

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY OF TOPEKA
BOARD OF REGENTS
MINUTES
December 14, 2007

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Storey called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Kansas Room of the Memorial Union.

II. Roll Call

Present were: Mr. Blair, Mr. Bunten, Mr. Lagerberg, Mr. Lykins, Ms. Marquardt, Mrs. Parks, Mr. Roth, Mr. Storey, and Mrs. Warren.

III. Approval of Minutes of September 7, 2007 meeting as mailed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2007 meeting as mailed. Motion passed.

IV. Officer Reports

A. Chair's Report

The Chairperson indicated he had no report.

B. President's Report

President Farley noted that final examinations were finishing today and this evening will be the Fall Commencement ceremonies. He noted we have had problems on the campus this week with the ice storms and that with some hard work by Vice Presidents Bowen and Hill we were able to develop some alternatives in the event classes had to be cancelled this week so finals could all be concluded this week.

Dr. Farley said the University's athletic teams have been doing very well, noting there was a hectic period of time during the Thanksgiving weekend as the University hosted the NCAA Division II volleyball championships and two basketball tournaments. He said the football team did very well this year, advancing to playoffs, and that the men's and women's basketball teams are so far doing awfully well.

He said that in terms of projects on campus, the punch list for the Stoffer project is going to be completed on Tuesday and people will soon be able to move back into the facility. With respect to the strength and conditioning facility in Whiting Field House, he said we hope to have the working drawings completed in early January, put it out for bid and bring back recommendations for award of a contract to the Board of Regents in its March meeting. He said it's been a very positive and upbeat project with fund raising going exceptionally well with tremendous support.

Dr. Farley noted the Board had guests at today's meeting and introduced the University's Director of International Programs, Baili Zhang. Mr. Zhang introduced representatives from Wuhan University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, China: Prof. Yang Jie, Vice President; Prof. Song Shizhen, Dean, Faculty of Medicine; Prof. Pan Kailing, Dean, Faculty of Management; Prof. Chen Jianxun, Dean, Faculty of Computer Science and Technology; and Prof. Zhu Boquan, Director, International Exchange and Cooperation Office. Dr. Farley said we are really delighted to have representatives from Wuhan University and that we are looking forward to developing some student and faculty exchange. He said he is confident this will develop into a very good long term relationship.

Dr. Farley said the members of the Board might have noticed in the media this past week that the Board of Education for Topeka Public Schools discussed the proposed transition plan for the merger affiliation of Kaw Area Technical School with Washburn University at its meeting. He said the discussion at the Board of Education meeting might have been a little more in detail than anticipated, as some thought that the effective date of the merger should be put off from July 1, 2008 to July 1, 2009. He said the Board of Education will be back at its meeting next Thursday, December 20, to take action on the item. He said the primary concern is how to deal with faculty and staff and there may be some anxiety on the part of some. He said the transition plan is geared to ensure that employees receive the same rates of pay, titles and benefits as they are presently receiving as employees of Topeka Public Schools. He said there are two areas which could be difficult. One is that employees in Topeka Public Schools are participating in the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System which we do not have and there could be some slight differences in the health insurance offered by Topeka Public Schools.

Dr. Farley said that to deal with the KPERS issue we will engage with a Kansas educational service center to provide educational services utilizing current Topeka Public School employees. They will offer the KPERS program and for health insurance they have the state health insurance plan which is very similar to the plan offered by Topeka Public Schools with a sixty day pre-existing condition provision. He said to handle that issue we will buy COBRA coverage for the affected persons for that sixty day period.

C. Committee Report(s)

1. 2006-2007 Audit Reports – BKD, LLP

Chairperson of the Audit Committee, Jim Lagerberg, reported the committee met with Abe Cole of BKD on November 29 and following a presentation recommended that it be accepted by the Board of Regents at its December meeting. He noted that Mr. Cole was present should anyone wish to ask questions about the audit report. It was moved and seconded to accept the Audit Report. Motion passed. Dr. Farley commended the staff working on the audit report, saying they have done a really good job. He said it's a huge undertaking and it was thoroughly discussed at the Audit Committee meeting.

