

MINUTES
Board of Regents
September 6, 2013

The Board of Regents of Washington State University met pursuant to call in Open Meeting at 8:30 a.m., on Friday, September 6, 2013, in the Compton Union Building, Room 204, Pullman, Washington.

Present: Regent Connie Niva, Chair; Regents, Ted Baseler, Scott Carson, Harold Cochran, T. Ryan Durkan, Francois Forgette, Laura Jennings, Lindsey Schaffer, Ron Sims and Michael Worthy; President Elson S. Floyd, and Interim Provost and Executive Vice President Daniel J. Bernardo.

1. Report from the Chair of the Board of Regents. Regent Niva welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the academic year. She also welcomed new student Regents Lindsey Schaffer; Robert Rosenman, Faculty Senate Chair; Taylor Hennessey, ASWSU President; Randell Walling, GPSA President; JJ Oliver, Chair, Administrative Professional Advisory Council; and Ken Locati, President, WSU Alumni Association.

2. Report from the President of the University. President Floyd thanked the Board for the opportunity to report. He said he will keep his report short due to the lack of time.

President Floyd welcomed all of the new faces and said he looks forward to working with them this year.

President Floyd said that enrollment for the fall semester is on target. He said they will be approximately 200 students short of what they projected in terms of freshman coming into the institution, but they have made up the difference with transfer students coming in. He added that students of color coming into WSU have increased as well as students from the State of Washington. He said WSU is deeply committed in making sure that there is access and affordability for Washington students first and foremost; and it continues to be a reality.

President Floyd announced the passing of former President Glenn Terrell. He said that WSU will hold a memorial service for him on October 10, 2013. He then asked for a moment of silence in honor of him.

3. Minutes. It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve the minutes of the May 23, Board of Regents Meeting; July 1, 2013, Special Meeting; and August 1, 2013, Special Meeting. Carried.

4. Reports from University Groups. Representative from each of the university groups—Faculty Senate, Administrative and Professional Advisory Council, Associated

Students of Washington State University, the Associated Students of Washington State University Spokane, the Graduate and Professional Student Association, Foundation Board of Governors, and the WSU Alumni Association—reviewed their reports as submitted. (*Individual written reports may be found online at the Board of Regents website or requested from the President's Office.*)

5. Focused Discussion – Greek System. Several members of WSU's Greek System met with the Regents to discuss their experiences with the Greek System.

6. External Affairs Committee Report. Regent Durkan reported that the committee received a marketing and communications presentation by Kathy Lapointe Barnard. She said Ms. Barnard emphasized three areas of University Communications. The first was their Strategic Vision that covered the centralization of several areas with the intent to be more coordinated, more effective and more aligned with strategic initiatives of the university. The second main theme she emphasized involved innovations for a new content management system that will be more user friendly. She said they are also looking at a visual brand refresh, E-books from WSU Press and a better coordinated social media presence. The third theme involved being more service oriented. She said they are strengthening relations with Government Relations, Economic Development, Senior Staff members, College Communicators and urban campus communicators.

Regent Durkan reported that Athletic Director, Bill Moos, provided an update surrounding many areas of WSU Athletics. The first of which highlighted the academics of the athletes. She reported that there is a total of 450 student athletes and that the average Spring Semester GPA for them was 3.0. She also highlighted that more than half of the athletes attended their summer program and maintained a GPA of 3.08. She said that in addition to being students, the athletes are also putting in over 3,000 hours of community service.

Lastly, Regent Durkan reported that Athletic Director Moos provided an update on athletic facilities along with some future projects.

7. Academic and Student Affairs Committee Report. Regent Jennings reported that the committee started off with future actions, all involving faculty manual revisions and all of which have been approved by the faculty senate. She reviewed each revision that will come up for action at their October meeting.

Regent Jennings also reported that the University Honors College is being confused with the University College so they have renamed the University Honors College to the Honors College.

She reported that they received an update on the salary increases for faculty and staff. She said it's been unfortunate that over the last few years WSU has been unable to

provide salary increases for faculty and that they are now paid 22 percent below their peers. She said she is pleased to hear that effective January 1, 2014, under President Floyd's leadership; WSU will be able to provide salary increases for the faculty. She said this increase will consist of 4 percent across the board for both faculty and staff; in addition to that, the top third of the faculty will receive a merit increase from a pool of about 2 million dollars which will be used for that purpose.

Regent Jennings reported that John Fraire, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment, shared a number of interesting topics. She said his first topic covered WSU's financial aid allocations. She added that she was pleased to hear that that this year did not have the lines that they faced last year. She also reported that Vice President Fraire talked about the goal of a paperless financial office by next fall and he detailed the process and the plans to get there.

Regent Jennings said the second interesting topic that was discussed was a pre-cursor of the discussion on the Greek System.

Lastly, Regent Jennings reported that Bruce Wright, Executive Director of Health and Wellness Services, reviewed the findings and the recommendations of the Alcohol Task Force. She said it was a very lengthy multiphase task force that consisted of representatives from throughout the university. She added that although WSU is roughly at the national average in terms of alcohol use and abuse, it is a problem of college campuses throughout the U.S. She said that WSU will continue to take this issue seriously and continue to explore recommendations to make sure that these issues are dealt with.

8. Finance and Audit Committee. Regent Worthy reported that the Committee received an update from Heather Lopez, Director, Internal Audit. She indicated that a significant amount of time has been devoted to audits that were directed by the State Auditor's Office and because of the evolution of those audits; they are finding the relationship with the State Auditor's Office evolving. He said they will continue to be mindful of the audits that are being directed by the State Auditor's Office. He said he will continue to work with Ms. Lopez and she will keep the Regents up to date on those matters.

Regent Worthy reported that there were several future action items on the agenda. He called attention to two specifically. He said in the context of our taking advantage of the opportunity to refinance bonds, it was advocated that WSU should perhaps empower the finance unit to act more quickly on opportunities to refinance bonds as market conditions allow. The second item was the possibility of consolidating minor works contracts at a higher threshold for approval. He said currently the Regents have to approve any contract over one million dollars and it suggested that we come up with some alternative for them to be able to combine such contracts that would aggregate larger amount that they could act on and move forward with those minor works

projects. He added that there are efficiencies to be gained in contracting larger work as opposed to individual projects.

Regent Worthy reviewed each action before Board approval.

The Board took action on the following:

2014 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budget Requests. It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve Resolution #130906-457 approving the 2014 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budget requests and delegate authority to the President to approve any necessary changes or adjustments prior to final submission to the Office of Financial Management. Carried.

WSU Pullman, Chief Joseph Village Apartments, Schematic Design. It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve the schematic design documents for the Chief Joseph Village Apartments. Carried.

9. Executive Session. Regent Niva reported that the Regents convened in Executive Session, Thursday, September 5, at 4:00 pm, for the purpose of discussing with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation. She said as a result of that discussion, she recommends the following action.

Request for Defense of University Employees. It was moved and seconded that the Board of Regents approve Resolution #130906-455 and Resolution #13096-456 approving defense for WSU employees. Carried.

10. Public Comment Period. Mr. Tobias Slaton provided public comment to the Regents regarding challenges facing the WSU student veteran's population.

12. Adjournment. In closing, Regent Niva announced that the next Regents' Meeting will be held October 3-4, at the Vancouver Campus.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Approved by the Board of Regents at its meeting held October 4, 2013, on the WSU Vancouver Campus, Firstenburg Student Commons, 101-103.

Chair, Board of Regents

Secretary, Board of Regents