

Approved Minutes – May 11, 2015
University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley Board of Trustees

Trustees Present: Tom Widener, Joy Hagen, Kathy Groat, Tom Snider.

Others Present: Winnebago County Supervisor Nancy Barker, Outagamie County Supervisor Jerry Iverson, UW Colleges & Extension Board of Visitors volunteer Keith Summers, Martin Rudd, Jim Eagon, David Staerkel, Thomas Frantz, Juli McGuire

1. Chair Widener called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
2. Public comment: None.
3. After hearing no objections, Chair Widener declared the minutes for the meeting of April 13, 2015 approved as submitted.
4. The Trustees reviewed the bill summary dated 05/08/15 totaling \$11,125.33. Trustee Groat moved and Trustee Hagen seconded to approve payment of the bills. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
5. Budget Report 2015 –
 - The Trustees reviewed the April budget expenditure report dated 08-May-15. Mr. Eagon indicated that the snow removal budget looks good with a remaining budget balance for the year at 58% versus what would be anticipated, 33%, based on averages.
6. Facilities Report –
 - Mr. Staerkel is gearing up for planned summer projects including patching of the library wall, painting, carpet replacement, grounds repairs and extensive work with the energy conservation project.
 - Mr. Eagon provided the report of the property acquisition study done by Short Elliott Hendrickson. According to the study the building is in good condition and in compliance with building code. The cost for recommended facility improvements is estimated at \$9,000. Mr. Eagon indicated that the cost could be lower if lot repairs were coordinated with similar lot repair work to be done in other campus areas in 2016. Trustee Hagen indicated she would be interested in additional detail regarding the proposed use of the building and the estimated cost if the counties elected to upgrade for current ADA standards. Mr. Eagon reiterated that the owner would like to sell the property this year and is giving the counties an informal first opportunity to purchase. Trustee Hagen moved and Trustee Snider seconded the motion that the UW-Fox Valley Board of Trustees and UWFox staff continue to pursue the opportunity to purchase the property at 1524 Midway Road and that they continue discussions with the county executives. Trustee Widener opposed the motion explaining that he supports pursuing acquisition of the property, but that the motion is simply a continuation of previous action. The motion passed 3-1.
7. Keith Summers, an alumnus of UWFox and current volunteer for the UW Colleges & Extension Board of Visitors, addressed the Trustees with his concerns regarding the Governor's budget proposal and potential resulting reduction to the UW Colleges budget of \$6.5 million. Mr. Summers is also concerned with Chancellor Sandeen's proposal to regionalize campus leadership stating the Colleges must protect its core mission to provide access and success for students to attain a liberal arts education. He believes strongly that the local leadership presence in the community is very important to allow the campus to function for students. Stating that without such a presence, Mr. Summers gave the examples that the campus would not have had a Foundation board committed to raise \$2.5 million for the Communication Arts Center or the regional support that brought the mechanical and electrical engineering program to the Fox Valley. Dean Rudd further commented that any change in staff support for students will harm students' academically and extend their time to attain a degree, especially for the first generation college students.
8. Dean's Report –
 - A. **Budget:** Since our last Trustees Meeting, advocacy efforts to reduce the size of the Governor's proposed \$300M reduction to the UW System have been going well, both locally and across the state. Specifically on campus we hosted Senator Roger Roth and Rep. Mike Rohrkaste for faculty/staff/student forums for them to hear concerns and for them to explain their positions on a host of topics.

Chancellor Sandeen also held a Town Hall Meeting for all 13 campuses (16th April) to respond to recommendations made in the Budget Planning Task Force's report and, most recently, a Listening Session (4th May). She will present some more information this morning at an all collegium event that will summarize what she has been hearing in feedback from individuals, campus resolutions, academic departments and employee groups from UW Colleges.

Please find a link to the story that Post Crescent Education Reporter, and Town Hall attendee, Jen Zettel, posted about the noontime Town Hall meeting held by Chancellor Sandeen and Co-Chairs of the Budget Planning Task Force, Steve Wildeck and Greg Lampe.
<http://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2015/04/20/uw-colleges-including-uwfox-brace-budget-cuts/26098793/>

I can tell you that Chancellor Sandeen has been very interested in the numerous emails, phone calls and meetings she has had in the last few weeks with additional suggestions and perspectives that you have provided. The Chancellor has indicated that she is committed to listening sessions in the next (short) few weeks to connect with specific groups in the UW Colleges (such as Academic Staff, students) and campus groups.

