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WMU Board of Trustees Formal Session January 24, 2017

WMU Board of Trustees

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Proposed Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2016 Meeting

The Board of Trustees (BOT) Formal Session was called to order by Chair Miller at 11:16 AM on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. The meeting was held in the Bernhard Center Rooms 157-159. Presiding were Chair Miller, Vice Chair Rinvelt, and Trustees Asmonga-Knapp, Bolger, Hettinger, and Johnston.

A motion to accept the December 13, 2016 BOT agenda was made by Trustee Hettinger, with a second from Trustee Johnston. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the minutes as exhibited from the October 11, 2016 BOT meeting was made by Trustee Bolger, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.

Remarks by Chair Miller – Attachment A Remarks by President Dunn – Attachment B

Faculty Senate President S. Ayers, Western Student Association (WSA) President T. Fischmann, and Graduate Student Association (GSA) President D. Chambers provided comments regarding their respective areas and their ongoing activities and initiatives relating to shared governance, promoting student involvement, and academic enrichment. See Attachment C for remarks by President Ayers.

Dean D. Guyette of the College of Fine Arts presented to the BOT regarding the Product Design and Innovation Program.

Trustee Johnston provided an update on the Presidential Search Process indicating the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and Parker Executive Search would soon be posting the presidential profile developed from the input gathered in the stakeholder discussion sessions.

There was no indicated public interest in providing commentary regarding an Action Item.

As Action Items, Chair Miller outlined a proposal President Dunn’s compensation. A motion to accept the President’s Compensation was made by Trustee Hettinger, with a second by Trustee Johnston. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President of Student Affairs D. Anderson presented the proposed Apartment Rates for 2017/2018. A motion to accept the Apartment Rates as suggested was made by Trustee Bolger, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.
Dean W. Schlör of the Haenicke Institute for Global Engagement advocated for an agreement between WMU and GUFE, China. A motion to accept the Agreement between WMU and GUFE, China was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second by Trustee Asmonga-Knapp. The motion passed unanimously.

Dean W. Schlör of the Haenicke Institute for Global Engagement also proposed an agreement between WMU and Jakarta International College. A motion to accept the Agreement between WMU and Jakarta International College was made by Trustee Hettinger, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice President of Business and Finance J. Van Der Kley recommended an agreement between WMU and Charlotte County, Florida. A motion to accept the Agreement between WMU and Charlotte County, Florida was made by Trustee Asmonga-Knapp, with a second by Trustee Hettinger. The motion passed unanimously.

Interim General Council C. Craig proposed an update to the Paper Tech Revised Bylaws. A motion to accept the Paper Tech Revised Bylaws was made by Trustee Hettinger, with a second by Trustee Rinvelt. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by Trustee Johnston, with a second by Trustee Bolger. The BOT unanimously approved the following Consent Items as exhibited: Gift Report, Grant Report, Personnel Report, Curriculum Proposals, Operating Cash Accounts, and Annuity and Life Income Funds.

There were no requests for general public comment.

The BOT meeting ended at 12:20PM following a motion to adjourn by Trustee Hettinger, a second by Trustee Asmonga-Knapp, and unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Kahler B. Schuemann
Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Western Michigan University
Good morning, and thank you all for being here today. I hope you will be back again this afternoon, in the ballroom upstairs, for the annual campus holiday reception hosted by this board and by President and Mrs. Dunn. We’re looking forward to seeing you all there.

**Short fall semester wrap**

It's been 10 weeks since we last gathered as a board. In that time, we've seen great triumphs as well as sad and troubling events. I know President Dunn will address both in his remarks.

I'm on firm ground when I say this entire board is very proud of the level of achievement our student athletes have shown this fall—both on the field and off. It is of course just plain fun to see the Bronco football team go undefeated and win the MAC championships. It's especially gratifying to know that this entire community has embraced the Broncos and that the Bronco fan community has expanded to international dimensions, and the season now will continue through Jan. 2.

We thank Head Coach P.J. Fleck, who has been named the FBS Region 3 Coach of the Year, for his ability to inspire and motivate his team. And we are in awe of team standouts like Zach Terrell who is the winner of the Football Foundation’s Campbell Award—known as the Academic Heisman—and Corey Davis, who has earned four All-America designations.

