Minutes of the Regular Quarterly Meeting
October 20, 2014 11:30 AM
J. Marvin Jolly Bldg.
Room 152X

Call to Order
A regular quarterly meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents convened at 11:30 a.m. on October 20, 2014 in the J. Marvin Jolly Bldg., Room 152X at Hazard Community & Technical College, Hazard, KY. Mr. Turner, Chair of the Board, presided. Mr. Turner noted the presence of a quorum. The following members of the Board were present:

Mrs. Nancy Collins
Mrs. Janet Craig
Mr. Ernie House
Mr. Alan Long
Mr. Bryan Makinen
Mrs. Janie Miller
Mr. Kyle Nicholas
Mr. David Tandy
Dr. Amy Thieme
Mr. Craig Turner
Mrs. Holly Wiedemann

Other persons present at the meeting were:

Dr. Michael Benson, President
Dr. Janna Vice, Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
Mr. Barry Poynter, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Dr. Laurie Carter, Exec. VP for Student Success & University Counsel
Mr. Scott Cason, VP for Communications & Marketing
Mr. Nick Perlick, VP for Development
Mr. Matt Roan, Special Asst. to the President
Ms. Dreidre de Leon, Exec. Asst. to the President & Asst. Secretary to the Board
Members of the faculty and staff
Members of the media

Acceptance of Certifications of Election and Qualification to Serve as a Member of the EKU Board of Regents

The Certifications of Election and Qualification to Serve as a Member of the EKU Board of Mr. Kyle Nicholas, Student Regent were distributed to the Board in the Board agenda materials.

Copies of the election certification and qualification documents are included with the minutes of the Board of Regents.
Swearing in of New Members
Mrs. Laurie Carter, Exec. VP for Student Success & University Counsel provided the oath of service to Mr. Kyle Nicholas who was elected Student Regent for a term of one year. Mr. Turner congratulated and welcomed Mr. Nicholas as new member of the EKU Board of Regents.

Election of Officers
In accordance with the provision of the Board’s Bylaws pertaining to the election of officers following the election of a new member to the Board, Mr. Turner made the motion to retain Mr. Ernest House, Vice Chair, Mr. Barry Poynter, Treasurer, and Mr. David Tandy, Secretary.

Mr. Turner asked for a motion to approve the Election of Officers. Mrs. Craig made a motion to approve; Mr. Long seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Information Items
Committee Reports

Finance and Planning
Mrs. Janet Craig, Chair of the Finance & Planning Committee reported the committee met prior to the full board meeting on this date. The committee received updates on the Audit, Finance, Kentucky Department of Revenue Receivables Collections and the Energy Savings Performance Contract. In addition, the committee approved the following items be brought forth for approval of the full board:

1) Memorandum Regarding Demolition of Combs Residence Hall
2) Approval of Tax-Exempt Lease Terms/Financing for Information Technology (IT) Equipment and Projects.

Mrs. Craig also reported the Finance and Planning Committee held a special-called meeting on September 29, 2014. The committee reviewed and approved the following:

1) Draft Audit Financial Statements
2) A one year extension of contract of Crowe Horwath, LLC Auditing Firm
3) An authorization to advance university funds of $150,000 for bond projects.

In addition, the committee discussed the university’s health insurance program and grants and asked for information updates on both of these items to be presented at a later time.

Executive & Academic Affairs
Mr. Craig Turner, Chair of the Executive & Academic Affairs Committee reported the committee met prior to the full board meeting on this date. The committee received a report from Mrs. Judy Spain on behalf of Dr. Sara Zeigler on the Title IX Institutional Responsibilities and Initiatives and approved the following actions items be brought forth for approval of the full board:

1) Personnel Actions
2) Approval of Candidates for Fall 2014 Commencement
3) Approval of Recommendations for Adjunct Faculty Nominations
4) Report from the Council on Academic Affairs
5) Addendum to Tenure
6) Resolution Authorizing Aviation Feasibility Study
Executive & Academic Affairs (cont.)
Mr. Turner added the committee received good news from Provost Vice regarding the increase in the six year graduation rate which increased from 39% to 42.5%.

