

DRAFT

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

SPECIAL MEETING

[end of Board of Trustees Retreat August 24-26, 2007]

Sunday, August 26, 2007

The Final Minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website
at www.uwyo.edu/trustees/meetings

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD
MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES**

**Sunday, August 26, 2007
10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.; Snake River Lodge
Jackson, Wyoming**

AGENDA

Call to Order1
Roll Call1
Public Session1
 Approval of State Budget Request- 2009-2010, Buchanan
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Call to Order

President of the Board of Trustees Dick Davis called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

Roll Call

Those present for the meeting were: Dave Bostrom, Chuck Brown, Dick Davis, Betty Fear, Taylor Haynes, Warren Lauer, Jim Neiman, Dave Palmerlee, Ann Rochelle, Tom Spicer, and Howard Willson. Ex-Officio Trustees in attendance included President Tom Buchanan, ASUW President David Kiren, State Superintendent for Public Instruction Jim McBride, and Mr. Chris Boswell, Governor's Chief of Staff, participating on behalf of Governor Dave Freudenthal. Trustee James Trosper was not in attendance.

Public Session- Approval of State Budget Request- 2009-2010, Buchanan

Vice President for Administration Phill Harris referred to the handout in the packet titled *2009-2010 Biennium Draft State Budget Request Summary and Overview* (see attached). He discussed the document in detail, explaining each section and answering questions regarding specific items.

The Board discussed salaries with respect to Section I and Section II monies. There were specific questions regarding funding requests for the Libraries. Vice President for Academic Affairs Myron Allen stated that the amount listed was calculated by the Dean of Libraries. There was continued discussion by the Board regarding one-time funding compared to recurring funding. President Buchanan stated that the libraries is the area of the University that suffers the most with staying up to status quo. This is one of the real pressing problems in higher education.

Trustee Rochelle asked specific questions regarding current funding for the libraries, our membership status and what we should be doing in two years.

Mr. Boswell stated that, on behalf of Governor Freudenthal, he would ask that the Board prioritize their budget list. He discussed some specific items on the budget, noting that the legislature will not approve everything on the list.

Trustee Lauer Warren provided his thoughts on prioritizing the budget list. Trustee Haynes stated that it is the trustees' duty to agree with what administration presents to them. If cuts need to be made, administration, and finally President Buchanan, will make those decisions. Trustees Rochelle and Neiman provided their priority recommendations and asked questions about the current priority listing.

Trustee Davis stated that the Board asks administration to develop this budget and determine what we need to move forward. All items are important. He expressed his support for the document.

Trustee Spicer also stated that he felt all the items are important, but that we should figure out ways that these costs could be funded through bonds or by raising tuition.

President Buchanan agreed with Trustee Spicer, commenting that we don't want to have to put these costs on the backs of the students. President Buchanan intends to have conversations with

the governor and all of the legislators to talk about priorities and areas that we may be able to think about differently. We will continue to argue on behalf of the University as all other state departments will. We haven't asked for things that we don't need. It is a complicated process.

Trustee Haynes moved that the proposed UW state budget request be approved as submitted and that the Board of Trustees indicate that those requests dealing with the academic mission are the University's highest priorities; second by Trustee Lauer. Discussion followed.

Trustee Nieman noted that he felt attending the University is an honor. We need to look at other ways of supporting the cost and should explore sharing the responsibility and expense. Trustee Haynes stated that all the responsibility is sitting on the shoulders of President Tom Buchanan and that he will support President Buchanan's decisions. It is his job and the job of whoever he asks to assist him with doing this job. Administration and the Board of Trustees are all after the same purpose and Trustee Haynes insisted that President Buchanan has done it and will do it well. Trustee Fear stated that she supported the comment, and that she has no basis to prioritize this University budget and would ask that it be up to the University to do it. Trustee Davis stated that it is up to the administration to carry this message to the legislature; it is not our responsibility. Trustee Lauer congratulated the administration and the staff for putting forth the proposed budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Brown noted that the Audit and Fiscal Integrity Committee has some business and should meet in the next couple of weeks.

Trustee Davis thanked the Board for their participation at the retreat and appreciated their input at the meeting. He also noted that the Board will continue to have "Governance" as a topic on their meeting agendas in the coming months.

