

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY OF TOPEKA
BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES
February 8, 2018

I. Call to Order

Chairperson McGivern called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Kansas Room of the Memorial Union on the Washburn University campus.

II. Roll Call

Present were: Mr. Beck, Mr. Boles, Ms. De La Isla, Mr. Hoferer, Mr. McGivern, Mrs. Parks, Mr. Sneed, Mrs. Sourk, and Mrs. Van Etten.

III. Approval of Minutes of the December 13, 2017 meeting

Cynthia Holthaus explained the correction to the December 13, 2017 minutes. There were no objections, and no other correction. The corrected minutes, as distributed at the meeting, were accepted.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Chair's Report

There was no Chair's Report.

B. President's Report

President Farley recognized everyone recommended for designation of emeritus and eminentus status. He said it has truly been a watershed event because a number of people have elected to retire and they have years of dedicated service to the University. He said all will be missed, and that when he visits with alumni, they remember individual faculty members and individual staff members.

President Farley thanked Dr. Alex Glashausser, who was asked to chair the search committee for the law school dean. It was a wonderful committee and was co-chaired with Justice Luckert. Washburn offered the job of dean of School of Law to, and it was accepted by, Carla Pratt. She comes to us from Pennsylvania.

Regent Van Etten said she would like to recognize Dr. Ali Khan because he was her husband's law professor and it is special to honor him today.

President Farley welcomed new Mayor, Michelle De La Isla, to the Board.

President Farley asked Marshall Meek to speak about an event this week – the third annual day of giving. Mr. Meek explained the event in the past was not as successful as we would want and this year, we got traction. He introduced Julie, Courtney, and Sarah and thanked them and their teams for all their work. Over \$103,000 was raised from 625 gifts.

Dr. Farley said Washburn senior defensive back D. J. Olmstead was named the 2017 Hero Sports D2 Fan Choice for the Defensive Player of the Year. He received 43% of the fan vote. Olmstead was a first team all-MIAA selection, finished second in the nation in fumbles recovered, and set a Washburn record in interceptions returned for touchdowns during the season.

President Farley said yesterday he had an hour and a half long conference call with a bond debt-rating agency. We asked for this because of upcoming building projects. The agency asked a lot of questions. All of executive staff was there and made presentations.

Dr. Farley said Washburn’s Career Fair is next week on Valentine's Day. This is an opportunity for students and businesses to talk about the future and for students to network with a potential employer.

Dr. Farley said February 6 is Washburn’s birthday and we have the Lincoln Harmon lecture being held in the BTAC. The event is sponsored by the History Department and the College of Arts & Sciences and is free and open to the public. Dr. Elizabeth Varon from the University of Virginia is the speaker.

President Farley said Megan Phelps Roper came on campus to speak. She is part of the Topeka Phelps family and shared her story of growing up in the Westboro Baptist Church, being a part of that family, and how it shaped her. It was a heart-wrenching story of how she left and struck out on her own. Ms. Phelps Roper, a Washburn graduate, will give other presentations on campus.

Regent Hoferer asked about our current bond rating. Dr. Farley said we are a Moody's A-1. The difference between that and one-step down is few basis points.

V. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Regent Hoferer moved and Regent De La Isla seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed.

As approved by action of the Board:

1. Liquidated Claims Approval – December 2017

2. Personnel

a. Faculty/Staff Personnel Actions

Recruit for pending new AEFLA Grant funded positions at Washburn Institute of Technology: Adult Education ESL Instructor; Transition Coordinator; and, Data Entry Assistant.

b. Emeriti

Bestow the title Professor Emerita to Dr. Lee Boyd and Dr. Ann Marie Snook; Professor Emeritus to Dr. Stephen Angel, Mr. Ali Khan, Dr. Mark Peterson and Dr. Lee Snook; Associate Professor Emeritus to Dr. Steve Black; and, Associate Professor Emerita to Dr. Kathy Menzie.

c. Academic Sabbaticals 2018-2019

Academic Sabbaticals offered for the 2018-2019 academic year to: Carolyn Carlson, College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), Education, August-December 2018; Dennis Etzel Jr., CAS, English, August-December 2018; Judith McConnell-Farmer, CAS, Education, January-May 2019; Bradley Siebert, CAS, English, August-December 2018; Courtney Sullivan CAS, Modern Languages, January-May 2019; Jennifer Ball, School of Business, August-December 2018; Liviu Florea, School of Business, January-May 2019; Patricia Judd, School of Law, January-July 2019; Craig Martin, School of Law, July 2018-June 2019; and, Mary Ramirez, School of Law, August-December 2018.

d. Honorary Degree Candidates

Award honorary degrees to: J. Thomas Marten, Doctor of Law; Dale Pond, Doctor of Commerce; John Stauffer, Sr., Doctor of Humane Letters; and, Jackie Summerson, Doctor of Commerce.

e. Eminentes Universitatis

Bestow the title of Eminentes Universitatis to Cindy Barry, Marjorie Bostwick, Connie DiPasquale, and Lee Wright.

B. Action Items

1. University and Law Libraries (ATLAS Consortium) Innovative Interfaces ILS Renewal

Vice President for Academic Affairs JuliAnn Mazacheck presented the item. She said a lower rate was negotiated by Dr. Alan Bearman and that funding is available.

Regent De La Isla moved and Regent Boles seconded to approve. Motion passed.

C. Information Item(s)

1. Report of Purchases between \$25,001 and \$50,000

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Jim Martin said we will be revamping the doors and locks around Petro. The other item is to allow students at Washburn Tech to get a certification.

2. Greek Life Strategic Plan

Vice President for Student Life Eric Gropitch presented the Greek Life strategic plan. There were questions about multicultural chapters, interface with chapters' national offices, and alumni involvement.

3. Academic Affairs Update

Vice President for Academic Affairs JuliAnn Mazachek reported on the Washburn Tech East project. She updated the regents on programs planned, the construction process, and our involvement.

Dr. Mazachek reported that our reaccreditation visit will be the spring of 2019 and part of this process is assessment. Dr. Nancy Tate then discussed results of the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Higher Education Research Institute survey of faculty that are assessment methods we used.

Dr. Mazachek then introduced Dr. Alan Bearman, who presented on the Ichabod Ignite program. He explained that High School Guidance Counselors bring this program to students' attention and that we are pleased with the program thus far.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

/s/

Cynthia Holthaus
Assistant Secretary, Board of Regents