Mr. Turner also welcomed Dean Ereckson, the new Dean for Business & Technology to EKU and looks forward to his contributions.

Student Life, Discipline & Athletics
Mr. Tandy reported the committee met previously on August 1 regarding a student appeal of a disciplinary matter. The committee voted to uphold the decision of the Provost.

Mr. Tandy also reported the committee met today prior to the full board meeting. The committee approved the following items to be brought forth for approval of the full board.

1) Approval of Paragraph 25, Offenses, University Handbook for Students
2) Approve Amendments to the Constitution of the Student Government Association

Audit & Compliance
Mr. Long stated the Audit & Compliance Committee met prior today to the full board meeting. The committee received an audit report from Crowe Horwath, LLP in which EKU received an unmodified opinion which he mentioned was great for the institution. The committee also received informational reports on Colonels Comply from Judy Spain, Beth Ballard & Matt Roan as well as reports on draft versions of the Non-Retaliation and Reporting Policies.

Mr. Long reported the committee approved the following item be brought forth to the full board for approval:

1) Approval of External Audit for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014.

Additional Reports to the Board
Craig Turner, Chair
Mr. Turner thanked UCM for hosting the EKU Board of Regents and the Hazard Community for attending the reception the evening before on October 19, 2014. He also thanked the members of the Board for traveling and attending the first overnight road trip and thanked them for their service and commitment to the Board and to the service region.

Mr. Turner extended a special thanks to Paul and Nancy Collins who were instrumental in helping promote the university’s efforts in Hazard.

Mr. Turner reported undergraduate and graduate enrollment is up as well as freshman/transfer and online enrollment. Credit hours are down in Corbin, Danville and Manchester. Mr. Turner stated the importance of continuing efforts to make the satellite campuses successful.

Mr. Turner went onto say making difficult decisions isn’t always the most popular. Looking back at the Budget Reallocation Process was a great effort by everyone in involved in this room. Significant steps were made in the university’s financial position. Mr. Turner reported operating revenues are up and expenses are down, and the swing in the university’s net position is almost $10 million from a year ago.
Craig Turner, Chair
Mr. Turner mentioned President Benson’s Inauguration is Friday, October 24, 2014 with homecoming on Saturday. He also noted EKU’s Football team is 6-1.

Mr. Turner welcomed Kyle Nicholas, newly elected student Regent to the Board and introduced him to give his report.

Kyle Nicholas, SGA President
Mr. Nicholas gave an update on the Student Government Association.

Currently, there are 127 members. This number does not include an active SGA Panel at the Manchester Regional Center. A panel will also be appointed to the Danville campus this week.

The SGA budget current balance is $19,235. He stated SGA is scheduled to donate funds to registered student organizations and technology.

Colonel Up Program is a new program partnering with Student Life, SGA and Athletics. This program will focus on students attending athletic events.

Eastern Fan Friday Initiative Program was implemented by past SGA President Sarah Carpenter. SGA is continuing this with a few changes to the program. This initiative focuses on town and gown relationships encouraging students to wear maroon on Fridays while supporting local businesses and EKU.

Colonel Cash is a program which allows students to use their student ID off campus at many merchants in Richmond. This initiative gives the students a variety of healthy food options.

SGA continues to work on their relationship with faculty and staff across campus. SGA is very thankful for the help with this new initiative.

SGA will focus on actions made in cabinet meetings by looking back with reflection and seeing how they have progressed and how their decisions have affected the students.

Lastly, SGA has worked with Matt Roan on the It's on Us Campaign. This campaign came out of Washington DC which focuses on stopping sexual assault on campus. SGA is looking at how to implement this initiative on campus and how to get students involved.

Mr. Turner thanked Mr. Nicholas for his report and introduced Dr. Richard Day, Chair of Faculty Senate to give his report.