Adjournment

Trustee Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Lauer seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Sanchez
Deputy Secretary, Board of Trustees

University of Wyoming
2009-2010 Biennium Draft State Budget Request
Summary and Overview
UW Board of Trustees Retreat – August 26, 2007

This is an overview of the comprehensive budget documents that UW proposes to submit to the state budget office when they are completed in the coming weeks. It is anticipated that the Board of Trustees will act formally on the University's budget request at the Board's September meeting.

I. UW Operating Budget – State 067 Budget

A. Standard Operating Budget

- A “standard budget” is calculated by the state’s budget office and serves as the base budget for each state agency that the Governor will recommend to the Legislature. Requests for new funding beyond this standard budget are called “exception” budget requests.
- UW’s standard budget for 2009-2010 is essentially the amount to sustain the “block grant” from the current (2007-2008) biennium. All one-time funding provided in the 2006 and 2007 budget bills is removed from the standard budget for 2008.
- The Governor has preliminarily included in each state agency’s budget, including UW’s, sufficient funding for a 4% adjustment in each year of the biennium to salary funding for Section I employees and to sustain the 85% employer contribution toward health insurance benefits. Total funding included for this recommendation and to sustain salary funding appropriated during the 2006 and 2007 session is approximately \$39.2 million.
- For Section II (UW self-generated revenue) funded employees to receive similar treatment, University charges and fees used to fund these employees’ salaries and benefits will need to be adjusted appropriately.
- The standard budget also includes funding for the annual \$1 million payment toward the NCAR project.

B. Expanded Budget Request

Academics

1. **Libraries** – (\$18,800,000 recurring) – Section 321 of the 2006 state budget bill required UW to report by October 1 on its efforts to achieve GWLA (Greater Western Library Alliance) membership and plan for eventual ARL (Association

of Research Libraries – the “gold standard” among research universities) membership. UW’s library collections, which include books, serials, databases, and electronic materials, are substantially smaller (15% to 27%) than those at libraries of the very smallest GWLA members, e.g. Oregon State, Utah State, and New Mexico State. UW’s annual collections budget is also much smaller than that at these institutions – 30% to 60% less. This funding, which includes a permanent increase to the collections budget, is the amount necessary for the University to realistically pursue a successful application for GWLA membership in 2010.

2. ***Instructional excellence including Outreach*** – (\$12,500,000 recurring; \$700,000 one-time) – After providing for the competitiveness of UW’s libraries, UW’s next academic priority is to ensure that UW’s non-personnel related budgets can support the level of forward-looking education that our students and Wyoming’s citizens expect. While UW has aggressively and creatively managed its block grant to address these increasing costs over the last 15 years, the pressing needs to maintain faculty/student ratios and to restore competitive salaries have constrained the institution’s ability to fund basic lab and studio equipment and supplies, teaching materials and equipment, student travel, and instructional technology and telecommunications costs.

A few examples help illustrate the challenge:

- Employers in the chemical, pharmaceutical, and analytical industries now expect college graduates to be expert in an array of equipment far richer than what has been available in a typical UW instructional lab: gas chromatographs, infrared and ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometers, nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometers, high pressure liquid chromatographs, and lasers.
- Wyoming offers a truly distinctive outdoor laboratory for students in Botany, Geology, Geography, Renewable Resources, and Zoology. To maintain its competitive stature as one of the country’s premier field-experience universities will require UW to fund a wider variety of off-campus travel and outdoor experiences than it can now afford.
- Disciplines ranging from Geography to Botany to Agriculture to Business to Nursing to Civil Engineering rely increasingly on geographic information systems to analyze land use, markets, epidemiological patterns, and transportation systems. Funding for the visualization equipment and rapidly evolving software packages required will help UW attain a level of sophistication hardly dreamed of 15 years ago.
- UW’s nationally recognized music, theatre, and dance programs emphasize performance. To provide truly national-caliber experiences for these students requires better budgets for musical instruments and stage equipment as well as for travel to venues outside Laramie.
- Undergraduates in the life sciences, the clinical health care professions, and energy and earth sciences now require training that involves

microscopy facilities — transmission and scanning electron microscopes, laser scanning confocal microscopes, and Raman microscopes — once available only in doctoral-level laboratories.

