

Approved Minutes – August 10, 2015
University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley Board of Trustees

Trustees Present: Tom Widener, Kathy Groat, Nancy Barker, Joy Hagen.

Others Present: Martin Rudd, Jim Eagon, David Staerkel, Thomas Frantz, Juli McGuire, Joe Wager-Smith

1. Chair Widener called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.
2. Public comment: None.
3. Trustee Hagen moved and Trustee Barker seconded approval of minutes for the meeting held July 13, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
4. The Trustees reviewed the bill summary dated 08/06/15 totaling \$10,387.88. Trustee Hagen moved and Trustee Barker seconded to approve payment of the bills. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.
5. The Trustees reviewed the budget expenditure report dated 06-Aug-15. Mr. Eagon distributed an updated Capital Improvement Plan which includes three phases for each project: 1) concept, 2) engineering/budget cost, and 3) carrying out/construction. Dean Rudd mentioned that he was asked about the campus plans for a nursing program to which he offered to bring in collaborative partners to talk about progress of the program and scholarships.
6. Information Update on Budget Proposal for 2016
 - Last week campus leadership attended a budget meeting with the Outagamie County Executive who indicated he would support the 2016 budget as proposed and also that he felt the campus was a good economic return for the area.
 - Mr. Eagon mentioned the difficulty of increased fixed costs and facing a fourth consecutive year of 0% increase in the county budgets.
 - Campus leadership have a budget meeting scheduled for next week with the Winnebago County Executive.
7. Facilities Condition Report
 - Mr. Eagon indicated that the sidewalk repair project is under way.
 - The west parking lot is undergoing seal and line painting.
 - The campus is undergoing wall patching and priming as part of capital project and waiting for painting contractor to begin.
 - The campus will hold withhold carpet replacements to ensure staying within the budget allocation.
8. Dean's Report
 - **Budget / Regionalization Update:** Since my last report, Chancellor Sandeen has made a significant announcement about the Round 2 budget decisions to meet the required \$5M reduction to the 2015-2017 biennial budget for the UW Colleges. To summarize:

Feb 2015: Governor Walker proposed \$300M reduction to the UW System based budget for 2015-17; additional steps would reduce "costs to continue" bringing the total closer to \$350M; UW Colleges portion of that reduction was estimated at \$6.5M including those additional costs.

Feb-April 2015: UW Colleges' Budget Reduction Task Force delves into previous reports and consulting analyses from Huron Group to determine how to deal with the proposed \$6.5M reduction.

May 2015: Chancellor Sandeen announces "Round 1 Budget Reductions" totaling \$2.6M in anticipation of a severe and unprecedented reduction to the biennial budget of the UW Colleges. She communicates to the UW Colleges faculty and staff via a Town Hall Meeting that these initial reductions will focus on a "One Stop Shop" for Student Affairs and a "Center for Academic and Student Engagement" (as two of the main cost saving measures). Centralization, consolidation and localization of cross trained personnel would account for some of the reduction. The UW Colleges announces the formation of a "Budget Implementation Steering Committee" (BISC) that oversees multiple working and reporting groups, each staffed with faculty and staff from the respective functional areas. Issues include looking at consolidated position descriptions, identifying percentage appointments in each particular work function, new processes and pathways involving the campus(es) and the Institutional Office.

July 2015: The state budget is passed and includes a mammoth \$250M permanent base reduction to the UW Colleges, resulting in a \$5M permanent reduction to the institution. UW System develops plans to assist institutions most at risk from this reduction by providing some relief. Chancellor Sandeen announces "Round 2 Budget Reductions" in an email on 07/21. Campuses will be regionalized under the leadership of a regional team consisting of one executive dean and three associate deans – essentially 13 positions (one per campus) will become 4 positions for each of the senior leadership appointments on campus. A timeline of proposed regionalization consists of early Fall (re)appointments of deans followed by other associate dean positions. UW-Fox will be regionalized with UW-Fond du Lac and UW-Manitowoc.

This is a plan that is moving forward and will provide continued services to students through streamlined and improved interactions in offices where questions can get answered. We know that some positions that will be located on campuses will not be serving campuses but rather institutional (consolidated) roles: those include recruitment, admissions, veterans and financial aid. It is difficult to estimate the total number of position reductions but it will probably number 60-80 across the institution. No reductions were made to the academic programs (faculty). A major challenge is that much of the work that has been going on has been since the official end of the semester and contract year and so bringing the collective faculty and staff up to speed through weekly communications and online reports has been critical.

A timetable for reporting on the "Round 1" reductions was developed and includes final reporting and synthesis in August 2015. By the end of the August, we expect a comprehensive report and recommendations (we are only in an implementation planning phase) to be announced by the Chancellor. All the reductions have to be made by 30th June 2016 – as you can imagine, we are using "cash" in FY16 to provide time to get the implementation and resulting planning done RIGHT.

Chancellor Sandeen's announcement of regionalization presented an excellent opportunity for her, and campus deans, to provide media interviews and in the week that followed, more than 20 media outlets reported on the story.

<http://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2015/07/21/uw-colleges-pursue-regional-campus-leadership/30492921/>

<http://www.wispolitics.com/index.iml?Article=352703>

- I also presented a "Fox Cities Viewpoint" on WHBY radio. A copy of my transcript is below:

WHBY Fox Cities Viewpoint - July 2015

Now that the state budget has been signed, the University of Wisconsin Colleges is planning to implement a \$5 million dollar base budget reduction during the current biennium. This is a large and unprecedented reduction from an already lean and efficient operation. We are taking the time that we need to fully assess the requirements of our institution in a rational, thoughtful and deliberate manner and our mission of providing a community-based, high-quality University of Wisconsin liberal arts education will not be compromised.

UWFox remains a full-service, first-choice university for all same the reasons that have brought tens of thousands of students through our doors in recent years; factors such as amazing, dedicated faculty offering unique guided opportunities to engage in research, service learning and co-curricular activities; the lowest cost tuition in the University of Wisconsin system and a broad range of educational and community-centered cultural events that provide thought provoking topics and superb entertainment.

Students coming to our campus will demand and will continue to receive top notch, information-rich services to ensure that all their questions about becoming, studying as and transferring as a UWFox student are accurately and quickly solved. Our UW-Fox Valley Foundation has provided a record number of scholarships for this upcoming year and we continue to grow support mechanisms for our nontraditional students.

While we face a period of considerable internal reorganization, the continued collaboration, support and partnerships with a multitude of local entities will guarantee that the success of our students—both current and future—remains front and center.

I'm Dr. Martin Rudd, Campus Dean of UWFox and that's my Fox Cities Viewpoint.

- **Thrive Academy / Valley Packaging Industries Partnership:**

Recently, we held the inaugural graduation for 7 graduates from the Thrive Career Academy that has been located here. This partnership with VPI provided grant funded students with an opportunity to take soft skills classes in a room set aside for them. The students, who face a variety of learning challenges, completed a 12 week academic program and then an internship program (some of them held internship positions on campus – e.g. in Buildings and Grounds).

<http://www.kfz.com/local-news/local-news-briefs-monday-7-27-15>

We will welcome our next cohort in early September.

9. The next meeting of the Trustees is Monday, August 10, 11:00 a.m., in Room 1706.
10. Trustee Barker moved and Trustee Hagen seconded approval to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

T. Widener, Chair; J. McGuire, Recorder