Richard Day, Faculty Senate Chair
Dr. Day reported the following on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

At the request of President Benson, Dr. Day attended a launch of NBC Learn. NBC Learn is a new repository for NBC reports that is extended to Madison County and EKU.
Richard Day, Faculty Senate Chair (cont.)
Faculty Senate has reviewed their processes and communications and has done some tweaking. A Journalism class visited Faculty Senate stating they haven't been following the open meetings law since 1974. Faculty Senate has since corrected this.

Faculty feel they have been disconnected from the formative budgetary process. Faculty Senate is working with Barry Poynter to remedy this.

Faculty Senate has broadened their communications capacity to direct faculty wide emails and refocusing their committee.

Dr. Day suggested the Board of Regents look at the process of the timeline of swearing in the Student Regent which he feels disenfranchises the student regents for almost half their term.

Several items have been on the faculty's radar screen and those are Strategic Planning, student absences, evaluations of non-tenure track personnel, Colonels Comply and Title IX.

Faculty Senate supported President Benson's desire to expand the Foundation Professorship opportunity to include more faculty.

Support for expanded athletics on campus does not appear to be any more popular among faculty than it was when Dr. Day reported in June.

The Faculty and Students would benefit from a more efficient advising process. The schedule book is not ready for faculty when advising opens. This wastes faculty time and faculty feel they are only getting limited use of student success collaborative data. Provost Vice is looking into this situation.

Faculty Senate is working with the President, Provost and David McFaddin on a third legislative forum. The topic “Economics of Higher Education” is critically important to you, as Regents. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reported funding in the 48 states remains at well below pre-recession levels. Most states have begun in the past year to restore some of the cuts that were made to higher education funding after the recession hit. Kentucky's gains were the least at 0.3%. Since the start of the recession, which research marks at 2007, states have cut higher education funding by 23% per student. Over the same period, tuition hikes in Kentucky have averaged 23.3%. Every time this happens, the cost of college has shifted from the state to Kentucky families. But there is no rational that justifies lowering academic quality at a time we need more highly educated citizens. The Federal government helped some by extending the number and amount of the average Pell Grant that American student receive by 24%. Since states provide 53% of revenue nationally, deep cuts to state funding have major consequences for a public university. When state funding is cut, colleges and universities generally must either cut educational services, raise tuition to cover the gap, or do both. Making college less affordable, especially for low income students; the very kinds of students we hope to help. It certainly has not helped that median household incomes between 2007 and 2013 have remained flat. The American middle class is currently dividing itself into two groups: upwardly mobile college educated folk and downwardly mobile high school educated folk. In addition to the way education enhances the quality of our lives, college attainment has grown increasingly important to long term economic outcomes for the state. We need to reinvest. Strengthening state investment in higher education will require state policy makers to make the right tax and budget choices over the coming years and to do that in a very difficult anti-tax political environment. Therefore, our legislatures need our encouragement and our support to make those necessary changes for our students. We call upon you as our Regents to help to encourage them. Thank you for your support and leadership of Eastern.

Mr. Turner thanked Dr. Day for his report and introduced Staff Council President, Lean Banks.
Leah Banks, Staff Council President
Ms. Banks reported the Staff Council has been working on two initiatives. The first was a speaker event. Staff Council brought to campus in September, Speaker Meryl Hoge. He gave a very inspiring message about how we can all find a way no matter what obstacle might be in our way. There were over 100 people in attendance and others were able to view livestream. Very positive feedback was received with encouragement to do something similar in the future. Staff Council is open to ideas for next year.

The second initiative is a Service Day Project on EKU’s Richmond campus which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, 2014. A few of the projects scheduled are litter clean up, clean up at the Elmwood Estate, mum planting, and stenciling of storm drains. For those who cannot participate, they can still contribute by donating non-perishable food items and gently used coats. Ms. Banks stated there were 152 volunteers that included faculty, staff and students. Ms. Banks was available for questions.

Mr. Turner thank Ms. Banks for her report and introduced President Benson.

Michael Benson, President
President Benson said it was indeed great to be in Hazard and noted it was no small feat to bring an entire Board meeting to Hazard. He expressed his gratitude to Dreidre and the IT staff for their hard work and for livestreaming the meeting back to campus.

