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WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session December 17, 2010

WMU Board of Trustees

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FORMAL SESSION
DECEMBER 17, 2010

The Board of Trustees formal session was called to order by Chair Tolbert on Friday, December 17, 2010, at 12 noon, Rooms 157-159, Bernhard Center.

Trustee present: Chair Tolbert, Vice Chair Archer (via telephone), Trustee Carlson, Trustee Hettinger, Trustee Johnston, Trustee Johnston, Trustee Miller, and President Dunn (ex officio).

Remarks by the Chair. Chair Tolbert talked of commencement to be held the following day with more than 1,800 students receiving their diplomas. He noted also that the day marks the 300th time the University has held commencement ceremonies. He also reported on various accomplishments, honors and awards highlighting the end of a busy semester. Chair Tolbert reminded everyone in attendance of the holiday reception for the University community to be held that afternoon, hosted by President and Mrs. Dunn and the Board of Trustees

Remarks by the President. President Dunn also spoke of commencement and his best wishes for the graduates. He then talked of the deep disappointment experienced throughout the University when the Michigan Legislature failed to approve an earlier commitment to Western to help in a badly needed rebuild of our largest instructional facility, Sangren Hall. He indicated that with building started and contracts signed, the University is now left with enormous budget adjustments going forward. He stated that money must be borrowed to complete the project and the debt retirement be added to the operating budget for many years. President Dunn said that every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on our students. He recognized some very special guests in attendance—Tim and Joy Light, with the formal establishment of Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies on today's agenda. The center was launched in the fall with a gift from the Light family to celebrate Dr/ Tim Light's career and accomplishments over the years. Dr Jaimy Gordon was congratulated for receiving the 2010 National Book Award for fiction for her new book "Lord of Misrule." She joins the list of past award winners that include Faulkner, Auden and Updike. President Dunn extended best wishes to Dr. Paul Maier, professor of history, noted author, and longest serving faculty member, who is retiring after fifty years of service. He has an international reputation as a scholar of ancient history and is one of the world's leading authorities on early Christianity.

Remarks by the WSA President and GSAC Chair. Aaron Booth and Joel Raveloharimisy spoke on the the activities of the Western Student Association and the Graduate Student Advisory Committee.

Remarks by the Faculty Senate President. Dr. Peter Krawutschke reported on the

work of the Faculty Senate.

Acceptance of the Agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented on a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Hettinger.

Approval of the Minutes from the September 23 Formal Session. The minutes were accepted as distributed after a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Johnston

Proposal re Establishment of Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies. Following a motion by Trustee Martin, supported by Trustee Johnston, the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies, effective retroactively October 1, 2010. As noted, the name of the center recognizes Dr. Timothy Light, Kalamazoo native and expert on Chinese language, religion and culture. Dr. Light and his family have been generous supporters of the University's endeavors and efforts in making it a globally engaged institution. Dr. Light joined the comparative religion faculty in 1991, and later served as provost and special assistant for international affairs to President Haenicke. He retired in 2003.

Recommendation re Presidential Compensation. As presented by Chair Tolbert, the Board of Trustees expressed its appreciation to President Dunn and to Mrs. Dunn for their outstanding work on behalf of the University. Following a motion by Trustee Martin, supported by Trustee Hettinger, the trustees unanimously approved an increase in the president's base salary of \$3,625, bringing his salary to \$366,082, effective for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. President Dunn thanked the Board for its action and noted that as in the past years the increase will be donated back to WMU for student scholarships.

Recommendation re Differential Tuition for the Haworth College of Business and the College of Fine Arts. The joint presentation was made by Dean Kay Palan of the Haworth College of Business and Dean Margaret Merrion of the College of Fine Arts, Both recommending that after intensive review of implementing differential tuition rate models, such programs should be considered for their colleges. If approved for the Haworth College of Business, this fall juniors and seniors in the college would pay an extra \$40 per credit hour added to both the resident and non-resident per credit hour rate as set by the Board of Trustees. If approved for the College of Fine Arts, all undergraduate students would be assessed an additional \$50 per credit hour. Plans for both colleges would be effective fall 2011, with seventy-five cents of each differential dollar collected remaining in the colleges to strengthen their academic programs and the remaining twenty-five cents provided to the students in the form of student financial aid so the model does not create a barrier to college recruitment. Also, as part of the proposed models, course fees would be eliminated. Action on the proposed models for both colleges was tabled on a motion by Trustee Miller, supported by Trustee Hettinger, until a later date to allow for additional input.

Joint Use and Maintenance Consortium Agreement (Ferris State University, Grand Valley State University, Western Michigan University and Muskegon Community College – Stevenson Center for Higher Education. Following a motion by Trustee Martin, supported by Trustee Johnston, the Board of Trustees authorized the President, Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer to enter into a Joint Use and Maintenance Agreement for the term of two years effective January 1, 2011 As reviewed by Associate Provost Gaymer, the agreement will cover the use of space in the Higher Education/Cooperative Center (Muskegon Community College) for WMU, FSU and GVSU for the purpose of offering third and fourth year and graduate classes which ultimately lead toward completion requirements for baccalaureate degrees, post baccalaureate degrees and for non-credit training.

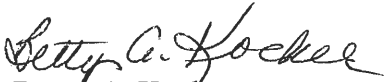
Consent Items – The following items were approved on a motion by Trustee Johnston, supported by Trustee Miller – Personnel Report, Gift Report, Grant Report, Lease Agreement (European Spa Boutique), Program Change (Creation of Master of Science in Engineering (Chemical) degree, and Meeting Dates 2011 (February 24, April 8, June 9, July 22, September 28 and December 8.

MUSIC (Michigan Universities Self-Insurance Corporation Update – Provided by Vice President Rinker.

Public Comments. Benjamin Ayres, a WMU student, spoke re concern over increasing costs at Western.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Betty A. Kocher
Secretary
Board of Trustees