

**Approved Minutes – March 9, 2015**  
University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley Board of Trustees

Trustees Present: Tom Widener, Tom Snider, Kathy Groat, Kevin Sturn. Others Present: Supervisor Nancy Barker, Martin Rudd, Caroline Geary, Jim Eagon, David Staerkel, Tom Frantz, Nicole Norcross, Juli McGuire

1. Chair Widener called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
2. Public comment: None.
3. Trustee Groat moved and Trustee Snider seconded approval of minutes for the meeting held February 9, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
4. The Trustees reviewed the bill summary dated 03/06/15 totaling \$16,465.17. Trustee Snider moved and Trustee Sturn seconded to approve payment of the bills. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
5. Budget Report 2015 –
  - The Trustees reviewed the February budget expenditure report dated 06-Mar-15.
  - Trustee Groat reported that Outagamie County approved the funds to cover over-budget snow removal expenses for 2014. Both Trustees Groat and Sturn from Outagamie County indicated that the budget situation was reviewed at a recent Board meeting and that while the campus is seen as valuable to the community, they wanted to emphasize to the Dean that the County would not provide funds over budget in 2015. The Trustees discussed how to cover the facilities budget when unanticipated needs arise. Chair Widener said he didn't agree with the philosophy that building maintenance should suffer because the counties withheld funds in order to pay for an annual unpredictable expense such as snow removal. Trustee Widener reiterated that the campus has Winnebago County Board support on snow removal and that he believes together with Outagamie County they need to continue this support. Trustee Stern agreed that Winnebago County and Outagamie County work well together in support of the campus and that he thought it was good to have an open discussion of these issues. Trustees of both counties supported the idea forwarded by Sturn to allow the campus to retain unused funds from the annual budget and the end of a fiscal year with the annually accruing balance available as a contingency fund to be available to the campus to pay for things such as snow removal when costs exceed the budgeted amount. The structure of such an arrangement would be subject to the approval of the counties.
  - The Trustees discussed the possibility of charging for parking on campus. Dean Rudd offered to speak to the Outagamie County Board about the matter and, addressing another concern, to reiterate that the campus has not changed in its mission to offer pre-professional courses for the first two years of a bachelor's degree. He also stated that he was interested in learning how parking is handled at other county properties and that his role in prior conversations was to consider the best interests of the students.
  - Mr. Eagon described how the campus pursues equipment cost rebates through Focus on Energy both in the form of rebate checks which are returned to the counties and by having vendors apply the rebate at the point of purchase thereby reducing monthly expenditures.
  - Mr. Eagon and Mr. Staerkel mentioned another example of excellent campus/county cooperation in the new computer maintenance management system through which the campus Building & Grounds staff (UW employees) completed 10,191 documented work orders in 2014 utilizing parts and materials purchased through the counties.
6. Facilities Report –
  - Mr. Eagon provided additional information regarding a property acquisition opportunity that was described at the Trustee's meeting in February, including property description, potential uses for the property, as well as the typical county investigative process for adjacent property acquisitions. Mr. Staerkel indicated that this property is abutted on three sides by existing campus/county property and by Midway Road on the fourth side. UWFox staff currently shovel the sidewalk as it is necessary to get to campus/county property which extends beyond it to the east. Mr. Eagon and Dean Rudd have visited the facility in the last few years and believe the site could be occupied and utilized with little renovation. The Trustees agreed that the decision to pursue acquiring this property would be up to the county executives. Trustee Snider moved and Trustee Sturn seconded to refer the information regarding this property to the county executives for further consideration. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
7. Dean's Report –
  - Dean Rudd thanked County Executive Tom Nelson for speaking at the recent UWFox Report to the Community, and for his support of the campus and its service to the community.
  - Budget Update: Chancellor Sandeen's correspondence to the UW Colleges on Monday 23rd Feb, was to outline the institutional strategy and process for the budget reductions for the next biennium. This was an item that she addressed during her campus visit the previous week. Essentially, the starting