President Benson stated Student Regent Kyle Nicholas is a very committed student body president. He cares deeply about EKU and the students and is all about what is the best interest for them. President Benson went on to say said the revision of the constitution was no small task and commended Kyle and the SGA for their hard work.

President Benson introduced the three new Vice Presidents and welcomed them to the Colonel family. Mr. Nick Perlick, VP for Development and Alumni Relations, Mr. Scott Cason, VP for Communications and Marketing and Dr. Laurie Carter, VP for Student Success and University Counsel.

He then announced Nikki Giovanni, renowned Poet and Professor from Virginia Tech will be speaking on campus Tuesday, October 21, 2014. On Thursday, October 23, 2014 is the groundbreaking of Phase II of the Science Building and said it will be a maroon letter day. The Science Building will cover almost eight acres and will be approximately 340,000 square feet once it is all complete. In addition, Kenneth Lee Adelman, who was Director of the U.S. Arms Control Agency for President Ronald Reagan during the 1986 Reykjavik summit will be on campus Thursday.

President Benson added he created a Twitter account to open up communication with students. The students definitely communicate via tweet, and he has received many messages. He encouraged everyone to follow @EKUBuilds to stay informed about the physical plant improvements.

President Benson asked the Creative Services team to introduce themselves. Doug Cornett, Asst. VP for Communications and Marketing introduced Jenny McWilliams, Director of Digital Media, Leonard Nave, Senior Media Specialist, Earl Guthrie, Production Specialist and Dwayne Bolin, Senior Media Specialist. President Benson applauded their creative efforts and their hard work of keeping the webpages fresh and updated. He also noted the banners around campus that feature students on the stadium. These banners will be changed out twice a year. As graduation approaches, there will be banners with images of students in their cap and gown. These banners are a huge effort to get the message out to the community of EKU’s progress.
President Benson also mentioned the Financial Audit. He stated an audit is no small feat either. The fact that there are no material findings or citations speaks well of EKU's financial office. President Benson referred to page 21 of the Financial Statement book stating that tuition and fees are 26% of the university's budget and state appropriation is 21% of the budget. He believes this is a trend that is irreversible and the state's shares for higher education will continue to diminish.

He went onto say the continued diminish in funds from the state means it falls to the Board, to the university, to the VP for Development, Nick Perlick to go out and find private funding and get creative. To have the board engaged like they did 18 months ago has allowed the university to reward employees with salary increases and with some merit pay, we hope, in the future. President Benson stated this is the reality, we are no different than states throughout the country. Of the seven surrounding states, WV and KY were the only states that went backwards slightly in funding for higher education this last year and that does not bode well.

He echoed what Dr. Day said that it falls to us to exercise our first amendment rights and to petition the government for every dress of grievances which the administration will do at the beginning of the legislative session.

President Benson thanked the Board and stated it was going to be a fun week. The inauguration is a celebration for the university. Inauguration is inherently about a person, but this is not what it is about. This is about the institution. It's going to here long before our tenure and has been here a long time already. It's one of those historical markers in that arc of place, and he and his family are honored to be here.

Actions Items

Consent Agenda
Mr. Turner added the Memorandum Regarding Demolition of Combs Residence Hall to the Consent Agenda from the Finance and Planning Committee, the. The following items were presented to the Board for approval:

1. Approval of the June 9, 2014 Executive & Academic Affairs Committee Minutes
2. Personnel Actions
3. Approval of Candidates for Fall 2014 Commencement
4. Approval of Recommendations for Adjunct Faculty Nominations
5. Report from the Council on Academic Affairs (New Programs, Revisions,Suspensions & Academic Requirements)
6. Memorandum Regarding Demolition of Combs Residence Hall

Mr. Turner requested a motion to approve all six items. Mr. House made the motion to approve; Mrs. Collins seconded. Mr. Turner requested a roll call. Roll was called and all members of the full board stated “aye”. The motion to approve the six items on the consent agenda were approved.

