



12-12-2008

WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session December 12, 2008

WMU Board of Trustees

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 12, 2008

The Board of Trustees formal session was called to order by Chair Miller on Friday, December 12, 2008, at 12:10 p.m., Rooms 157-159, Bernhard Center.

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

Remarks by the Chair. Chair Miller spoke of the ending of another successful semester with three commencement ceremonies to be held the following day and of the many holiday activities being held on campus. He reported on a very successful fundraiser, "Dancing with the WMU/Kazoo Stars" (both President Dunn and Chair Miller participated), with \$10,000 raised for scholarships for dance majors in the College of Fine Arts. Chair Miller noted recent news reports outlining WMU research on the success of the Kalamazoo Promise. He indicated that as part of the University's celebration of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Promise-eligible students and their families will be invited to campus in January for a Sunday afternoon. They will have lunch, hear a motivational speaker and learn about career opportunities available to those who pursue studies in a variety of academic disciplines.

Remarks by the President. President Dunn spoke of the loss to the University with the death of Dr. Julius Franks, Jr. who died in Grand Rapids on November 26. Trustee Emeritus Franks was a member of the first WMU Board of Trustees and served for nineteen years. President Dunn spoke at his funeral and asked that a moment of silence be observed at the meeting in Dr. Franks memory.

President Dunn noted an honorary degree was to be presented to William Hough at one of the following day's commencement ceremonies. He spent many years as a science educator and one of his greatest accomplishments was being a member of a historic 1957 scientific expedition to the South Pole.

President Dunn spoke of Western's involvement in NASULGC's new program, the Science and Mathematics Teacher Imperative (a long-term effort to address the shortage of well-qualified science and mathematics teachers.) He reported that an anonymous donor has just committed a \$1 million estate gift to the School of Communications, the second million-dollar gift received by the School of Communications in the past year.

President Dunn spoke of the successful seasons of both volleyball and football, with the volleyball team playing that evening in the third round of the NCAA championships, the “Sweet Sixteen” against Penn State, defending national champions and top-ranked team in the country. He reported that the football team has accepted an invitation to play Rice University in the third annual Texas Bowl in Reliant Stadium in Houston on December 30. He introduced Coach Cubit and two of the football team’s co-captains Brandon Ledbetter and Tim Hiller. President Dunn said that the volleyball team will be invited to the next Board meeting.

Both Chair Miller and President Dunn thanked Trustee DeNooyer and Trustee Pero for their much appreciated support and counsel. (Their appointments as trustees end on December 31, and they serve until they are reappointed or other appointments are made.)

Remarks by the WSA President and the GSAC Chair. Danielle Harik spoke on behalf of the WSA and Brandi Pritchett represented the GSAC. They both spoke on the work of their organizations and plans for the upcoming year.

Acceptance of the Agenda. The agenda was accepted as presented, with the addition of the Police Officers Association Agreement, on a motion by Trustee Martin, supported by Trustee Pero.

Approval of the Minutes of the November 7 Formal Session. The minutes were approved following a motion by Trustee Archer, supported by Trustee Johnston.

Presidential Evaluation/Compensation Recommendation. Chair Miller stated that while he was speaking specifically for the University’s Board of Trustees, he was confident that he represented the thoughts of many of the University community and community in its entirety. He thanked President Dunn for his outstanding leadership, commitment and dedication. Chair Miller said President Dunn had promised a “vision” for the University, commenced a process towards its fulfillment, and simultaneously applied a “nuts and bolts” approach to the immediacy of matters confronting us now. He stated President Dunn’s promised “low threshold of accessibility” is a reality for all students, faculty and staff and has enhanced WMU as a premier, student centered research institution. Chair Miller stated that it was the considered and unanimous opinion of the Board that Dr. Dunn’s performance as president in essential matters of Leadership-Fiscal Management-Student Relations-Staff/Faculty Relations-Board of Trustees Relations-Community Involvement-Communications with University Stakeholders-can best be summed up in one word, EXCELLENT. Chair Miller said he would, however, like to mention a few additional highlights—achieved a balanced budget for the first time in six years; seen an increase in enrollment—significantly freshmen—after five years in decline (against the backdrop of extreme economic times and declining state government support); successfully with them and faculty, completed a new AAUP contract; restored community loyalty and interest in WMU; and established

a broad based interest on behalf of the University in a diverse group of stakeholders of varying backgrounds and socioeconomic circumstances as evidenced by pursuit of assistance for returning veterans and aged out foster children.

Chair Miller said the trustees would be remiss if they did not take this opportunity to thank Linda Dunn, our Principal Ambassador, for her gracious, generous and significant contributions to and representation of Western Michigan University. He stated we are very fortunate to have both of you here as part of the University family. Western continues to benefit from your leadership and it is in the best interest of WMU to maintain the momentum and continuity you have created. We thank you.

Chair Miller stated, based on the foregoing evaluation, it is the unanimous decision of the entire Board of Trustees that President Dunn be granted a three percent increase to his base salary. President Dunn thanked the Board for the kind words and very positive review and thanked the trustees for providing them the opportunity to be part of the WMU family. He said that Western is great university, and Kalamazoo, an outstanding community. President Dunn said he and Linda have always enjoyed providing support for students and the entire amount of his increase will be donated to be used for student scholarships.