**Commencement**

Despite the heights of achievement we’ve seen this semester in a number of venues, the most important student accomplishments, by far, belong to the 1,700 people whose achievement we'll celebrate next week in commencement ceremonies at Miller Auditorium. In three ceremonies that day, we will award 1,773 degrees: 1,291 at the bachelor's level, 441 at the
master's level, one at the specialist level and 40 at the doctoral level. The celebration that day epitomizes the student success that is at the heart of everything we do.

45 December grads illustrate 'WMU's Best for Vets' status
Among those 1,700 graduates Saturday will be 45 who are veterans of military service. Their success and the success of many other vets we've seen over the past decade are the reason why Military Times magazine singles out WMU every year as one of the colleges and universities its calls "Best for Vets." WMU is the only Michigan school to have appeared on all eight years of the publication's annual list of top colleges in the United States considered "the best fit for service members, military veterans and their families." This year's list was announced in November.

Product development
A bit later in this meeting, we'll be hearing about a new product development initiative on campus that will take what we are able do at WMU to a whole new level. It's exciting stuff and fits into our tradition here of providing resources for industry to innovate and, in some industries, test new products. One such initiative rolled out of our celebrated paper pilot plants this fall as special paper filtering technology developed was tested and perfected here on campus by a private firm, Folia Water. Their goal is to provide paper water filters that can provide clean, safe water to millions around the world at a cost of just pennies a day. The technology--paper infused with nanoparticles of silver--was made feasible for production thanks to trials done here on campus this fall and the expertise of our engineering staff.
Good morning, and let me add my thanks to you all for being with us today. Please do come back this afternoon for the holiday reception and lend your personal presence to this campus tradition.

**Heights and Depths**
As Trustee Miller noted, the past many weeks have been a period of great accomplishment and real tragedy. We were all in Detroit just 12 days ago to watch the Bronco football team win the MAC Championship. But then this weekend, we learned of the tragic death on Thursday night of one of our students, Jacob Jones. His death is particularly hard for us all to grasp, since it means the loss of a young life and all of its potential.

**The loss of a faculty icon**
This past Saturday, the campus community said farewell to Dr. Ernst Breisach, who died Nov. 25. He was a professor of history who served on the faculty for 39 years. And even after his retirement, he remained a campus institution--leading the Distinguished Faculty Scholar Committee for 28 years. He also was instrumental in bringing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter to WMU and his standing as a scholar drew international praise.

I'd like to ask for a moment of silence to remember both an old friend, Dr. Ernst Breisach, and a very young man whose life was cut far too short--student Jacob Ryan Jones.

**India trip**
Since we met last month, I was privileged to visit India for a week, meet with some of our very enthusiastic alumni there and continue the conversation with two of our international partners--Christ University and Rajagiri College. Our partnerships with both institutions date back nearly two decades, and we have nearly 1,000 alumni in that nation. My trip, however, marked the
first time a WMU president had been able to visit and get to know their leaders better. Those at both institutions were enormously pleased at the symbolism of the visit and the respect paid to them. Some of our alumni in that region trace their WMU ties back to 1980, and they hold positions of great responsibility in that region.

We have new international agreements on the agenda today. I hope and expect that years from now, someone will be remarking on the success of these new partnerships.

**Bronco athletics**

As Trustee Miller mentioned, the past few weeks has allowed us to celebrate all that is right about college athletics. Just yesterday, we learned Cory Davis has increased his All-America designations to five, including, one that makes him WMU's first Associated Press All-American. We've enjoyed a MAC Championship, unparalleled national publicity and a level of campus and community excitement never before seen here.

It's especially gratifying to see our student athletes lauded as well for their academic prowess. We saw the pinnacle of that kind of success last week when Zach Terrell was named the winner of the award--known commonly as the "Academic Heisman." We saw it as well when 10 of our men's soccer players were named to the 2016 Academic All-MAC team, and our men's and women's soccer players took home the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Team Academic Awards for their high GPAs. Our student athletes have demonstrated the kind of balance in their lives we all treasure and admire. Let's just say there have been a lot of "great days to be a Bronco" lately.

**Medallion Competition**

Our Medallion Scholarship Competition--one of the largest merit-based scholarship programs in American higher education--has undergone a few changes this year that have been well received. With the competition two months earlier than previous years and the size of scholarships for semifinalists increased, we saw our largest group of competitors ever. More
than 800 top high school seniors from all over the nation were on campus Dec. 1 and 2 to compete for one of 20 full Medallion Scholarships that are valued at $60,000 over four years. About 60 semifinalists will return to campus in January for the final round of competition. And of course, we'd love to see every one of those 800-plus students back here as freshmen this fall.

