



WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents ~ Fourth Quarterly Meeting
October 26, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. (CDT)

AGENDA

- Call to Order (*Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair*)
 - Invocation
 - Roll Call (*Dr. Melissa B. Dennison, Secretary*)
 - Approval of Minutes (*Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair*)
 - ❖ Third Quarterly Meeting – July 27, 2012
-

1. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (*Dr. Melissa B. Dennison*)

Action Items:

- 1.1 Approval of Emeritus Faculty Appointments [p 1]

Information Items:

- Honorary Degrees Policy, Policy #1.4140 [pp 2-4]
 - Graduate Student Theses and Dissertations at WKU (*Dr. Kelly Madole*) [p 5]
 - Enrollment Report (*Dr. Brian Meredith*)
-

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (*Mr. Frederick A. Higdon*)

Action Items:

- 2.1 Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. James G. Meyer [pp 6 and attached Resolution]
2.2 Approval of Addendum to Athletic Employment Contract–Mr. Travis Hudson [pp 7 and attached Addendum]
2.3 Authorization and Approval to Proceed with Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property [pp 8-9 and attached maps]

Information Items:

- Construction Progress Update (*Mr. John Osborne*) [attachment]
 - Utilities Efficiencies (*Mr. John Osborne*) [attachment]
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3. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE (*Mr. J. David Porter*)

Action Item:

- 3.1 Approval of Personnel Actions [p 10 and attached reports]
-

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (*Dr. Gary A. Ransdell*)

- Moving Forward in Development & Alumni Relations – Post Campaign (*Ms. Kathryn Costello*)
 - 15-Year Report (*Ms. Robbin Taylor*)
 - Legal Update (*Ms. Deborah Wilkins*) [attachment]
 - The Clery Act / Title IX Review (*Ms. Deborah Wilkins*)
-

5. OTHER BUSINESS

- Committee Meetings – December 14 at 1:00 pm (*MMTH – Regents Room*)
 - Commencement (Graduate and Undergraduate) – December 15 at 9:30 am and 2:00 pm
-

6. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY**

October 26, 2012

- **CALL TO ORDER**

Required statutory notice having been given, the fourth quarterly meeting of the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University was held in the *Cornelius A. Martin Regents Room* of the Mass Media and Technology Hall on the Western Kentucky University campus. The meeting was called to order by Chair Frederick A. Higdon at approximately 9:00 a.m., (CDT).

- **INVOCATION**

The Invocation was provided by Ms. Amanda Baker, Honors Student from Dallas, Texas. President Ransdell asked for thoughts and prayers for the family of Ms. Trina Lawson, a student who passed away at the WKU-Glasgow campus last week. Chair Higdon requested a moment of silence in memory of Ms. Lawson.

- **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Chair Higdon called on Ms. Freida Eggleton to read and present a Resolution of Appreciation in honor of Dr. Gary Ransdell's fifteen years of service as President of Western Kentucky University. On behalf of the Board of Regents, Chair Higdon proclaimed a motion of consent approval for this special recognition in honor of President Ransdell.

- **ROLL CALL**

The following Regents were present:

Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair

Mr. J. David Porter, Vice Chair

Dr. Melissa B. Dennison, Secretary
Mr. Cory Dodds, Student Regent
Ms. Cynthia Harris
Mr. Jim Johnson

Mr. James Kennedy, Staff Regent
Dr. Patricia H. Minter, Faculty Regent
Mr. John W. Ridley

Regents not in attendance:

Mr. Rob Wilkey
Mr. Laurence J. Zielke

Others in attendance included the following:

Dr. Gary A. Ransdell, President
Mr. Howard Bailey, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Gordon C. Baylis, Vice President for Research
Dr. Randy Capps, Parliamentarian
Ms. Kathryn R. Costello, Vice President for Development & Alumni Relations
Dr. David Lee, Dean of Potter College
Ms. Julia McDonald, Senior Administrative Assistant
Ms. K. Ann Mead, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration
Mr. John Osborne, Vice President for Campus Services and Facilities
Dr. Robert Owen, Vice President for Information Technology
Mr. Todd Stewart, Director of Athletics
Ms. Robbin M. Taylor, Vice President for Public Affairs
Ms. Deborah T. Wilkins, Chief of Staff / General Counsel

In keeping with the policy of the Board, the agenda for the meeting and information and materials pertinent to items thereon had been mailed in advance of the meeting to members of the Board.

