

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

John W. Bardo Fine & Performing Arts Center

September 4, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Western Carolina University met in regular session on September 4, 2020 in John W. Bardo Fine & Performing Arts Center. Chair Kinney called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present from the Board: Chair Bryant Kinney, Mr. Bob Roberts, Mrs. Haden Boliek, Mrs. Becky Brown; Mr. Casey Cooper, Ms. Joyce Dugan, Mr. Tim Haskett, Mr. John Lupoli, Mr. Kenny Messer, Mr. Ken Hughes, Mrs. Kathy Greeley, Mrs. Rebecca Schlosser, and Mr. Dawson Spencer.

Present ó Board of Governors Member, Phil Byers; Faculty and staff of Western Carolina University: Chancellor Kelli R. Brown; Dr. Richard Starnes, Interim Provost; Mr. Ben Pendry, Staff Senate Chair; Dr. Kadence Otto, Faculty Senate Chair; Mr. Neal Andrews, Alumni Association President; Dr. Melissa

Schlosser made a motion to approve minutes. Mr. Messer seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMENTS FROM CHANCELLOR KELLI R. BROWN

Chancellor Brown welcomed the Board of Trustees, Executive Council members, Faculty Senate and Staff Senate Chairs and Senators and thanked them for attending the Board of Trustees meeting.

Ej cpegrmt Dtqy p uj ctgf j gt cr r tgek vqp hqt gxgt { qpgø ghqt vq help keep Western Carolina University moving forward, thanked everyone for their patience and understanding to hold the in-person meeting. Chancellor Brown also welcomed the university faculty and staff, members of the news media and others who attended the meeting both in-person and virtually. Chancellor Brown extended her appreciation to the faculty and staff for their formidable efforts to meet the challenge put before them this spring, summer, and fall to keep Western Carolina University running.

Chancellor Brown shared a COVID-19 update. Chancellor Brown shared that we saw our first cluster of COVID-10 cases this week. Chancellor Brown noted that Trustees heard details from each Executive Council member on fall operations on Thursday, but she wanted to highlight a few. Chancellor Brown shared that the updated COVID-19 dashboard now offers additional information about testing, positivity rates, isolation and quarantine. She shared that it provides a more in-depth look at how the pandemic is affecting the campus community, which helps us make decisions as we move forward. Chancellor Brown shared that we have placed signs campus wide for our Catamounts Care initiative

and mammals. Chancellor Brown congratulated

the Department of Education. The Department of Education promulgates the rules implementing the law. Those rules were revised and published in April and they required modification to policies no later than August 14th. The Legal Counsel Office contains the Title IX Office and it is where the WCU Title IX Coordinator is housed.

O t. O qpvgkj rtgugpvf c tgr qtvqh vj g eqpf kqj qh vj g Ej cpegrmt a t g u k f g p e g y j k e j e c p d g h q w p f l p v j g Board of Trustees material under TAB D-4. Items completed at the residence were listed by Mr. O qpvgkj . O go dgtu qh vj g Ej cpegrmt a t g u k f g p e g c f j q e e q o k w g g < D t { c p v M k p p g { , M c v j { I t g g r g { , L q j p Lupoli, Melissa Wargo, and Coleman Leopard conducted the walkthrough on September 3rd. Mr. Coleman Leopard listed projects which were in process such as the furniture re-upholstery project. Based on the inspection conducted on September 3rd, Mr. Monteith stated that the walkway should be replaced and new brick pavers to be installed.

Ft. Y cti q l p t q f w e g f O t. D t k c p O w r g p , Y E W a u p e w Chief Mktg. & Communications Strategist. He stated he had prior experience at Lonestar College, Georgia Southern, Clemson, and the Smithsonian and that he is thrilled to be at WCU.

Ms. Meredith Whitfield provided a Legislative Update. Ms. Meredith Whitfield reported the Legislature was in session this week to allocate the remaining federal CARES money to the state. Since the federal government did not pass legislation clarifying whether we could use the funds for budget shortfall replacement, the state had \$903 million in funds it needed to allocate. Ms. Whitfield shared that last week the Governor proposed in his budget to give one-time bonuses to teachers and state employees, including University employees. The legislature took a different approach in their relief bill and chose to use \$440 million of the funds to send all households in North Carolina with parents of children 17 and younger a \$335 stimulus check to offset the costs associated with remote learning due to the pandemic. She shared that other items that directly affect the University system as a whole were \$5 million to the Board of Governors for COVID-

consultant back to make a presentation at a future date. The FY21 Advancement update was provided in the Board of Trustees material under TAB D-7.

REPORT OF FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chair Kinney recognized Mr. Messer to give the report of the Finance and Audit Committee. The Finance and Audit Committee discussed two action items and reviewed a few discussion items.

Mr. Messer shared that the committee heard from Mr. Mike Byers, who explained Western Carolina is prepared to issue special obligation bonds, the proceeds of which will be applied by WCU for the construction and equipping of the Lower Campus Residence Hall. Mr. Messer shared that the refinancing of existing debt for Courtyard Dining Hall. Mr. Messer shared that the refinancing is expected to result in savings estimated to be \$2.7 million. The Finance and Audit committee recommended the Resolution f

Campus Forum Series and Faculty Senate Working Initiatives. (REPORT IS IN REPORT MATERIALS ON FILE).

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INFORMATION REPORT

Chair Kinney recognized President Neal Andrews to give the Alumni Association Report. President Andrews gave an update on Virtual and Upcoming Opportunities offered by the Office of Alumni Engagement. He also shared information on Alumni Affinity Programs. (REPORT IS IN REPORT MATERIALS ON FILE.)

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Kinney asked for a motion to go into closed session. Mr. Roberts made a motion to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information, or information not considered a public record within the meaning of the NC Public Records Act; to protect the attorney-client privilege to discuss a legal issue; and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial appointment, of a public officer or employee or prospective officer or employee and closed