

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

**The final minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website at
<http://www.uwyo.edu/trustees/>**

TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING AGENDA
Wednesday, February 14, 2018

WORK SESSIONS

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Roll Call

Date of Next Meeting – March 21-23, 2018

Adjournment

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consideration and Action: January 17-19, 2018, Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes (Public Session and Executive Session), MacPherson

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Approved 2-14-18 @ 8:45 a.m.

Board of Trustees January 17-19, 2018, Public Meeting Minutes

Trustee Scarlett moved the UW Board of Trustees approve the January 17-19, 2018, public meeting minutes as presented to the trustees; Trustee Tully seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

Approved 2-14-18 @ 8:46 a.m.

Board of Trustees January 17-19, 2018, Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Trustee Scarlett moved the UW Board of Trustees approve the January 17-19, 2018, executive session meeting minutes as presented to the trustees; Trustee Bostrom seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consideration and Action: Personnel – Standard Report, Miller/Benham-Deal

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Provost Miller and Associate Provost Tami Denham-Deal provided the Board with information on personnel matters related to sabbatical and professional development leaves. She noted supporting materials included a summary of projects being recommended for approval.

Approved 2-14-18 @ 8:47 a.m.

Personnel – Standard Report

Trustee Baldwin moved to approve the personnel report as provided to the Board; Trustee Bostrom seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE:

Consideration and Action: Trustee Education Initiative (TEI) Proposal, Rebecca Watts

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Executive Director of the Trustees Education Initiative Rebecca Watts and Associate Professor in the School of Teacher Education Trisha Johnson provided the Board with an update on the Wyoming Early Childhood Outreach Network (WyECON).

Director Watts explained that on January 28, 2018, the TEI Governing Board voted unanimously to recommend TEI Proposal 2017-08, a proposed Wyoming Early Childhood Outreach Network (WyECON) to the Board of Trustees for approval. She added WyECON would function as an organizing body to provide high-quality field experience options, to make existing professional development opportunities available to all early childhood (EC) educators, and to create a degree pathway into the University of Wyoming system. She noted the overarching goals were to support a highly qualified EC workforce in the state, to overcome limited access to early childhood education (ECE) excellence due to economic hurdles related to traditionally low compensation and higher education degree or workforce credential attainment, and to elevate early childhood care scopes of service. Director Watts stated this multimodal focus on developing practical, applicable EC workforce training created a unique opportunity for the University of Wyoming to become the national leader in supporting EC educators for rural settings.

Trustee Fall offered support of the proposal, and particularly noted his support of the creation of a degree pathway.

Approved 2-14-18 @ 8:54 a.m.

Trustee Education Initiative (TEI) Proposal

Trustee Fall moved the UW Board of Trustees approve the Trustees Education Initiative Proposal. 2017-08 for implementation by the College of Education from March 2018 through June 2020, with \$397,850.00 in funding provided through the Daniels Fund Trustees Education Initiative grant to the University of Wyoming as well as other grant sources to be garnered. Trustee Bostrom seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Information: AGB Conference**, MacPherson

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee MacPherson invited interested Board members to attend the April 2018 AGB Conference taking place in San Francisco. He reported Trustee Michelle Sullivan had expressed desire to attend.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Information: Financial Services Reorganization**, Nichols/Mai/Jewell

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

UW President Nichols provided an update to the Board on changes to the organization of financial services functions in the Division of Administration. She reported the restructure had been an ongoing effort prompted by the retirement of key individuals, allowing for the opportunity to analyze the structure, organization, and staffing of several financial units. She expressed the goal of the reorganization was to streamline financial services functions, enhance teamwork and cross-unit communications, improve performance, and otherwise develop a strong financial team. UW President Nichols stated the reorganization would continue with the existing 60 FTEs.

Vice President for Administration Bill Mai described the changes, which included consolidating from two associate vice presidents to one, and moving from seven “units” to five. He added four of the five units would be housed with Financial Affairs, including: Financial Administration and Compliance, Treasury and Financial Reporting, Budget and Institutional Analysis, and WyoCloud Management. He added one additional unit, Payroll, would move to the AVP for Human Resources. He reported another change of significance would be the moving of Contract and Grants (post-awards) from the Research Office to Financial Services, specifically within Financial Administration and Compliance. Vice President Mai noted that while this office would continue to have communication with the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, its day-to-day functions would now align with Accounting.

Vice President Mai introduced Ronald Revel who was joining UW from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to serve as Senior Director for Financial Administration and Compliance. He further stated Ashlie Reese would serve as Director for Treasury and Financial Reporting. He added they would begin the search for the Director for Budget/Institutional Analysis shortly. He noted Associate Vice President for Budgeting and Institutional Planning David Jewell would serve as the associate vice president for that unit.