Agreement – Police Officers Association (POA). On a 8-0 roll call vote, as moved by Trustee Tolbert, supported by Trustee Archer, the Board of Trustees authorized the administraton to implement a three-year agreement between the University and its 18-member Police Officers Association. The agreement, effective July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2011, was ratified by the union December 3. The contract includes language changes, a 3 percent across-the-board increase to base in each year of the agreement and items detailing life insurance and annual eligibility for a fitness bonus.

Consent Items. As moved by Trustee Johnston, supported by Trustee Pero, the following consent items were approved—personnel report, gift report, grant report, lease agreement (Lansing), WSA constitution addition, name change (Center for Women’s Studies to Gender and Women’s Studies, program changes (accelerated bachelor’s/master’s degree in Civil Engineering, MA in Applied Economics with concentration in Economic Development, and MA in Applied Economics with a concentration in Statistics and Econometrics), appointment of GLBA Security Officer, and Board meeting dates – 2009 (February 4, September 17 and November 6-with April, June and July dates to be determined).

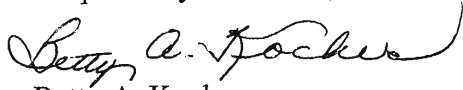
MUSIC Overview – Information item.

4

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty A. Kocher". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Betty A. Kocher
Secretary
Board of Trustees

PERSONNEL REPORT

ACADEMIC

Administrative Appointments

Richard Cooper, Interim Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy, effective January 1, 2009.

Administrator Return to Faculty

Thomas Carey, Professor, Department of Management, effective August 9, 2009.

Leonard Ginsberg, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, effective December 14, 2009.

Retirements - Administrative

Cindee Quake-Rapp, Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy, Professor Emerita of Occupational Therapy, effective December 31, 2008.

Retirements - Administrative (Change in Retirement Date Only)

Gary Wegenke, Dean, College of Education, Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership, Research and Technology, effective September 30, 2009.

Appointments - Tenure Track

David Areaux, Assistant Professor, Department of Physician Assistant, effective December 1, 2008.

Kathleen Rubin, Assistant Professor, University Libraries, effective January 7, 2009.

Appointment - Term

Rich Compton, Instructor, Department of Management, effective December 15, 2008 through August 9, 2009.

Visiting Professor

Raymond Wacker, Visiting Professor, Department of Accountancy, effective January 5, 2009 through April 25, 2009.

Writer-in- Residence

Debra Marquart, Writer-in- Residence, Department of English, effective January 5, 2009 through April 25, 2009.

Joint Appointment

Yuan-kang Wang, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and School of Public Affairs and Administration, effective August 11, 2008.

Reappointments - Adjunct

Robert Perra, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Physician Assistant, effective spring 2009 through fall 2011.

Helen Pratt, Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology, effective spring 2009 through fall 2011.

Appointments - Adjunct

L. Leonard Harrison, Adjunct Professor, Department of Finance and Commercial Law, effective spring 2009 through fall 2011.

Retirements with Emeriti Status

Elen Cutrim, Professor, Department of Geography, Professor Emerita of Geography, effective August 9, 2009.

Gerard Nowak, Associate Professor, University Counseling and Testing Center, Associate Professor Emeritus of University Counseling, effective April 30, 2009.

Sabbatical Leave

Leonard Ginsberg, Associate Vice President for Research, Research and Sponsored Programs, effective March 9, 2009 through December 13, 2009.

Faculty Sabbatical Leaves (2009-2010)

Jon Adams, Department of English

Julie Apker, School of Communication

Sisay Asefa, Department of Economics

Robert Bensley, Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Peter Bickle, Department of Foreign Languages

James Butterfield, Department of Political Science

Faculty Sabbatical Leaves (2009-2010) Continued
Vincent Desroches, Department of Foreign Languages

Margaret Dupuis, Department of English

Nancy Eimers, Department of English

Michael Grammer, Department of Geosciences

David Guth, Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies

Charles Henderson, Department of Physics

Tricia Hennessy, School of Art

Sarah Hill, Department of Anthropology

Jon Holtzman, Department of Anthropology

James Hueng, Department of Economics

Catherine Julien, Department of History

Steven Kohler, Department of Biological Sciences

Tetyana Koshmanova, Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies

Ronald Larson, Department of Marketing

Steven Lipkin, School of Communication

David Lyth, Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering

Niloufer Mackey, Department of Mathematics

Stephen Malcolm, Department of Biological Sciences

Arthur McGurn, Department of Physics

Yirong Mo, Department of Chemistry

Jennifer Palthe, Department of Management

Dewei Qi, Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Imaging

Muhammad Razi, Department of Business Information Systems

Faculty Sabbatical Leaves (2009-2010) Continued

David Rudge, Department of Biological Sciences

Christopher Schmidt, Department of Geosciences

Wuwei Shen, Department of Computer Science

Mary Ann Stark, School of Nursing

Jeffrey Strom, Department of Mathematics

Victor Cunrui Xiong, Department of History

NON-ACADEMIC

Retirements

Victoria Beyene, Equipment Operator I, Plant-Landscape Services, effective December 31, 2008.

Jane Ferguson, Office Associate, School of Social Work, effective March 31, 2009.

Darwin Martin, Painter, Plant-Maintenance-B/E Maintenance Shop, effective January 31, 2009.