Addendum to Tenure
Motion Passed: Motion to approve Addendum to Tenure passed with a motion by Mr. Tandy and a second by Mr. Long. The roll was called. The following members voted “aye”. Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Craig, Mr. House, Mr. Long, Mr. Makinen, Dr. Thieme, Mr. House, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Tandy, Mrs. Wiedemann & Mr. Turner; no members voted “nay”.

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Resolution Authorizing Aviation Feasibility Study
Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Resolution Authorization Aviation Feasibility Study passed with a motion by Mr. Tandy and a second by Mr. Long. The roll was called, and the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Craig, Mr. House, Mr. Long, Mr. Makinen, Dr. Thieme, Mr. House, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Tandy, Mrs. Wiedemann & Mr. Turner; no members voted “nay”.

Approval of External Audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014
Motion Passed: Motion to approve the External Audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014 passed with a motion by Mr. Long and a second by Mrs. Miller. The roll was called and the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Craig, Mr. House, Mr. Long, Mr. Makinen, Dr. Thieme, Mr. House, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Tandy, Mrs. Wiedemann & Mr. Turner; no members voted “nay”.

Request Approval of Tax-Exempt Lease Terms/Financing for Information Technology (IT) Equipment and Projects
Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Tax-Exempt Lease Terms/Financing for Information Technology (IT) Equipment and Projects passed with a motion by Mr. Tandy and a second by Mr. Makinen. The roll was called and the following members voted “aye”: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Craig, Mr. House, Mr. Long, Mr. Makinen, Dr. Thieme, Mr. House, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Tandy, Mrs. Wiedemann & Mr. Turner; no members voted “nay”.

Approval of Paragraph 25, Offenses, University Handbook for Students
Motion Passed: Mr. Turner requested a motion for approval of Paragraph 25, Offenses, University Handbook for Students. Mr. Tandy made a motion to approve; Mrs. Collins second. The motion passed by voice vote.

Approve Amendments to the Constitution of the Student Government Association
Motion Passed: Mr. Turner requested a motion for approval of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Student Government Association. Mr. Nicholas made a motion to approve; Mr. House second. The motion passed by voice vote.

New Business
No new business

Future Board Meeting Dates:
January 26, 2015 hosted by the College of Business & Technology
April 27, 2015 hosted by the College of Education
June 22, 2015, hosted by: TBD

Mr. Turner asked the board members to check their calendars for the possibility of changing the January 26 date to Jan. 20 or Feb. 2. Mr. Turner asked the board members to tentatively hold Feb. 2, but stated he would also look at other dates and be back in touch with them.

Mr. Turner introduced Dr. Jerry Pogatshnik, Dean of Graduate Education and Research to announce the Stewardship Award.
Stewardship Award Announcement
Dr. Pogatshnik stated that he and Dr. Steven Richter, faculty member in the Dept. of Biology and Associate Director of the Divisions of Natural Areas attended the Kentucky Governor’s Conference on Energy and the Environment on October 8, 2014 where EKU was recognized and presented with the Stewardship Award from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conversation Fund for its stewardship of Lilley Cornett Woods. Dr. Pogatshnik stated he will present the award at the Lilley Cornett Woods to the President and the Board of Regents later today.

Dr. Pogatshnik thanked everyone for their support and time of the Division of Natural Areas.

Other Business
There was no other business.

Executive Session
Mr. Turner entertained a Motion pursuant to KRS 61.815(b) to adjourn to closed session for the purposes stated pursuant to KRS 61.810(c) regarding discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the University. Dr. Thieme made a motion to go into closed session, Mrs. Collins seconded. Motion passed by voice vote. The Board went into executive session.

Reconvene Open Session
Upon returning from closed session, Mr. Turner reported only matters stated in the motion prior to going into closed Executive Session were discussed and no action was taken during closed Executive session. At this time, Mr. Turner entertained for a motion to return to the regular session of the Board meeting. Mr. House made a motion to return to regular session; Mr. Long second. Motion passed by voice vote.

Adjourn
There being no further business, Mr. Turner requested a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Craig made a motion to adjourn; Mrs. Miller second. Motion passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

David Tandy, Secretary

Date 2.2.15