

MINUTES
Joint Meeting between the Boards of Regents of
Washington State University and the University of Washington
September 28, 2012

The Boards of Regents for Washington State University and the University of Washington met in a joint meeting on Friday, September 28, 2012, beginning at 4:00 p.m. in room the 5th Avenue Building Conference Room, 901 5th Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Present from Washington State University: Regents Scott E. Carson (Chair), Theodor Baseler, Harold A. Cochran, T. Ryan Durkan, Francois X. Forgette, Laura M. Jennings, Connie M. Niva, Rafael B. Pruneda, Ron Sims, Michael C. Worthy; and President Elson S. Floyd.

Present from University of Washington: Regents Joanne R. Harrell (Chair), William S. Ayer, Kristianne Blake, Craig W. Cole, William H. Gates, Sally Jewell, Christopher M. Jordan, Herb Simon, and President Michael K. Young.

Special guests: Frank Blethen, Publisher and CEO, Seattle Times.

1. Opening Comments and Introductions. Regent Carson welcomed the group to the new home of Washington State University in Seattle. Regent Harrell thanked the WSU Regents for hosting the meeting. In advance of his presentation she thanked Mr. Blethen, on behalf of the UW Board of Regents, for his support of higher education.

President Floyd thanked the UW and WSU Board members for their stewardship of both institutions. He praised the work of Mr. Blethen, and The Seattle Times, for their support of higher education. He believes there are three goals for higher education: affordability, access, and quality of public higher education. He said he is grateful to both Boards serving as partners in the pursuit of these goals.

President Young welcomed the WSU Board to Seattle. He echoed President Floyd's goals and added availability as a goal, citing availability and capacity of classes as a concern. Economic development of the state is related to higher education and research quality. He cited the work of Mr. Blethen and The Seattle Times as unprecedented and offered his thanks for the support of higher education.

Regent Carson asked those attending to introduce themselves.

2. Presentation: The Greater good Campaign. Regent Carson introduced Frank Blethen, Publisher and Chief Executive Officer of *The Seattle Times*, and invited him to

deliver his presentation on The Greater *good* Campaign sponsored by *The Seattle Times*, followed by his views on the future of higher education in the state of Washington.

Mr. Blethen recalled his great-grandfather, Alden Blethen, who imbued the Blethen family with three principles that have guided the family for 116 years and five generations. First, family businesses are community assets to be preserved and nurtured; second, independent journalism is a sacred trust and the highest form of community service his family can give to the community; and third, quality accessible higher education is essential to a community's prosperity and quality of life.

He described the concept of "Education 3 to 23."

He listed what he believes the Regents and University Presidents can do to provide enabling leadership to the aspiration that Washington become the nation's best public system of higher education.

Mr. Blethen encouraged Regents and others to be active and speak out about the issues of concern to the Universities. He urged them to:

- Speak with "one voice," with a unified message about higher education from the leaders of all the institutions of public higher education institutions in the state;
- Embrace "3 to 23," taking the lead in building the nation's best public school system at all levels, making education the state's highest priority;
- Stop taxing students, saying tuition increases are a "no win" strategy and take the governor and legislators off the hook;
- Be innovators and problem solvers;
- Fill the void of what clear and understandable metrics the universities should be judged by and measured on;
- Become the national leader in making teacher education as rigorous as other professions;
- Tell the story. There are wonderful stories to bolster support for the system and individual institutions to general public and legislators.

Mr. Blethen talked about The Seattle Times Greater *good* Campaign, original purpose, and goals. He thanked the Greater *good* partners, who, he said, care passionately about higher education. He thanked the Regents and Presidents for all they do.

3. Discussion: The Future of Higher Education in the State of Washington.

Questions and discussion followed Mr. Blethen's presentation. President Floyd thanked Mr. Blethen for joining the Boards at the meeting.

4. Closing Comments and Adjourn. President Young thanked Regent Gates for his fifteen years of service to the Board of Regents. On behalf of the University of Washington, and the entire state, he thanked Regent Gates for his unparalleled contributions to higher education and the future of the state. Regent Gates' term of appointment to the University of Washington Board was scheduled to end on September 30, 2012. A standing ovation for Regent Gates followed the President's remarks. Regent Harrell thanked Mr. Blethen for his "spot on" comments and for his unprecedented support. Regent Carson echoed Regent Harrell's thanks and said education is at the root of everything done in the state.

Regent Carson thanked Regents, and others, for attending and adjourned the Special Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Regents at its meeting held November 16, 2012, at the Nursing Building, Room 205, Spokane, Washington.

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