



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2024
BOARD ROOM, 3RD FLOOR FALCON CENTER
1201 LOCUST AVENUE, FAIRMONT, WV
TEAMS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Chair Rusty Hutson convened the Fairmont State University Board of Governors meeting on April 18, 2024, beginning at approximately 9:02 a.m. in the Board Room, 3rd Floor Falcon Center, at 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, West Virginia, and via Teams.

Note: With this meeting being conducted in person and via Teams, there was no way to ascertain all other participants but the following Fairmont State Board of Governors members and Fairmont State University administrators, staff, and faculty participating via Teams or present included:

At the request of Chair Hutson, Cheryl Lewis, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Governors, conducted a roll call of the Board of Governors. Present for the meeting were board members Jon Dodds, Jason Henderson, Jennifer Kinty, Deborah Prezioso, Gina Fantasia, Kevin Rogers, David Goldberg and Riley Neal. Rusty Hutson, Wendy Adkins, Jay Puccio and Jason Pizatella were present via Teams.

Others present were President Michael Davis and President's Executive Leadership Team members Greg Bamberger, Athletic Director; Alicia Kalka, Interim Vice President for Student Success; Dr. Dianna Phillips, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs; Dr. Cailey Murray, Legal Counsel and Christa Kwiatkowski, Vice President for Finance and Administration/CFO; Others present included, Dr. Brian Selmeski, Chief of Staff; Jeremiah Kibler, Director of Housing & Resident Life; Dr. Heath Howard, Director of Institutional Research; Spencer Flanagan, Director of the Falcon Center; Dr. Amanda Metcalf, Dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Performance and Anne Bolyard, President of Fairmont State Foundation.

B. Public Comment

Chair Hutson acknowledged that no public comments were submitted to the BOG members through the public comment email. Cheryl Lewis, Assistant to the President and Board of Governors, confirmed that there were no public comments submitted.

C. Approval of Agenda

David Goldberg made a motion to approve the agenda. Gina Fantasia seconded. The motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Deborah Prezioso made a motion to approve the February 15, 2024, minutes. Kevin Rogers seconded. The motion passed.

III. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. President's Report

Dr. Michael Davis reported on the changes to the format of the Board of Governors meetings discussed in the April 10, 2024, Executive Committee meeting. Dr. Michael Davis reported the changes are to make the meetings more productive and better utilize the expertise of the Board. The changes will include:

- Committee reports will come from the chairs;
- The order of the committee reports will change;
- Addition of in-depth discussions; and
- All committee meetings will be held in the same week.

Dr. Michael Davis reported on presidential communication through our website, which is now sorted by category, monthly videos, and publishing regular pieces through the Exponent Telegram, and "The Columns," Fairmont State University's student newspaper and Chief of Staff, Dr. Brian Selmeski, will assist in creating a biweekly email format, keeping the Board up-to-date.

Dr. Michael Davis gave an update on Day of Giving. Dr. Michael Davis reported that we raised nearly \$531,000, which was a 43% increase from 2023. Dr. Michael Davis reported that next year, there will be a true 24-hour livestream.

Dr. Michael Davis provided an update on the April 4, 2024, Presidential Inauguration. Dr. Michael Davis reported that there were 12 pre-Inauguration events hosted by various units on campus. Dr. Michael Davis reported there were over 750 attendees, consisting of faculty, staff, students, and community members. Dr. Michael Davis reported that the Inauguration was covered by local media. Dr.

Michael Davis reported that photos and videos are available on Fairmont State's website. Dr. Michael Davis reported that after the actual installation, there was a reception and student concert that had great attendance.

Dr. Michael Davis reported on the University's vision statement: A great place to learn (focusing on the academic and student experience), to work (focusing on faculty, staff, recruitment, employment development and retention) and to call home (focusing on alumni and community members).

Dr. Michael Davis provided a visioning focus update on strategic planning. Dr. Michael Davis reported that the campus survey was completed in the fall, unit sessions are occurring now, divisional sessions will occur May through August, and University wide sessions will occur August 2024.