I should also let you know of a very recent development (in the few days): the Legislative Fiscal Bureau has asked UW System for an up to date snapshot of institutional fund balances. I am unaware at this point if this is part of annual reporting (think Spring 2 years ago when this broke – I believe it was April) or whether it is in response to a request from a legislator. As you can imagine, the release of those figures, depending on what they are, both by system and as an institutional breakdown, could present difficulties for our continuing efforts to show the effect of the proposed \$6.5 M budget reduction on our institution. I do not have any further details at present but I wanted to let you know of this current “twist”. Questions could be: what does it mean for UW Colleges if our fund balances are not as severely depleted as those of other institutions, e.g., UW-Superior? How will an institutional breakdown of fund balances play into the overall picture – remember that when the fund balance news broke before essentially the whole UW System was “lumped together” and it was very difficult to get OUR message heard that UW Colleges only had a “small portion” [around 2.5%] of those total fund balances. There has also been a request from two legislators to hold the UW Colleges and UW-Extension “harmless” in the budget reductions (i.e., maintain current funding levels). Chancellor Sandeen discussed this on WPR last week. <http://www.wpr.org/shows/protect-uw-extension-2-year-campus-cuts>

Most recently, you will have seen that state revenue numbers were not as good as expected and as a result, both K-12 and the UW System are unlikely to see immediate relief from their proposed budget reductions.

- B. **Adult Open House:** The numbers of attendees was small (around 20) but to me, the most critical part was the absolute personal attention that I saw all the potential students receive. Guided by a student, at each “station stop” they were warmly welcomed and provided excellent information about different aspects of campus life. One of the most impressive things was that nearly every aspect of campus life was represented. I really thought the format worked well and it provides a blueprint on how we can build on these recruitment efforts, an effort that is likely to appear as an Institutional Priority for 2015-16. Thank you to all those faculty and staff who helped at the stations and to guides. I particularly want to thank members of the Foundation Board who provided the first “welcome to campus” and the Marketing Group for bringing this idea to life.
- C. **Campus Energy Project Kickoff:** We recently held a meeting with the energy contractor, state representative and Honeywell to officially kick off the “Campus Energy Project”. I want to let you know that the main part of the project will be occurring over the summer and will involve some disruption to the area immediately above the basement (Food Service, 1264 et cetera) at times, notably when the old 1959 vintage boilers are actually removed from the basement. We will need heavy lifting equipment (a crane) near the loading bay of Food Services and there will be reduced parking in parts of the east side of the building (again, during the summer only, we believe).
- D. **Discussion of the Future of Public Higher Education in Wisconsin:** Organized jointly by the Wisconsin Academy of Arts, Letters and Science, WIPPS and WISCAPE (<https://www.wiscape.wisc.edu/>), a morning long discussion on the future of public higher education in Wisconsin was held in Kimberly. A similar forum was held the following day (16th April) in Wausau and, according to the organizers, others are likely to be planned in other regions of the state. I have attached the two documents that were provided as “read ahead” items. The audience was mainly business and civic leaders in the area, with a limited invitation pool from higher education (steering chair, Caroline Geary, university staff senator, Juli McGuire and UW Colleges deans from across NE Wisconsin were present). We sat in “mixed tables” and provided feedback to the questions on large flip charts. The aim is to organize those ideas into a white paper, possibly to request a new commission to examine higher education. I will share more as I receive it.
- E. **Board of Regents Meeting:** I attended the board of Regents Meeting, beautifully hosted by UW-Waukesha earlier this month. It is a LOT of work to host one of those meetings!! As the host institution, UW Colleges and UW-Extension had an opportunity to have their Vice Chancellors present to the

various Regents Committees and Chancellor Sandeen to the full board. I have attached a scanned (sorry, no original yet) copy of her presentation. For many of the Regents, this was an opportunity to learn about the UW Colleges in a distilled manner that they don't usually get so showcasing the BAAS, our county/city partnerships and the unique population that we serve. Interestingly enough, Iron County is the **only** county in Wisconsin from which we have no enrolled students.

- F. **Announcement of Agreement with Bellin College of Nursing:** After a couple of years of work, and a really great opportunity to get to know the leadership of Bellin College, I am pleased to announce that UWFox will host a transfer agreement signing ceremony in the First Community Lobby / Ken Anderson Terrace of the CAC on Wednesday 13th May at 1.30pm. The agreement provides a much more robust transfer agreement for all UW Colleges students that recognizes our AAS degree and I am very thankful to Carla Rabe, Caroline Geary, Terri Gonya and Tammy Brunette who have been involved in many stages of getting this work done. We will therefore be adding another premier option for our students for transfer to complete their BS in Nursing degrees. The Chancellor and Provost will be on campus, together with guests from Bellin College and invited partners.
- G. **Commencement:** Planning for commencement on Wednesday 20th May is in top gear and I am looking forward to seeing you at our annual celebration of our graduates and to see Student of the Year and Teacher of the Year Awards presented. I am also excited to welcome Lawrence University President, Mark Burstein, to UWFox to deliver the commencement address.
- H. **Undergraduate Research Activities:** I would like to comment on the excellent showing that UWFox had at two statewide (System) undergraduate research events this week, both of which I was fortunate enough to attend and interact with the students. Sixteen students were associated with the presentations this year!!