Trustee MacPherson complimented the Administration for addressing relevant issues.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Information: UW Housing Ad Hoc Committee**, MacPherson/McKinley

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
 Education Session
 Information Item
 Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Trustee MacPherson described the impetus to form the UW Housing Ad Hoc Committee to address concerns resulting from the housing discussion during the January 2018 Board of Trustees meeting. He noted the scope and purpose of the committee would be to gather and process information to be presented to Board of Trustees in the form of a Master Plan for Phase I of new campus housing. He stated the Ad Hoc Committee would not bypass the committee for new construction.

Trustee MacPherson noted the charge of the committee as follows:

The purpose of the committee would be limited to gathering and processing information in order to present it to the Board of Trustees in the form of a master plan for phase I of UW's future housing, which would be primarily focused on new housing. The ad-hoc committee would not replace or bypass the existing UW regulations and process currently in place for new construction, but rather its purpose is to get a working concept in place which addresses the concerns of various constituents.

Trustee MacPherson added appointees to the committee were: Trustees John McKinley, Macey Moore, Jeff Marsh; UW President Laurie Nichols, Vice President for Administration Bill Mai and Vice President for Student Affairs Sean Blackburn; a representative from the State Senate designated by Senate President Eli Bebout; and a representative from the State House of Representatives designated by Speaker of the House Steve Harshman.

Upon query from ASUW President Ben Wetzel, Trustee MacPherson added the ASUW President would also have a seat on the UW Housing Ad Hoc Committee.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Information: Legislative Update**, Boswell

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
 Education Session
 Information Item
 Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Vice President for Government and Community Affairs Chris Boswell provided the board with a legislative update. He reported there was movement from some in the legislature, particularly from the Senate members of the Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC), to identify UW reserves as new and found money to be used to fund the Science Initiative facility. He added the Legislature felt it would free up \$100 million in previously appropriated funds for other uses. He noted the reserves being discussed by the legislature most frequently were the Operations Reserve account and the Special Projects Reserve account. Vice President Boswell further reported one suggestion receiving senate support was for \$40 million dollars of the Science Initiative facility appropriations made in prior years be withdrawn, leaving it up to UW to replace the amount from the reserves.

Vice President Boswell reported the UW standard budget and exception request were faring well and continued to be favorably recommended. He then reported on a concern of the legislators, which was the UW housing plan and budget with talks that some combination of state funds, loan, and bonds might be leveraged to fund residence hall construction or remodeling. He noted the JAC took action on a capital construction bill, which put a moratorium on the demolition of residence halls and construction at UW. He added the bill would also create a legislative UW Housing Task Force to include two members of the Senate, two members of the House of Representatives, a designee from the Governor's Office, a designee from the Office of the Treasurer, a designee determined by UW President Laurie Nichols, and two members of the Board.

Vice President Boswell reported on the Excellence in Higher Education funds and the bill to help cover shortfalls for endowed faculty. He stated the language in the bill made clear the intent of the legislature was to discourage UW and Wyoming Community Colleges to say investment returns were insufficient in funding endowed faculty positions. He further stated there was substantial appropriation into that reserve and UW testimony had been that the spending for endowed faculty from this account was down from \$4 million to \$3 million, and that would likely be the expenditures moving forward. Vice President Boswell added on the funding of UW medical education, and stated the legislature planned to spend time this interim exploring residency programs.

There was significant disappointment expressed by Board members and discussion related to a preferred method of communication to legislators. Trustee Brown concluded members should take a cue from Vice President Boswell on the most effective timing for outreach to legislators.

Trustee Brown requested a summary sheet related to the reserve accounts to which the Board could refer. Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans referred Trustees to a previously created public document describing the purpose of the reserves. Trustee MacPherson requested Trustee Brown review the document prior to distribution.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Public Comment Session: Tuition Recommendations**, Nichols/MacPherson

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
- Education Session
- Information Item
- Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

There was no public comment. Trustee Marsh reported it had been helpful and enlightening to review the written public comment previously submitted.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: **Consideration and Action: Personnel – Government Relations**, Nichols

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

- Work Session
 Education Session
 Information Item
 Other

Specify: Committee of the Whole (Items for Approval)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING:

Approved 2-14-18 @ 9:40 a.m.

Consideration and Action: Personnel – Government Relations

Trustee Brown moved that in lieu of Vice President for Governmental and Community Affairs Chris Boswell's pending retirement, the UW Board of Trustees authorize the president of the university to make an interim at-will appointment of a director for Government Relations to function in an interim position with a job description that is under consideration—all to be finalized with the name and a formalized job description at the March 2018 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee True seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous decision.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

Date of Next Meeting

March 21-23, 2018

Adjournment

The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Polk
Deputy Secretary, Board of Trustees



RoseMarie London
Senior Administrative Assistant