3. ***College of Business positions full biennial funding*** – (\$752,000) – Separate legislation was enacted in 2006 specifically authorizing three additional positions in the College of Business. Because of the manner in which the standard budget was constructed by the state budget office, this request simply ensures that the positions are fully funded during both years of the biennium and beyond. It is funding necessary to maintain the status quo.

Economic Development/Supporting Wyoming

1. ***School of Energy Resources*** – (\$8,607,000 recurring) – UW's 2005 SER financial plan, referenced in the SER enabling legislation, specified a three year budget ramp-up for the school. This request provides funding for the third year in the financial plan, sustains it for the fourth year, and includes the salary and benefit increases recommended in the standard budget. The manner in which the standard budget was constructed is insufficient to maintain funding under the plan for the biennium even at the second year budget level contained in the financial plan.
2. ***Faculty leadership in Wyoming issues: health care, water, and renewable energy*** – (\$1,720,000 recurring) – This request would fund a senior faculty position in each of these three areas to enhance UW's existing faculty expertise in these areas, which we believe are critical to the state's future.
3. ***Wyoming Technology Business Center (WTBC incubator)*** – (\$794,000 recurring) – In the 2006 budget session, one-time funding for the WTBC operational budget was provided so that future budget requests could be based on actual operating experience rather than estimates.
4. ***Wyoming Public Radio*** – (\$460,000 recurring; \$950,000 one-time) – This request will expand WPR coverage into several new areas and provides an additional broadcast channel in several existing areas.

Institutional Sustainability

1. ***Information Technology*** – (\$2,000,000 recurring; \$2,910,000 one-time) – This request focuses on instructional capacity and business sustainability including equipment and software for course development and management, wireless capability to the balance of campus, and enhance security and disaster recovery capability.

2. ***Campus safety initiatives*** – (\$1,081,400 recurring; \$1,765,750 one-time) – These funds will be used to implement the recommendations of President Buchanan’s Safety Advisory Committee including the first phase of a campus security system controlling building access.
4. ***Utilities*** – (\$2,450,000 recurring) – To address increased utility costs.

Athletics Competitiveness Plan – (\$2,309,500 recurring) – This funds 50% of the plan, with the balance to be generated by Intercollegiate Athletics.

Endowment Matching Program – (\$25,000,000 recurring) – This continues the endowment matching fund program.

II. Capital Facilities Request

State funding for University capital facilities projects

1. ***College of Business*** – Construction Funding (\$54,999,186)
2. ***Central Energy Plant*** – Utility System Improvements (First phase - \$4,700,000)
 - Chilled water system improvements
 - Comprehensive utility system analysis
 - Coal fired power modifications
3. ***Level II Planning Funds*** – New Fine Arts Facilities (\$800,000); Level II planning funds for a Science Teaching Laboratory are a possible 2009 request
4. ***Downey Hall*** – Construction Funding (\$5,191,000); UW proposes further discussion of financing alternatives for Washakie area halls, Crane-Hill area, and balance of east campus housing
5. ***Additional Classroom/Lab Renovations*** – Construction Funding (\$8,000,000); first phase – modernize 40 of more than 200 classrooms and labs in older buildings
6. ***Transportation/Parking Facilities*** – Possible 2009 request depending upon the results of the joint UW – City of Laramie – WYDOT study anticipated in early 2008

Support for funding multi-state agency project – Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) facilities in Wyoming State Vet Lab in Laramie – State Level II study for a multi-agency lab facility in Cheyenne (Human health and forensics) and for the multi-agency WSVL facility in Laramie (wildlife/livestock) both with suitable BSL-3 facilities

Academic facilities matching funds program

1. Joint UW/LCCC facility (\$11 million in state matching funds)
2. Joint UW/Casper College facility (possible 2009 request)
3. Additional matching funds for classroom and lab renovations and modifications to the 2007 academic facilities matching fund appropriations (net increase of \$3.6 million for a total pool of \$6 million)
4. Bridge funding for Athletics Matching Fund facilities - \$4,300,000 to be repaid when donor commitments are received

III. Medical Education Budget – 167

This budget contains funding for WWAMI, the Family Practice Residencies, Dental Education Program, Advanced Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Loan Repayment Program, and the Psychiatric Residency Rotation Program. Information will be provided at the retreat regarding this request.