



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Immediately Following the Public Session

Endeavor Room, Student Union 156

MINUTES

Present: Chair Ebbing, Vice Chair Kejriwal, B. Bucklew (Webex), L. Johnson, E. Miller, B. Whiteside, J. Wilson (Webex)

Absent: A. Platt

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ebbing called to order the September 12, 2024 meeting at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

A. Roll Call

Chair Ebbing asked the Secretary, Daniel Palmer, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Chair Ebbing read the Chair's Statement and the Conflict-of-Interest Statement.

Chair's Statement:

The Wright State University Board of Trustees is a public body subject to the Ohio Open Meetings Act. It operates on a fixed agenda available to those attending the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board in its public session should submit a written request to the Board of Trustees' office 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda. However, all persons address the Board at the invitation of the Board and are subject to time limitations and other guidelines established to maintain the good order of the meeting.

Conflict of Interest Statement:

It is of utmost importance to ensure that all university decisions are free from any real or perceived conflicts of interest. Therefore, please be mindful of all obligations with which you have been charged as a Trustee of Wright State University, and take the steps you deem appropriate to perform your duties fairly and impartially.

B. Disposition of Previous Minutes

Vice Chair Kejriwal moved to approve and Trustee Miller seconded. Chair Ebbing asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions, or discussion to the minutes.

The minutes were unanimously approved.

C. Opening Remarks from the Committee Chair

Chair Ebbing greeted everyone and welcomed them to the first committee meeting of the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee.

Chair Ebbing added that the residential student population was at a ten year high, noting the excitement at both the Dayton and Lake campuses was tremendous. He noted it was incumbent upon the campus community to capitalize on this excitement and ensure that the students have the best experience possible both inside and outside of the classroom.

Chair Ebbing added that retention would continue to be a top priority of the committee. He noted the upcoming retention report would be a positive indication that implementation of various high-impact practices were beginning to translate to positive academic outcomes for the students. He noted that the experiences both inside and outside of the classroom impact a student customer's decision to remain at Wright State University.

Next, Chair Ebbing recognized Provost Thompson for her report.

II. REPORTS ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Remarks from the Provost

Provost Thompson provided the Provost report, highlighting the excitement within the campus community. She noted that the high-impact practices that were implemented over the previous year were beginning to translate to an increase in the University's retention rate.

B. Endorsement of Grant Proposal

Next, Chair Ebbing recognized Dr. Gary Schmidt and Dr. December Green to present the Teagle Foundation grant proposal.

Dr. Gary Schmidt provided the report on the Teagle Foundation grant submission, providing an overview on the University's submission.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

**SUPPORT OF THE TEAGLE FOUNDATION GRANT
RESOLUTION 25-04**

WHEREAS, the Teagle Foundation has issued a request for proposals for the Cornerstone: Learning for Living grant, aimed at revitalizing the humanities in the general education of institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, the College of Liberal Arts is developing “The Wright Questions” program, a curricular redesign of the general education courses offered within the College designed to enhance student interest and excitement in the humanities; and

WHEREAS, “The Wright Questions” will have four central themes, including (1) Can Humans Live in Harmony with Nature; (2) Are Humans Different from Machines; (3) What is a Healthy and Good Life; and (4) What Explains War, Violence, and Justice, which explores topics that mirror student career and major interests; and

WHEREAS, the College of Liberal Arts desires to apply for the Teagle Foundation’s grant to support curriculum development, course materials, marketing, advising, peer mentors, and professional development for faculty to effectively teach interdisciplinary paired course groupings as part of the pathways; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its support for the College of Liberal Arts’ application for the Teagle Foundation’s Cornerstone: Learning for Living grant and subsequent development and implementation of “The Wright Questions” program.

Vice Chair Kejriwal moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Miller seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0).

C. Approval of Academic Reorganization

Chair Ebbing recognized Dr. Jim Denniston, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Services, to present on the proposed college reorganization.

Dr. Jim Denniston presented the college reorganization proposal, recommending the creation of the School of Nursing and School of Aviation.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

**APPROVAL OF COLLEGE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES REORGANIZATION PLAN
RESOLUTION 25-05**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has the authority to establish, alter and abolish, and prescribe the

principal functions of, major academic divisions, colleges, centers, departments, and professional schools within the University; and

WHEREAS, the President recommends creating the School of Nursing within the College of Health, Education, and Human Services and establishing the School of Aviation Science and Technology, increasing the visibility and reputation of the programs; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the proposed organizational change is in the University's best interests; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the College of Health, Education, and Human Services Reorganization Plan dated September 2024 is hereby approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President, or her designee, is authorized and directed to take and perform all lawful actions she reasonably deems appropriate to effectuate the Board's directives herein.

Trustee Whiteside moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Kejriwal seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (8,0,0).

III. REPORTS ON ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

Ms. Susan Schaurer, Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented the enrollment management report and noted significant enrollment increases, including a 7.1% increase in total enrollment and a 44% increase since 2021 on first-time, full-time student enrollment.

Dr. Amelia Salazar, Vice President of Student Success, presented the retention report, noting that midterm grades, mentoring, and multiterm registration were having a meaningful impact on retention rates, resulting in a retention rate increase of over 6%.

IV. PRESENTATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCIENCE OF READING

Dr. Jim Denniston, Dr. Dave Herrick, Dr. Tracey Kramer and Dr. Colleen Saxen provided an update on the implementation of the Science of Reading requirements into the teacher licensure curriculum, noting an implementation deadline of January 2025.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Ebbing stated there was no new business before the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Kejriwal moved to adjourn and Trustee Miller seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.