and requested board participation.

A copy of the presentation is incorporated herein by reference and included with the official copy of these minutes.

#### **Dr. Michael Benson, President**

Dr. Michael Benson, President, delivered the following remarks:

I talk a lot about the 3 Ps: people, places and programs. Then, I talked about being positive, persistent and patient. Every Monday morning at 5 a.m., I get up to get my dose of perspective

from Emma, my 19 year old daughter, who is serving in a church mission in Cambodia. To use a baseball metaphor, the great majority of the world's population struggles to even make it to first base. If you're born an American, and go to college, you have already touched 3<sup>rd</sup> and are heading home. We have challenges, but there is so much good happening on campus and so much positive to focus on and to move us forward. We have things like the President's Research and Scholarship fund. We had our first batch of recipients a few months ago. I will be requesting a half page summary from each recipient in the future to report to the board what the faulty is doing with those funds.

Similarly, it's always great to welcome back alumni, and without exception we always meet folks Nick and his folks have churned up. For example, Nick Page was recruited to come here and run by Coach Erdmann. He now serves as the controller for Under Armour and got his accounting degree here. He attributes his academic success to ECU. He has agreed to host an alumni function at the Under Armour headquarters in Baltimore. He is in line to be the next CFO of Under Armour.

Bob King of CPE is coming Wednesday. We are continuing discussions of performance-based funding, but I can promise graduation rates will be the primary metric.

Finally, the budget review committee continues its work. We continue to get ideas from faculty and staff, etc. One idea that came forward was an enhanced retirement plan. This bubbled up from our Chairs Association meetings. President Benson then yielded the floor to Dr. Janna Vice to present her proposal to the Board for the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program for faculty.

Chairman Turner then yielded the floor to Nick Perlick.

### **Nick Perlick, VP Development and Alumni Relations**

In sum, the Development office raised \$8.9 million in FY16, which closed June 30, in gifts and commitments. This was nearly double the amount raised in the prior year, and it was the best year for fundraising in the University's history. \$4+ million of that amount was in cash and in kind gifts. Fundraising overall trending positively. A volunteer infrastructure is being developed and fundraising committees are blossoming up in some of the units, colleges, athletics, etc. Those mechanisms will raise overall campus fundraising.

As to our communication efforts – we are proud of the new ECU Magazine. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition came out a month or two ago. This initiative represents a partnership between alumni office and the office of marketing and comm. One other major piece is the new digital communication platform. We have found a lot of ways to put it to use. We are doing a twice monthly alumni newsletter to all alumni. We are now doing college-based newsletters on a quarterly basis. We are thrilled to be partnering with colleges in that respect.

We are trying to build an overall culture of philanthropy.

Some of that is honoring those who have been large, lifetime donors. The last piece is the overall alumni engagement. Fundraising is probably the piece we are thought of foremost for our

office's responsibility. There is another piece that is equally important but more nebulous and harder to quantify. It is the softer side of alumni engagement. I'll try to summarize some conversations. This is an area where we have tremendous opportunity. We have 100,000+ alumni, many of whom love this institution and the impact it made on their life. We think of recruiting, offering mentoring, career advice, internships, and job opportunities. These are all areas we see as offering tremendous opportunity.

### **Action Items**

#### **A. Resolution of Appreciation of HEWV Architects, PSC**

The Chairman again yielded the floor to President Michael Benson, who recognized HEWV Architects for its outstanding commitment to Eastern Kentucky University and its role in developing the new campus master plan that will forever change the shape of the University. The Resolution of Appreciation was read aloud, and the President presented representatives of HEWV with a framed print.

#### **B. Consent Agenda**

Mr. Turner presented to the full Board the following items on the Consent Agenda for approval:

##### **A. Consent Agenda**

- i. Approval of the Minutes for the Full Board Meeting on June 20, 2016, and Special-Called Meetings on August 18 and September 21, 2016
- ii. Personnel Actions
- iii. Recommended Promotion and Tenure
  - i. Approval of External Audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016
  - ii. Approval of the Eastern Kentucky University Master Plan

A motion was on the floor as the items were brought forward on the consent agenda by committee vote. The motion was seconded by Alan Long to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Richard Day abstained. The motion passed by voice vote.

#### **C. Approval of the FY2016-17 University Budget**

Mr. Turner noted that a motion was on the floor to approve the FY2016-17 University Budget as brought forth by the Finance & Planning Committee. The motion was seconded by Alan Long. The roll was called and the following Regents voted "aye": Nancy Collins, Janet Craig, Alan Long, Bryan Makinen, Collin Potter, Richard Day, Lewis Diaz, Craig Turner, and Craig King. Regent Richard Day abstained due to KRS 164.289. The motion passed.



**Executive Session:**

Mr. Turner entertained a motion pursuant to KRS 61.815 to enter closed session for the purposes stated in KRS 61.810(1)(c), regarding discussions of potential or pending litigation against the University. A motion was made to go into executive session by Alan Long. The motion was seconded by Nancy Collins. The motion passed by voice vote, and the Board, thereby, convened in closed, executive session at 12:59 p.m.

A motion was made by Alan Long to come out of executive session and return to the open session of the Board of Regents meeting. The motion was seconded Nancy Collins. The motion passed by voice vote and the Board of Regents thereby returned to open session at 1:23 p.m.

Chairman Turner noted that no action was taken in executive session and only discussed those issues appropriate in closed session.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Turner requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Bryan Makinen to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Richard Day. The motion passed by voice vote. The meeting of the Board of Regents was thereby adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

  
Dana Fohl, Secretary                      Date