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WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session February 24, 2011

WMU Board of Trustees

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Prior to the informal and formal sessions of the Board, recently appointed Trustee Dana Debel and reappointed Trustee Ken Miller were honored at an oath of office ceremony, with Judge William Schma administering the oath.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FORMAL SESSION
FEBRUARY 24, 2011

The Board of Trustees annual formal session was called to order by Chair Tolbert on Thursday, February 24, 2011, at 1 p.m., in Rooms 157-159, Bernhard Center.

Acceptance of the Agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented with one additional item – Board of Trustees Resolution to Appoint Evaluation and Compensation Committee. Motion for approval of the agenda was made by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Hettinger.

Trustees present: Chair Tolbert, Vice Chair Archer, Trustee Asmonga-Knapp, Trustee Debel, Trustee Hettinger, Trustee Miller, and President Dunn (ex officio).

Remarks by the Chair. Chair Tolbert congratulated Trustee Dana Debel on her appointment to the Board and Trustee Ken Miller on his reappointment. He also expressed appreciation for the service and dedication of Trustee Bill Martin (named Trustee Emeritus) later in meeting.

Noting that this is the first meeting of the calendar year and the time when officers are elected, Chair Tolbert stated that it has been a privilege to serve in the role of chair. He said that he is enormously grateful for the support of his fellow trustees and all of the members of the University community. He stated that as a proud alumnus of WMU he knew the University well before coming a trustee and that his pride in the University has grown deeper and stronger with all the information he has learned as trustee and chair.
Remarks by the President  President Dunn also welcomed Trustee Debel and said he was looking forward to working with her and to continue working with Trustee Miller. He thanked Trustee Tolbert for his leadership as chair and for the response he has shown to requests from the campus community President Dunn also added his thanks for the wise counsel and commitment of Trustee Bill Martin throughout his years on the board.

He then introduced Dr. Hal Jenson, Founding Dean of the Western Michigan University School of Medicine. His appointment was announced in January he’s coming to WMU from Tuft University where he served as professor pediatrics and regional dean for the Western Campus of the Tufts School of Medicine. President Dunn also thanked Dr. Jack Luderer who has served as interim dean of the medical school, done an outstanding job of moving the initiative forward, and led the search committee that helped identify Dr. Jenson. In keeping with his background, Dr. Luderer will continue with the medical school as the associate dean for research.

President Dunn then spoke of the budget challenges facing the University He reported that WMU’s highest funding from the state was in 2001-02—it was $125.6 million. The most expected under the governor’s budget is $93 million and could be as low as $86 million—this means that over the past decade we have lost 25 percent of our state funding and could be as much as 30 percent. We are carefully looking at strategies that will allow moving forward without violating the values at the core of the University’s relationship with all of its constituencies—which must and always will be our commitment to students.

President Dunn then reported on faculty and student accomplishments.

Election of Officers. In keeping with the board bylaws that officers be elected at the annual formal session, Chair Tolbert presented the proposed slate that was approved following a motion by Trustee Hettinger, supported by Trustee Asmonga-Knapp

Chair
Vice Chair Dennis Archer

Vice Chair
Trustee Bill Johnston

Secretary
Betty Kocher

Treasurer and
Assistant Secretary
Lowell Rinker

Assistant Treasurer
Jan VanDerKley

Chair Archer then spoke of the upcoming year—including working with his colleagues and continuing the progress now underway.
Remarks by the WSA President and GSAC Chair – Aaron Booth and Joel Raveloharimisy spoke of the work of their organizations.

Remarks by the Faculty Senate President. Dr. Peter Krawutschke welcomed Trustee Debel and congratulated Trustee Miller on his reappointment. He reported on the plans and work of the Senate.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 17 Formal Session – The minutes were approved as distributed following a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Tolbert.

Approval of Emeritus Resolution. Following a motion by Trustee Hettinger, supported by Trustee Asmonga-Knapp, the Board of Trustees approved the resolution (Attachment A) granting emeritus status to Trustee Martin.

Trustee Hettinger, supported by Trustee Miller, moved that the following two items re differential tuition recommendations tabled at the December formal session be acted on at this time. Trustee Debel stated she would be abstaining for the roll call votes and not commenting on the items since she was not familiar with the past discussions.