Dr. Michael Davis reported on faculty promotion and tenure updates. Dr. Michael Davis reported there were 14 faculty members receiving a promotion and 8 faculty receiving tenure.

Dr. Michael Davis reported that 2 faculty members are going on sabbaticals: Matthew Hokum, from the College of Liberal Arts and Julie Renault from the College of Education, Health and Human Performance.

Dr. Michael Davis reported on emeriti faculty.

Dr. Michael Davis provided an update on the Vice President of Enrollment Management and Vice President of Student Affairs positions. Dr. Michael Davis reported that both positions have been listed, search committees will review applications and do initial interviews late April, and then committees will recommend finalists to him and full campus interviews will be in May.

Dr. Michael Davis announced the departure of Christa Kwiatkowski. Dr. Michael Davis reported that Christa Kwiatkowski has 24 years of experience at Fairmont State University. She joined Fairmont State in 2006 and has served as Chief Financial Officer since 2017. Dr. Michael Davis acknowledged all of her hard work.

Dr. Michael Davis provided an update on Congressionally Directed Spending. Dr. Michael Davis reported that Fairmont State University has received almost \$7 million of Congressionally Directed Funding this year, which is a significant increase over previous years.

Dr. Michael Davis provided an update on the Career Fair. Dr. Michael Davis reported we had 168 employers and hundreds of students participate in the event. Dr. Michael Davis reported we received over \$12,000 in sponsorships.

Dr. Michael Davis provided an athletic update. Dr. Michael Davis reported the Women's Basketball team won the SEC championships in Wheeling.

Dr. Michael Davis announced the Spring Football game, tonight at 6:30pm, versus Edinburgh.

Dr. Michael Davis reported the Baseball team won 9 out of the last 13 games.

Dr. Michael Davis reported that Men's and Women's Tennis have had several big wins.

Dr. Michael Davis reported Acrobatics and Tumbling had six all conference selections, including Athlete of the Year, Katie Cole, and Freshman of the Year, Alexis Wilkinson. Dr. Michael Davis reported that Acrobatics and Tumbling are seeded 8 for the upcoming Nationals, hosted at Fairmont State University, April 25th through 28th.

Dr. Michael Davis reported that Commencement will be on May 11, 2024, with two speakers, Senator Ryan Weld, and Michael Belmear.

Dr. Michael Davis provided a campus carry update. Dr. Michael Davis reported that there is a Campus Carry Committee, that consists of 15 voting members and 2 ex-officio members, that make administrative recommendations.

B. Foundation Update-Anne Bolyard

Ms. Anne Bolyard, Fairmont State Foundation President, presented the donor level comparison, reporting an increase over the last four years.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported a moderate increase in major level gifts.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported the Foundation will be traveling to key areas to meet with alumni, donors and prospects.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported growth in proposals and solicitations.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported a significant increase in major gifts due to their efforts in outreach and cultivation.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported that building relationships before revenue is the most important part of their work.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty acknowledged the handwritten thank you cards received from Day of Giving, and how impressive it was.

Ms. Anne Bolyard presented the 2024 Leaderboard for Day of Giving, with Athletics raising the most money.

Ms. Anne Bolyard presented the donor affiliation & overview for Day of Giving, with alumni, and faculty and staff contributing the most.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported 491 new donors for Day of Giving.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported 53 matches for Day of Giving.

Ms. Anne Bolyard reported that Day of Giving next year, will tentatively be on February 27, 2024.

IV. ENROLLMENT, HOUSING & STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE (Jay Puccio, Chair)

Mr. Jay Puccio, Chair of the Enrollment, Housing & Student Life Committee, advised that the committee met on April 3, 2024.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that on campus residents displayed a retention rate of around 3% better than non-housing students, suggesting that students who live on campus are more involved and engaged in campus activities.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported on their commitment to student success and financial accessibility by addressing the needs of students who are facing registration holds.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that we currently have 2,074 students admitted for Fall 2024 semester, which is 3.6% higher than last year.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported we've admitted 1,018 students that have accepted their offer of admission, which is an increase of 204 students this time last year.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that over the last month, 88% of our professional staff members and the admissions and recruiting team have traveled to recruit potential students.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported on various recruiting events.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that 708 students are already assigned to fall semester housing with 105 applications waiting for a room assignment.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that we are expanding our residential offerings for Fall 2024.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that the new campus carry law, which applies to common areas in residence halls, will become effective on July 1, 2024.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that we are preparing Prichard Hall for our Middle College student occupancy.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that we will be hiring an Assistant Director of Residence Life.

