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WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session April 15, 2010

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FORMAL SESSION
APRIL 15, 2010

The Board of Trustees formal session was called to order by Chair Tolbert on Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 11:15 a.m. in Rooms 157-159, Bernhard Center.

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

Acceptance of the Agenda. The agenda was accepted following a motion by Trustee Archer, supported by Trustee Hettinger, with the two roll call items (Sustainability Fund Initiative and Student Room and Board and Apartment rates 2010-11) moved to the beginning of the session.

Sustainability Fund Initiative. The adoption of a student sustainability fee was approved on a 6-0 roll call vote as moved by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Archer. In accordance with a Western Student Association election in March 2010, the fee was adopted, effective fall semester 2010, \$8.00 per semester/\$4.00 per session (main campus only) for the “purpose of funding student designed and led sustainability initiatives, an Office of Sustainability, and a WMU Green Jobs Program.” As indicated, the details and logistics of how the funds will be distributed are being determined.

Student Room and Board and Apartment Rental Rates 2010-11. As reviewed by Vice President Anderson, the Board of Trustees authorized the administration to implement increased student room and board and apartment rental rates for 2010-11, effective fall semester 2010. Action was approved on a roll call vote of those present, 6-0, following a motion by Trustee Archer, supported by Trustee Johnston. It was noted the action is consistent with the Western Edge plan – that a student’s room and board rate will remain the same for four consecutive years, beginning with the first year a student submits a housing contract.

Remarks by the Chair. Chair Tolbert stated he was looking to commencement on May 1, honoring more than 2,500 graduating students. He spoke of the first Kalamazoo Promise student earning her degree in December, a little earlier than the first class of eligible Promise students, with some 20 Promise students to receive their degrees in several weeks. He noted the new WMU/KPS partnership called Bronco BUDS (Building Unique Dynamic Students) a sixth-grade program to encourage middle school students to set their sights on college and take advantage of the Kalamazoo Promise tuition scholarship program. Chair Tolbert also reported on the PeaceJam Youth Conference to be held on campus with hundreds of high school students from Michigan, Illinois,

Indiana and Ohio. This is the eighth year the University has hosted the conference, an international education program built around 11 Nobel prize winners and made possible through funding provided by area foundations and private donors. Chair Tolbert invited all those in attendance to join the trustees across the street at a special flag-raising ceremony. Ed Kluk of our Office of Information Technology, also a lieutenant colonel and Bronze Star recipient in the Michigan National Guard, brought a flag back flown over his unit's base in Afghanistan. It is being presented to WMU and will be flown in front of the administration building, then retired and preserved in a special case maintained in the University archives and regional history collections. Chair Tolbert said in this way we honor the service of Ed Kluk and all of the veterans with WMU ties, noting that we have more students from the Iraq /Afghanistan wars than any other university in Michigan.

Remarks by the President. President Dunn indicated that enrollment figures continue to look positive for fall admits and that we are now also working with the 2011 fall class.

He reported that the Federal Aviation Agency just announced that Western is one of five schools across the nation being added to the agency's Air Traffic Collegiate Initiative and will partner with Kellogg Community College in offering this new program. President Dunn also noted that the Haworth College of Business just opened a new MBA Program Office and Global Business Center designed to "coordinate, leverage and build on a wide range of existing international education initiatives in that college. He reported on many student and faculty honors and accomplishments.

Remarks by the WSA President and GSAC Chair. President Dunn acknowledged WSA President Nate Knappen, thanking him for his outstanding service and congratulated him on his upcoming graduation. Nate Knappen introduced the new WSA president, Aaron Booth, who stated he was looking forward to serving in his new post. GSAC Chair Brandi Pritchett said she had enjoyed serving with the Graduate Student Advisory Committee and talked of the work of the group. Chair Tolbert thanked Brandi as she continues with her doctoral studies.

Remarks by the Faculty Senate President. Dr. John Jellies spoke of the work of the Senate as he prepares to leave that post. The trustees also expressed their appreciation to him for his service.

College of Aviation Report. Presented by Dean (Captain) David Powell.

Consent Items. As moved by Trustee Archer, supported by Trustee Miller, the following items were approved: Personnel Report, Gift Report, Grant Report, Establishment of Center and Lease Agreement.

Public Comments. There were no requests to address the Board.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Kocher

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Secretary

Board of Trustees