Recommendation re Differential Tuition for the Haworth College of Business. After remarks by Dean Kay Palan, the Board of Trustees approved the differential tuition plan for the Haworth College of Business, effective fall semester 2011. On a 5-0 roll call vote, with 1 abstention, as moved by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Tolbert, the plan will apply only to students in junior and senior years. The students will be assessed a $40 per-credit-hour differential rate, in addition to the resident or nonresident vote already in place for the academic year. The additional funding raised will be used to reduce class size and increase advising opportunities for hiring additional faculty and to support business programs. It was stated that course fees will be eliminated or reduced.

Recommendation re Differential Tuition for the College of Fine Arts. The Board of Trustees approved the differential tuition plan for the College of Fine Arts, effective fall semester 2011, following a 5-0 vote, with 1 abstention, on a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Tolbert. The plan will apply to all students beginning with their freshman year; they will be assessed a $50 per-credit-hour rate in addition to the applicable resident or nonresident tuition rate charged universitywide. Course fees will be eliminated or reduced for students under this plan. The funding will be used to sustain the qualities of the internationally known and professionally accredited programs.
Assessment Agreement with Merit Net Network, Inc. On a 6-0 roll call vote, as moved by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Tolbert, an assessment agreement with Merit Network, Inc. was approved. As reviewed by Vice President Rinker and Associate Vice President VanDerKley, Merit Network, Inc. is a Michigan nonprofit organization that develops and promotes advanced internet services for research and education. The main source of funding comes from membership fees of the 12 governing universities as well as service fees from other member organizations.

Recommendation re Board of Trustees Resolution to Appoint Evaluation and Compensation Committee. As reviewed by Vice President Hustoles, the resolution (Attachment B) was approved after a motion by Trustee Debel, supported by Trustee Tolbert. Chair Archer appointed Trustees Debel, Miller and Tolbert members of the committee.

Consent Items. As presented by Chair Archer, the following consent items were approved following a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Tolbert. Personnel report, gift report, grant report, academic program changes and authorization to confer degrees.

Operating Cash Investment and Annuity and Life Income Funds Performance Reports – Reviewed by Associate Vice President VanDerKley.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Kocher
Secretary
Western Michigan University

Resolution

WHEREAS, William J. Martin, of Battle Creek, Michigan, has provided dedicated and faithful service to Western Michigan University and the people of Michigan as a member of the University's governing board since 2003; and

WHEREAS, he has served the Board of Trustees with grace and wisdom during a period of great change and growth at the University that included changes in presidential leadership, major new research initiatives and the opening of new facilities for art, engineering, chemistry, and health and human services; and

WHEREAS, as an alumnus, he has and will continue to bring recognition to the University through his many professional and civic achievements, including his previous work as a state legislator, commissioner and CEO of the Michigan State Lottery, director and CEO of the Michigan Department of Corrections, and his work with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and Habitat for Humanity, as well as his current role as chief executive officer of the Michigan Association of Realtors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Western Michigan University Board of Trustees wholeheartedly and appreciatively grants the honorary title of Trustee Emeritus to William J. Martin, with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto, in recognition of his devotion, dedication and service to the University.

Approved this twenty-fourth day of February, 2011
BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION TO APPOINT EVALUATION AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Board of Trustees hereby appoints an Evaluation and Compensation Committee that shall be comprised of no more than three currently serving and/or past WMU Board Trustees appointed by the Board Chair (which can include the Board Chair) for one year terms to perform those specific tasks and business as the Board directs. In accordance with the Board Bylaws, the Evaluation and Compensation Committee shall have no other authority than that conferred by the Board, shall exercise no final authority, and shall have no power to act on behalf of or in place of the Board.

The Evaluation and Compensation Committee is charged with developing procedure for the Board’s assessing at least annually the performance and functioning of the president and of the Board of Trustees in consultation with the president. As part of this procedure, the Committee shall consider the setting and evaluation of goals and benchmarks, including the president’s input, self-assessment, and goals.

The Evaluation and Compensation Committee is also charged with making recommendations to the Board regarding compensation and benefits for the president. In conjunction with this task, the Committee shall review external market trends and data, salary studies, and/or other relevant information related to compensation and benefits of university presidents.

The Committee is also charged with those other tasks and business related to evaluation and compensation at the University deemed appropriate and requested by the Board Chair. The Committee may utilize the assistance of University administrators in carrying out its tasks and business, as well as other resources as approved by the Board Chair.

Procedures for meetings of the Evaluation and Compensation Committee shall be consistent with law and Board directives.