Ms. Alicia Kalka reported that their recruitment strategy for Fall 2025 is under review and should be in place by July 1, 2024.

Chair, Rusty Hutson, commented on the importance of spending the necessary money to ensure that students have good living conditions and quality food.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE (Jennifer Kinty, Chair)

Ms. Jennifer Kinty, Chair of the Finance Committee, advised that the Finance Committee met on April 9, 2024, to review the January and February financial statements and the FY25 Tuition and Fee requests.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported the unrestricted E&G spring revenues for February are trending at 85% of the budget and continue to fall behind projections due to enrollment decline.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported that through 67% of the year, fall operating revenues and expenses are both trending under budget expectations.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported that non-operating revenues are ahead of this time last year due to the increase and additional recognition of state appropriations.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported expenses trending up, due to increases in salaries and benefits.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported that auxiliary revenues continue to trend ahead of projections, solely due to higher occupancy in housing than anticipated.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported the decline of tuition derived revenues of about \$250K.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported that net position is trending ahead of last year due to revenues trending up due to housing revenue growth, and nearly flat expenses.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported the vacancy savings budget continues to trend ahead of needed values.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported auxiliary reserve balances have improved due to investment income.

David Goldberg made a motion to approve the January and February financial reports. Kevin Rogers seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Jennifer Kinty reported that we are requesting consideration for a modest increase in all tuition structures.

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to approve FY25 Tuition and Fee request. Deborah Prezioso seconded. The motion passed.

VI. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Wendy Adkins, Chair)

Ms. Wendy Adkins, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, advised that the Academic Affairs Committee met on April 1, 2024, and discussed bringing two items for the Board's approval, and the Middle College.

Ms. Wendy Adkins reported on the need for a Bachelor of Science in Outdoor Leadership, due to a conversation with the Department of Tourism in West Virginia concerning the many tourism jobs available in the State.

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to approve the intent to plan for the Outdoor Leadership, B.S. Ms. Jennifer Kinty seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Wendy Adkins reported on the need for an Associate of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies to support the Middle College.

Dr. Gina Fantasia made a motion to approve the intent to plan for the Associate of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Degree. Mr. Jon Dodds seconded. The motion passed.

Dr. Dianna Phillips introduced Mr. Brett Lemon, President of KVC WV and Mr. Jacob Green, Superintendent of Diversion and Transitional Services with the West Virginia Department of Education.

Dr. Dianna Phillips acknowledged the several partnerships that contributed to the Middle College initiative.

Mr. Brent Lemon, President of KVC WV reported that their plan is to bring upwards of 20 employees that will be on campus, 24 hours a day, seven days a week to oversee the students in Middle College.

Mr. Jacob Green reported that there will be continuing educational support for students in Middle College by having a Special Education Coordinator and an option pathway teacher who can help the student with all their high school requirements.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that Middle College is for youth in the foster system, who can complete their high school requirements and earn credits to obtain an Associate's degree.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that the Middle College is the first program of its kind in the United States.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that students will live on campus, in Prichard Hall for two years.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported we will enroll 50 students in summer for Fall 2024.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that Governor Justice held a press conference on March 14, 2024, to launch the Middle College initiative.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that there are a couple of areas where we are looking at new policies, for example a curfew for the younger students.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that there is a committed budget for two years from various sources, and the University will continue to look for more financial funding streams.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported on a statewide multimedia campaign for Middle College, which will include radio shows, television shows, interviews and meetings.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported the goal for the Middle College students is to provide a stable home, by focusing on the safety and well-being of the students, which we currently do for our students that are not in Middle College.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that Middle College tuition, and room and board will be covered through various funding.