On Wednesday (22nd), Professors Greg Peter, Gregg Jamison, Beth Johnson and Dubear Kroening accompanied their students to the State Capitol for the "Posters in the Rotunda" (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/posters/>) event from 10am-3pm (<https://www.wisconsin.edu/news/archive/130-students-to-showcase-undergraduate-research-at-12th-posters-in-the-rotunda/>). The following poster presentations were made by the students in attendance:

Hannah Bourgault, Appleton, *Anthropology Collections at UW–Fox Valley: Education through documentation* (Gralewicz / Jamison)

Jacqueline Koeller, Appleton, *Anthropology Collections at UW–Fox Valley: Education through documentation* (Gralewicz / Jamison)

Branden Wise, Appleton, *Anthropology Collections at UW–Fox Valley: Education Through documentation* (Gralewicz / Jamison)

Ashley Kreuser, Appleton, *Anthropology collections at UW–Fox Valley: Education Through documentation* (Gralewicz / Jamison)

Austin Roth, Menasha, *Comparison of Marine Invertebrate Biodiversity Before and After the Ordovician/Silurian Extinction, Calumet County Park, Stockbridge, Wisconsin* (Johnson)

Danny Krill, Appleton, *Constructed Appearance: Gender Cues, Body Cues, and Contra-Indicators* (Peter)

Alexander Horkman, De Pere, *Research on Mastitis Prevention* (Kroening)

Leigh Hayes, Greenville, *Survey of Types and Distribution of Stromatolites on a Silurian-aged Seafloor at High Cliff State Park, Sherwood, Wisconsin* (Johnson)

The students were visited by several area legislators at their posters, as arranged with UW Colleges (Molly Vidal) and Renee Gralewicz, and also by Provost Lampe and President Ray Cross. A University Studios team also accompanied them for the day and we will shortly feature some video of them. The students also visited with legislators and their staff in their offices, notably Sen. Roger Roth and Rep. Dave Murphy. I also had a chance to meet one on one with the legislators.

Thanks to Bill Bultman (and arrangements from Lidia Nonn at UW-Green Bay) we were able to share a coach to and from Madison with UW-Green Bay students and faculty and returned to Appleton around 5.30pm for a joint dinner and social time at Gather Americana.

On Friday (24th), Professors Geary and Gonya and Writing Center Director Christina Marty, took three groups of students to the 14th Annual UW System Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium at UW-Milwaukee (<https://www4.uwm.edu/our/news/symposium.cfm>). This was the largest event I have been to in a decade of taking students and attending, with 700 research students presenting posters in two sessions, together with oral presentations and creative performances in fine arts and communications. The following poster presentations were made by our students:

Cesar Hernandez, Tiffany Vegetabile, and Stefanie Wideman (UW-Fox Valley)

Faculty mentors: Caroline Geary, Terri Gonya

Increasing the Understanding of the Health Impacts of E-cigarettes During a Time of Student-Initiated Policy Change Regarding Smoking on Campus.

Erika Petersen (UW-Fox Valley)

Mentor: Caroline Geary, Chemistry; Mentor: Terri Gonya, Biological Sciences

Food Choice Quality among College Students

Dana Sickinger, Hannah Olson, Hallie Cuomo and Jared Phillips (UW-Fox Valley)

Mentor: Christina Marty

Nontraditional Students in the Writing Center: Identity, Challenges, and Strategies

I have never been to such a busy event poster with the UW System; during the poster sessions, there was non-stop interaction with other students, faculty and judges. The room was filled with hundreds of engaged students being experts on their research!

This is an important time to thank the faculty who have mentored students in research projects in 2014-15, and not just those who were able to present. We set students up for success beyond UWFox through these experiences; we teach them how to become scholars and I know how time consuming these projects are for faculty and students. I want to acknowledge that work and thank you for your time with them.

The students' attendance at these events (travel costs and posters) were covered by the UWFox Scholars Fund (part of the Professional Development Program). Thank you Juli and Beth for getting them printed on campus!

We are working on a way to display the posters more readily than in the past, and also to provide a digital archive of them in the library.

- I. Arbor Day Celebration. Dean Rudd attended a successful Arbor Day celebration at Nicolet Elementary School in Menasha. Mayor Tim Merkes was also in attendance to recognize the City of Menasha as Tree City USA, Menasha Utilities as Tree Utilities, and UW-Fox Valley as Tree Campus USA.
 - J. Dean Rudd reported that he attended the visitation Friday evening for former UWFox student Adam Bentsdahl who was recently shot and killed on the Trestle Trail Bridge in Menasha.
9. The next meeting of the Trustees is Monday, June 8, 11:00 a.m., in Room 1706.
 10. 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 12:27 p.m.
- T. Widener, Chair; J. McGuire, Recorder