- **MINUTES**

The revised minutes of the third quarterly meeting held on July 27, 2012, were presented for adoption.

MOTION:

Motion made by Regent James Kennedy, seconded by Regent Cory Dodds, and unanimously approved.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

- **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

President Ransdell acknowledged Regent Cory Dodds for being selected as a finalist

for The Mitchell Scholarship. Regent Dodds is the first student from WKU to receive this honor, and the only student from a Kentucky institution among the finalists.

1. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – ACTION ITEMS
(Dr. Melissa B. Dennison, Chair)

1.1 Approval of Emeritus Faculty Appointments

REQUEST:

Approval of faculty emeritus status for the recommended individuals.

FACTS:

Listed below are faculty members who have been recommended by the tenured faculty, department head, and college dean to be awarded emeritus/a status. They have served the university for at least ten years and have had distinguished records of achievement and service at the university.

Potter College of Arts and Letters

Department of English

Dr. Karen Schneider, Professor of English, Emerita

College of Health and Human Services

Department of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport

Dr. Thaddeus Crews, Professor of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport, Emeritus

University Libraries

Library Public Services

Dr. Gay H. Perkins, Professor of Library Pubic Services, Emerita

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

No funds requested

RECOMMENDATION:

President Gary Ransdell recommends awarding the above individuals faculty emeritus status.

MOTION:

Motion made by Regent Patti Minter, seconded by Regent James Kennedy, and unanimously approved.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – INFORMATION ITEMS

- The Honorary Degrees Policy, Policy #1.4140 was presented by Dean David Lee.
- Information regarding Graduate Student Theses and Dissertations at WKU was presented by Dr. Kelly Madole.
- The Enrollment Report was provided by Dr. Brian Meredith.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ACTION ITEMS

(Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair)

2.1 Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. James G. Meyer

REQUEST:

Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. James G. Meyer.

FACTS:

The enclosed Resolution is in appreciation of outstanding service demonstrated by Mr. James G. Meyer as a member of the WKU Board of Regents from 2006-2012.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

No funds requested.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Gary A. Ransdell recommends approval of the enclosed Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. James G. Meyer.

MOTION:

Motion to approve was made by Regent Jim Johnson, seconded by Regent Melissa Dennison, and unanimously approved.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

2.2 Approval of Addendum to Athletic Employment Contract—Mr. Travis Hudson

REQUEST:

The President requests approval of Addendum No. 2 to the Athletic Employment Contract between Western Kentucky University and Travis Hudson.

FACTS:

The University and Coach Hudson have negotiated a second addendum to the Athletic Employment Contract dated July 1, 2005. This Addendum No. 2 will extend Coach Hudson's through June 30, 2017. A copy of Addendum No. 2 is included with this agenda material.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Gary A. Ransdell requests approval of Addendum No. 2 to the Athletic Employment Contract between Western Kentucky University and Travis Hudson.

MOTION:

Motion to approve was made by Regent Patti Minter, seconded by Regent James Kennedy, and unanimously approved.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

2.3 Authorization and Approval to Proceed with Acquisition and Disposition of Real Property

REQUEST:

The President requests the Board of Regents' authorization for the purchase and subsequent disposition of property located at 1415 College Street (Cherry Hill Place) to Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, in exchange for their property located at 1586 Normal Street.

FACTS:

On April 29, 2011, the Board of Regents adopted the 2012-2018 Capital Plan that was submitted to the Commonwealth as our funding request for the 2012 General Assembly. Contained in the Capital Plan was a 2012-14 biennial budget request for Agency Bond authorization for the construction of a \$22 million Honors Facility, which is to be located on Normal Drive.

On July 28, 2011, the Board of Regents was updated on the 2010-2022 Campus Master Plan. One of the Master Plan's primary functions is to identify land to be acquired as available, to facilitate campus expansion and to identify future building sites. The proposed location for the new Honor's Building is along Normal Drive across from Northeast and Southwest Halls.

An independent study conducted by Ross Tarrant Architects and Kerr-Greulich Engineers in April 2012 found that of the five sites studied, "the proposed site on Normal Drive, across from the east-west pedestrian axis path between the Southwest and Northeast halls of residence has been identified as the most optimal site by the criteria discussed and outlined in this report."