D. Treasurer's Report

It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as set forth in the agenda item. Motion passed unanimously. Approved by the Board of Regents: **1. Depository Security Transactions, 2. Liquidated Claims Approval – October, 2007, and 3. Quarterly Report for Quarter ended September 30, 2007**

V. New Business

A. Consent Agenda:

It was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

As approved by action of the Board:

1. Personnel

a. Faculty/Staff Personnel Actions

rehire Susan Zuber-Chall as Lecturer in CAS/SOAN for FY2008 Spring semester at a salary of \$19,500; hire Benjamin Coates as Lecturer in CAS/SOAN for FY2008 Spring semester at a salary of \$16,000; unpaid LOA for Karen Field, Professor in CAS/SOAN for Spring 2008 semester; change Janice Dunwell, Lecturer in SON, from .5FTE to 1.0FTE for Spring2008 semester; change Ellen Carson, Professor in SON, from .5FTE to .75FTE for Spring2008 semester;

b. Voluntary Phased Retirement – Barbara Bowman

voluntary phased retirement for Dr. Barbara Bowman, Associate Professor of Psychology, for Spring2008 semester, academic years 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and Fall2010 semester, effective January 1, 2008 (a total of three academic years);

c. Permission to designate Marie-Luce Parker Professor Emeritus

designate Marie-Luce Parker as Professor Emeritus;

d. Position Reallocations – athletics

reallocation of two pooled positions to regular 10 month benefit eligible budgeted positions for Assistant Coaches in Athletics at a salary rate of \$20,020 each;

e. Permission for salary increase for updated Director of Marketing Position

salary line increase of \$8,000-\$12,000 for School of Law Director of Marketing Communications to salary range of \$52,000-\$56,000;

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

award of contract to: Senne & Co. in the amount of \$43,401 to renovate Morgan Hall Rooms 270 and 271 to classroom space; The CBORD Group, Inc. in the amount of \$32,197.50 for card reader and workstation systems for the Memorial Union; Krueger International, Inc. in the amount of \$25,855.90 for chairback seating for Yager Stadium, Moore Bowl; to Krueger International, Inc. in the amount of \$47,459.90 for study area furniture for Stoffer Hall; Josten's in the amount of \$26,304 for printing and mailing of the Alumni Magazine; Ferrell Construction Company in the amount of \$49,814 for Stoffer Change Order No. 15 as outlined in the agenda item; and,

3. WU Policy Regulations & Procedures Manual – Capital Assets

the Capital Assets section of the Washburn University Policy Regulations and Procedures Manual as outlined in the agenda item.

B. Action Items:

1. Law School Condenser Unit Replacement & Relocation

It was moved and seconded to approve the award of a contract to Central Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$121,750 for the installation of a new condenser unit for the Law School as proposed. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Classroom Furniture

It was moved and seconded to approve award of a contract to Krueger International, Inc. in the amount of \$145,730.43. Dr. Farley noted that this purchase completes the replacement of all tablet arm chairs in classrooms across the campus. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Law School Financing Plan

Dr. Farley reported that in the early 1990s there was quite a bit of discussion about how to finance the Law School. He said he suspects that at the time the budget for the Law School was embedded in the University's budget much like the English Department or Math Department is presently. He said that meant that changes in salaries were governed by salary targets established by the Board of Regents and that it was very likely very difficult to try to keep up with salaries with peer institutions in order to remain competitive. He said there were three components of the Law School Financing Plan. One was that the Law School would have a base subsidy from the institution of \$787,000; that a fixed percentage of state funds appropriated by the Legislature would be earmarked for the Law School; and the tuition generated by law school enrollment. He said the plan has not been updated since the mid 1990s and the proposal before the Board today contains essentially the same items as the previous Law School Financing Plan in terms of tuition, percentage of state funding, and the University subsidy. What has changed, he said, is the language has been cleaned up and the plan clarified. He said the concept of the original plan is still in place which the Law School favors and supporters of the Law School also favor. It was moved and seconded to approve the Law School Financing Plan December, 2007 as attached to the agenda item. Motion passed unanimously.

4. KATS Transition Plan

Dr. Farley said in addition to his comments previously, he wanted to note that the intent of Washburn is to account for the Kaw Area Technical School operations separately so that neither will be able to get into the other's funding. He said over time there will be integration of processes, but the funding will remain separate. It was moved and seconded to authorize the Transition Plan and its submittal to the Kansas Board of Regents and to authorize the President to negotiate on the effective date of the merger and transfer of governance of KATS to Washburn University. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Storey said he would like to extend, on behalf of the board, a thank you for all of the hard work by the faculty and staff of Washburn University and wished that all would have a very happy holiday.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Kenneth P. Hackler
Secretary, Board of Regents