Dr. Dianna Phillips reported that the Board of Governors will be updated on any issues that occur with Middle College.

VII. ATHLETIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Jason Henderson, Chair)

Mr. Jason Henderson, Chair of the Athletic Affairs Committee, advised that the Athletic Affairs Committee met on March 28, 2024, and discussed informational updates.

Mr. Jason Henderson provided a Winter sports update. Mr. Jason Henderson reported the Women's Basketball team had a successful season that included the MEC tournament championship. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that Men's Basketball had another 20-win season. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that wrestler, Colton Stoneking finished 3rd at NCAA Regionals and qualified for DII Nationals. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that both Men's and Women's Swimming finished 2nd among MEC schools at the MEC/GMAC combined championship.

Mr. Jason Henderson provided a Spring sports update. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that the Acrobatics & Tumbling teams went undefeated during the MEC regular season and earned the #1 seed. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that the Acrobatics & Tumbling team will participate in the NCATA nationals hosted by Fairmont State University, next week. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that Baseball presently sits in 2nd place in MEC North Division. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that Softball presently sits in 1st place in MEC North Division and under consideration for NCAA Atlantic regional ranking. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that both Men's & Women's Tennis teams should qualify for the MEC tournament. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that Men's & Women's Golf are finishing up their seasons.

Mr. Jason Henderson provided a quick update on personnel. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that the Associate Head Men's Basketball coach has tendered his resignation. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that Fairmont State University has received an NCAA Strategic Matching Grant to allow us to hire an Assistant Athletic Director for External Affairs & Resource Management.

Mr. Jason Henderson provided an update on upcoming athletic facility projects. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that the tennis court resurfacing project should be on schedule for mid-May, weather permitting. Mr. Jason Henderson reported on the Joe Retton Arena updates to include resurfacing of Dan Cava Court, installation of a new video board, new scorer tables courtesy of WVRC media, and installation of permanent signage. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that feasibility study is still being finalized to plan artificial turf on lower field, moving softball down and potentially moving baseball back on campus.

Mr. Jason Henderson reported on some needs for athletics. Mr. Jason Henderson reported that the complex budgeting process combined with numerous funding streams will create the need for a dedicated business manager for the division. Mr. Jason Henderson reported on the concern for space and storage needs.

Mr. Jason Henderson reported that \$263,605 was collected from 610 donors through Day of Giving.

VIII. BYLAWS COMMITTEE (Deborah Prezioso, Chair)

Ms. Deborah Prezioso, Chair of the Bylaws Committee, advised the committee met on March 26, 2024, to discuss two topics: Policy GA-07 and Concealed Carry.

Ms. Deborah Prezioso advised that the Bylaws Committee made revisions to Policy GA-07, "Rules Regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs," to reflect current resources available to students and employees.

David Goldberg made a motion to approve the policy changes for the public comment period: Policy GA-07 "Rule Regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs." Jennifer Kinty seconded. The motion passed.

Ms. Deborah Prezioso reported the West Virginia Campus Self-defense Act, will go into effect on July 1, 2024. Ms. Deborah Prezioso reported that the Bylaws Committee plans to put forth a new policy for the Board's review and approval. Ms. Deborah Prezioso reported that in order to meet the effective date for this law and comply with policymaking rules, both the Bylaws Committee and the Full Board will need to hold Special Meetings.

Ms. Deborah Prezioso proposed a timeline for the policy. Ms. Deborah Prezioso reported that there will be a Special Bylaws Committee Meeting on April 22, 2024 at

3:30pm and the Board of Governors approved a Special Board of Governors Meeting on April 29, 2024 at 1:00pm.

IX. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman Hutson advised that the Executive Committee met on April 10, 2024 and discussed changes to the structure of Board of Governors meetings.

X. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Hutson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Goldberg seconded. The motion passed.



4/29/24

FSU Board of Governors' Chair

Rusty Hutson

Date



4/26/2024

FSU Board of Governors' Secretary

Jason Pizatella

Date