Faculty and student accolades
I always like to close with some examples of faculty and student accomplishments. I'll share just three.

Students
Our highly regarded Integrated Supply Management program fielded a team that placed third in the 2016 Bowersox Supply Challenge, marking our first placement in that event that brings together teams from the nation's top such programs.

Faculty
And finally, I'd like to note the productivity of some of our emeritus faculty members. (It gives me some pleasure these days to note just what a productive period retirement can be.)

Dr. Christian Hirsch, professor emeritus in mathematics, is the editor of a new book published by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. "Mathematical Modeling and Modeling Mathematics" is part of the council's flagship series of books written by the world's leading mathematics educators.

And Dr. Paul Maier, professor emeritus in history, is our longest-serving faculty member, who retired after more than 50 years in the classroom. He has just published a newly edited version of Foxe's "Book of Martyrs," which was a 16th-century bestseller and the longest single book every written by a human. The new edition is out just in time to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and mark the religious bloodshed that resulted.
Good morning and thank you for this opportunity to present the work of your Faculty Senate in participating in the shared governance at WMU. At our December Faculty Senate meeting: We honored recently deceased emeriti faculty:

Mary Eleanor (Mariel) Neu, Associate Professor Emerita of Art and Ernst A. Breisach, Professor Emeritus of History

Dr. Lisa Marshall and Sarah Good from Sindecuse Health Center described ways to create safe spaces on campus and how faculty can be active listeners for students facing mental health issues. Handouts for guidelines and resources were provided, which are also available as a PDF.

Our partners in shared governance, the WSA and GSA, updated the Senate on their activities so far this year. One of our particular points of pride is the newly-implemented Presidents’ Circle. This monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate, WSA and GSA Presidents and Vice Presidents provides shared time as well as opportunities to keep our lines of communication open.

Our fall Bronco Showcase, arranged by Director Rick Gershon, was a presentation by Aviation Flight Instructor Ms. Shelby Satkowiak. Shelby described the 4-day cross-country timed Women’s Air Race Classic and her involvement as a member of the WMU two-woman team competing for the first time.

Memorandum of Action-16/10 has been approved by the Administration.
Notification for the 2017 Faculty Senate general election, which begins in January for representatives-at-large and departmental senators, was sent out at the end of November.

Departments will soon be contacted to provide their student nominations for the annual Presidential Scholars Convocation, which are due in mid-January.

Council and committee updates include:
The Campus Planning and Finance Council has provided feedback to the new Associate Provost for Enrollment Management and is supportive of efforts to enhance existing institutional practices to improve the tuition structure and marketing of WMU in attempts to attract potential students.

The Extended University Programs Council was pleased to see a large increase in the number of high-quality submissions for the second year of the EUP faculty Innovative Teaching Methods and Community Outreach awards.

At its November meeting, the Graduate Studies Council received remarks from Provost Greene, reviewed five curriculum proposals, and worked on subcommittee tasks.

The International Education Council has met with representatives of the Ad Hoc General Education Design Committee to discuss the importance of global engagement in the development of the new curriculum.

Two committees reporting to the Undergraduate Studies Council are undertaking significant review/renewal processes: The Committee to Oversee General Education began its review of the baccalaureate writing or Proficiency 2 courses in October to ensure these courses meet the standards outlined in the current General Education Policy. The Intellectual Skills Program Advisory Committee is reviewing all remedial math, reading, and writing courses.
Committee on University Strategic Planning members were involved in the enterprise risk management training in November for the Collaborative Risk/Opportunity Management (CROM) teams that have been tasked with guidance on the implementation of the WMU strategic plan, or The Gold Standard.

The Libraries Committee has proposed Joyashish Thakurta from Geology for membership starting in January as an attempt to broaden representation to the Libraries administration.

Two electronic curriculum change proposals have been approved using the new online system, so we are rapidly approaching full implementation of this process.

Each fall the Faculty Senate requests a modest voluntary faculty fee from all academic rank employees to support the Board-appointed shared governance work of the Senate. Developing a fascinating video explaining the structure and work of the Senate seems to have not notably improved our consistent response rate of ~30% from this year’s 970 faculty members.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be on Thursday, January 13 at 5 p.m. in room 208 of the Bernhard Center. The single topic of General Education Design will comprise the agenda of this special meeting. As always you are welcome to attend.

If you have any questions I will be most happy to attempt to respond to them.