Members within the leadership of Sigma Phi Epsilon have inspected 1415 College Street and agreed to transfer their house at 1586 Normal Drive to the University in exchange for receiving title to 1415 College Street.

1415 College Street is currently held by the WKU Real Estate Corporation. The University proposes to pay off the existing mortgage on 1415 College Street in the approximate amount of \$270,000.00.

An appraisal performed on October 5, 2012 places the fair market value of 1586 Normal Street at \$210,000.00.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

The University proposes to draw \$270,000.00 from the University's reserve fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Gary A. Ransdell requests authorization for the purchase and subsequent disposition of property located at 1415 College Street to Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity in exchange for their property located at 1586 Normal Street.

Revisions / Additions:

DISCUSSION:

Regent Minter: You said this might not be the last transaction to come before the Board – what do you mean by that as far as this particular deal with Sigma Phi Epsilon?

President Ransdell: Once we acquire this footprint, we will likely acquire the building next to it which will complete this block, but we have not yet initiated that conversation with the owner.

Regent Minter: So this particular transaction with Sigma Phi Epsilon is done?

President Ransdell: Yes, this transaction will get the Sigma Phi Epsilons moved.

Regent Minter: If the fair market value is \$210,000, why are we paying \$270,000? Why are we taking a \$60,000 loss?

President Ransdell: We have taken a much bigger loss than that on most of the other Greek transactions. Very few of these Greek transactions have made good business sense, but we are sticking with our objective and vision for the Greek Village which will bring great value to the University.

Regent Dodd: Is the plan to make the Honors College building shovel-ready?

President Ransdell: Yes. There is discussion among the university Presidents of pursuing legislative authorization for some shovel-ready agency bond projects in this coming legislative session even though it's not a budget session. All the campuses have some pretty desperate needs for some projects. While the specific plans have not crystalized, it might be that each university submit one shovel-ready project for which we would pursue legislative authorization for an agency bond. The Honors College / International Center building would be our project that we submit if this plan goes forward.

Regent Minter: I have a related question on the subject of the agency bond. You brought up in your presentation that if it were to be authorized by the Legislature either now or in 2014, that the projected debt service on that bond would be paid by Navitas revenues.

President Ransdell: Right.

Regent Minter: Do those revenues exist in sufficient numbers?

President Ransdell: We have 134 students in the Navitas program according to the latest enrollment report I saw just a few days ago. That number is going up each year and will go up next year. That is about the threshold we need to ensure that debt service is covered. We are at that threshold and I'm confident that number will continue to grow as it has in the last couple of years.

Regent Minter: And if it doesn't, then the debt service on that bond would be paid out of the budget?

President Ransdell: No. I said a portion of the margin between in-state and out-of-state tuition for Navitas students. It could be that if that number does not go up, we might have to claim the entire margin between in-state and out-of-state tuition from Navitas students. My intent is to have a portion of that dedicated to other academic priorities, but this is the most pressing priority for that revenue stream.

Regent Ridley: The only reservation that I have is looking backward as a history and also anticipating the future, property acquisition will now and always be something we will be addressing. It would be my hope that those responsible for negotiating this arrangement would look at all options for retaining real estate that we already own in some form or fashion – particularly those that are adjacent to the campus.

Regent Dodds: It is with great personal difficulty that I have arrived at my decision having worked in the Honors College for three years and being an Honors College student. I know the current Honors College space is cramped, the faculty and staff have been very patient and they deserve their own space. But at the same time, haven't the faculty and staff of Grise Hall and

Thompson Complex been just as patient, if not more so? We cannot continue to ignore the needs of Grise Hall and the Thompson Complex which both attract many students—including a large population of Honors students.

President Ransdell: I don't understand the correlation with that, Cory?

Regent Dodds: Honestly, between the Downing University Center project and the new Honors College facility, we could have made great strides with renovating Grise Hall and the Thompson Complex.

President Ransdell: I would disagree with that. The day we start using student fees to renovate an academic building, is the day we take a card away from the General Assembly's responsibility to provide our academic facilities. Our philosophy has been that we go to the State for academic priorities, but we take care of other priorities ourselves – building like this, like DUC, athletic facilities, residence halls, campus restaurants, etc. I would be very reluctant to take responsibility off the General Assembly's desk for a teaching academic and research facility like Grise Hall or the Thompson Complex.