- point for an examination of institution-wide reductions (that could be \$6M) will start with a re-examination by a committee of recent budget reduction/efficiency reports that have been developed for the UW Colleges including those of the Huron Report and Repositioning Task Force in 2014. While we understand that not all the work in those reports is complete, and that there will be an opportunity for input much as there was before, the 3rd April deadline means that the committee will be very busy identifying potential reductions for implementation 1st July 2015.
- **Legislative Update:** Tied in with the potential budget reduction, and other matters affecting the UW in the Governor's proposal, is our legislative work: that is, letting our local elected officials know about (i) what we do at UWFox (so well); and (ii) how the proposed budget reductions may affect all aspects of our operations from curriculum to service to students to time to degree/transfer. Again, I want to indicate that at present we are NOT working from a "UW-Fox Valley reduction" perspective [meaning we don't have a "campus number"]. As you know, immediately after our last Collegium, faculty and staff met with freshman assemblywoman Rep. Amanda Stuck. Last Friday, albeit under a slightly different agenda, I toured campus and talked at length with Congressman Glenn Grothman (who had not been on campus before), and his staffer (who knows us well). A couple of highlights: he is highly impressed with what we do and how we do it (he does know the UW-WC campus) and provided strong verbal support of that; he also noted that the Neebo partnership saved students more than \$139,000 in book purchase costs at UWFox last year through rentals, the workforce placements of the UWFox/UW-Platteville engineering collaboration graduates, and the presence of a superb, goal-meeting TRiO program.
  - The week before last I attended a UW Alumni Association Legislative Breakfast put on by the Fox Valley Chapter of the WAA. I requested to attend to specifically hear how the alumni of UW-Madison are reacting to the proposed changes to the budget and public authority structure. In addition to about 25 alumni and Regent Tim Higgins, were Rep. Mike Rohrkaste, Rep. Jim Steineke and Sen. Roger Roth. After a brief presentation regarding the UW-Madison budget and the process, I was asked to talk about the potential effects of the reductions to UWFox and the UW Colleges. Despite the sensitive topic, the legislators appreciated the moderate tone in conversation. There were UW-Madison alumni present who also attended UWFox. Of particular interest is the transfer mission. I heard vocal and widespread support among UW alumni for our institution.
  - Earlier last week I attended the Alliance of Chambers of Commerce Legislative Breakfast in Neenah. This event was put on by an alliance of the Chambers of Commerce of Green Bay, Fox Cities, Waupaca, Oshkosh and Fond du Lac and featured Rep. John Nygren talking about the events surrounding the issuance of the Governor's Budget and the upcoming Joint Finance Committee Hearings, and Senator Ron Johnson. Not a lot to report on the UW front at this meeting except that there was an emphasis from Rep. Nygren on seeking out "many more efficiencies" in the System.
  - We have invitations out to Rep. Al Ott for a campus visit (16th March); those will be followed by Senator Roth and Representative Rohrkaste in the coming weeks.
  - **FAQ:** As a result of the February Collegium, a small group of interested faculty and staff have been working (led by Tom Frantz) on a Budget "Frequently Asked Questions" to help you with messaging. It will be posted on the campus website. We will use the first iteration as a trial so please let us know what else to add, subtract and how additional parts of the budget message can be included. <http://uwfox.uwc.edu/aboutfox/basebudgetfaq2015.html>
  - **VEX Robotics Evening:** Last week, UW-Fox Valley Foundation Executive Director Mary Beth Leopold and I brought in some guests to watch the final VEX Robotics Fox Valley League Competition for the year – the winning teams are heading to state and national championships now. We invited some leaders in manufacturing, workforce development and engineering to come and interact with the 24 qualifiers. Thanks to work from Meagan Hardwick and Red Shoes PR, we had two TV stations there to interview the high school participants and VEX organizers, and to show the remarkable robots that the mentored teams built. It was a great evening. We now move to Phase II of the project and that is to develop, with the help of Continuing Education, a classroom programming component for the 7-12th graders.
  - **Chancellor and Provost Visit:** We hosted a busy couple of days of UW Colleges Deans and Chancellor/Provost Meeting. I can report that the Chancellor found UWFox to be very impressive; she particularly enjoyed the opportunities to meet with faculty/staff, had an excellent session with more than 20 students (thanks to Carla Rabe, Jeff Kuepper, and Meagan Hardwick for organizing) and recorded a couple of interviews with Tom Frantz, one of which is currently on the campus website. I know she is also touring other campuses during this semester but our timing was good and there were a lot of pieces that came into place quickly. Chancellor Sandeen and I had a chance to visit with the Editorial Board of the Post Crescent for an hour long meeting. I am very appreciative of how that was set up at the last moment.
  - **African Heritage Inc's Emerging Leaders Institute:** In December Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Carla Rabe and I were visited by two extraordinary community leaders from African Heritage Inc ([www.africanheritageinc.org](http://www.africanheritageinc.org)) who were developing an "*Emerging Leaders Workshop*" for African American students in the Fox Cities. They asked for our help in getting the word out and promoting the event. The event, a day long workshop with motivational speakers, African-American leaders from the local business community and instruction on college preparation and career planning took place at a crowded and raucous Liberty Hall in Kimberly. Carla and I attended for part of the remarkable day. UWFox also had a booth there and, thanks to UWFox Multicultural Coordinator Fabiola Navarro's role

with multicultural students, we also took 6 UWFox students. The event was supported by the City of Appleton, higher eds in the area and the Appleton Area School District. 300 students attended.

- **UWFox in the News:**

- Green Bay even colder than Mars during cold snap  
<http://fox11online.com/2015/02/25/green-bay-even-colder-than-mars-during-cold-snap/>
- UWFox Student Spotlight: Haley Biolo  
<http://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2015/02/23/uwfox-student-spotlight-haley-biolo/23754127/>
- UWFV turns to PR firm after retirement  
<http://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2015/02/22/watchdog-qa-uwfv-turns-pr-firm-retirements/23818567/>
- Robotic skills put to the test at UW-Fox Valley  
<http://fox11online.com/2015/02/19/robotic-skills-put-to-the-test-at-uw-fox-valley/>
- The Local Scene Feb. 11  
<http://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/neenah-menasha/2015/02/11/local-scene-feb/23172745/>

8. The next meeting of the Trustees is Monday, April 13, 11:00 a.m., in Room 1706.

9. Trustee Groat moved and Trustee Snider seconded approval to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

T. Widener, Chair; J. McGuire, Recorder