Regent Dodds: I don't disagree with that at all. I am just concerned that this Honors College facility may undermine the initiatives of Grise Hall and the Thompson Complex.

President Ransdell: I don't think so. I think they are different tracks, different strategies, and different priorities. Yes, it is true that we won't be able to renovate Grise Hall or the Thompson Complex until the State can pay for it, but I am very reluctant to get into a student fee to pay for an academic priority.

MOTION:

Motion to approve was made by Regent Jim Johnson, seconded by Regent John Ridley, and approved with the majority of votes. Regent Patti Minter voted nay. Regent Cory Dodds abstained.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – INFORMATION ITEMS

- A construction progress update was provided by Mr. John Osborne and Mr. Bryan Russell.
- Information regarding utilities efficiencies was presented by Mr. John Osborne.

3. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE – ACTION ITEMS
(Mr. J. David Porter, Chair)

3.1 Approval of Personnel Actions

REQUEST:

Approval of faculty and staff personnel actions which have been approved through administrative channels and executed through the human resources information system during the period 06/08/2012 – 10/03/2012 (faculty) and 05/30/2012 – 10/03/2012 (staff).

FACTS:

This request includes a variety of customary actions pertaining to people and positions. Each action is identified by “type” and “funding source”. Salary increases equal to or greater than \$5,000 and not associated with a personnel transfer are noted with a detailed explanation.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

Funding is provided as indicated for each transaction.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Gary A. Ransdell recommends approval of all faculty and staff personnel actions as referenced above.

DISCUSSION:

Regent Minter: As always, thank you for the excellent narratives provided for the increases over \$5,000 listed on the report. I noticed that there are a large percentage of increases for some folks who remain in their same positions. I would like to remind my colleagues on the Board of the strategic plan we saw this summer pertaining to faculty and staff compensation. Faculty compensation has not been at benchmark since I was hired in 1993. I ask that you give serious consideration to the frustration of those whose compensation is well below market and on whose hard work this institution’s success ultimately depends. If you support this today—and I support this today—I ask that you let this be the day that we make a commitment to raise all votes, not only a few. Thank you very much for your consideration.

MOTION:

Motion to approve was made by Regent Cory Dodds, seconded by Regent John Ridley, and unanimously approved.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved Not Approved Other _____

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (*Dr. Gary A. Ransdell*)

- Ms. Kathryn Costello discussed Moving Forward in Development & Alumni Relations – Post Campaign.
 - The WKU 15-Year Report was proved by Ms. Robbin Taylor.
 - Ms. Deborah Wilkins briefed the Board on The Clery Act / Title IX Review.
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5. OTHER BUSINESS (*Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair*)

Upcoming dates:

- Committee Meetings – **December 14 at 1:00 pm (MMTH – Regents Room)**
 - Commencement (Graduate and Undergraduate) – **December 15 at 9:30 am and 2:00 pm**
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CLOSED / EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into a closed / executive session as provided in KRS 61.810(1) for purposes of discussing pending litigation against the University was made by Regent Cory Dodds, seconded by Regent James Kennedy, and unanimously approved. The Board went into closed / executive session at approximately 11:40 a.m. (CDT).

At approximately 11:55 a.m. (CDT), Chair Higdon returned the Board to open session:

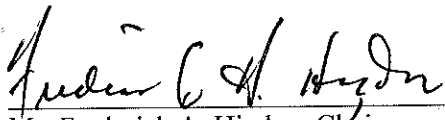
“The Board has now returned to open session. The discussions and deliberations during the closed session were restricted to those stated in the motion, and no formal action was taken by the Board in closed session.

6. ADJOURNMENT (*Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair*)

With no further business, Chair Higdon adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:00 p.m. (CDT).

CERTIFICATION OF SECRETARY

I hereby certify that the minutes herein above set forth an accurate record of votes and actions taken by the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University in the fourth quarterly meeting held October 26, 2012, in the Cornelius A. Martin Regents Room in the Mass Media and Technology Hall on the Western campus, and further certify that the meeting was held in compliance with KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820, and 61.825 (enacted as Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of House Bill 100, 1974 Regular Session, General Assembly).



Mr. Frederick A. Higdon, Chair
WKU Board of Regents

Approved on January 25, 2013



Dr. Melissa B. Dennison, Secretary
WKU Board of Regents

Approved on January 25, 2013