



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Immediately Following the Public Session

Dicke Hall – Lake Campus

MINUTES

Present: Chair Conway, Vice Chair Bucklew, A. Goyal, R. Kejriwal, J. Thompson, R. Peters, M. Crabtree

Absent: M. Grunder

Guests: President Edwards, Provost Thompson, S. Schaurer

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Conway called to order the April 25, 2024 meeting at 1:33 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

A. Roll Call

Chair Conway asked the Secretary, Daniel Palmer, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Chair Conway 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

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

The minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

C. Opening Remarks from the Committee Chair

Chair Conway greeted and welcomed everyone to the final Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting.

She began her remarks with updates on student centric initiatives that were moving the needle on retention. She noted the University had taken a thorough and thoughtful approach to revise the workload policy, bringing Wright State University in line with other public, regional institutions. Chair Conway noted this as a new equitable approach that will incentivize and better recognize faculty scholarship and service, putting a more direct focus on the students the University serves as well as being more fiscally minded.

Chair Conway also noted the Board would act on the first phase of the Academic Efficiency and Effectiveness Review recommendation, which would sunset 34 programs that had low enrollment. She noted that the review process went smoothly as a result of strong collaboration from constituencies across the campus community, including the faculty senate. Chair Conway noted this would be a continuous review to ensure the University is offering a set of programs that meets the demand of the students while also strengthening the financial position of the University.

Finally, Chair Conway highlighted the ongoing course development for the first-year seminars that would be rolled out in Fall 2024. She noted that over 800 students will be enrolled in nearly 30 sections beginning in August. Chair Conway stated that the proven high-impact practice would directly address learning gaps and college preparedness for the incoming students, giving them a better chance of future academic success.

Next, Chair Conway recognized Provost Thompson for her report.

II. REPORTS ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A. Remarks from the Provost

Provost Thompson began her remarks by announcing Dr. Subhashini Ganapathy as the new Dean of the College of Graduate Programs and Honors Studies. Provost Thompson thanked her for her leadership as the President of Faculty Senate and indicated she was looking forward to working with the incoming president, Dawn Wooley.

Provost Thompson noted the achievements of the graduating students, including those graduating with honors. She noted being an honors student is challenging, completing additional research and coursework to earn their degree. She noted at the upcoming commencement, the University would

award 44 of the honors students with the Honors medallion. Provost Thompson also recognized and congratulated the Top Scholar from each college that was recognized at a reception.

Provost Thompson highlighted that the University celebrated the 50th anniversary of the nursing program with a celebration of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. Over the last 50 years, Provost Thompson noted Wright State's Nursing program had produced over 8,000 nurses, many of which have stayed in the region to provide care to the community.

Finally, Provost Thompson noted that as a way to celebrate those on campus that were going the extra mile for students, the University hosted the Student Success Awards for the second consecutive year. She noted awards were given in six categories, which included service, leadership, collaboration, teaching, advising, and tutoring.

B. Emeritus Requests

Chair Conway thanked Provost Thompson for her report and asked if there were any questions from the committee. Hearing none, Chair Conway asked Provost Thompson to present the Emeritus Request resolution.

Provost Thompson stated that this resolution will grant emeritus status to several faculty members and that emeritus status is granted after 10 years of service to the University.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF EMERITUS REQUESTS

RESOLUTION 24-38

WHEREAS, faculty members who have served ten or more years as fully-affiliated and full-time members at Wright State University will automatically be granted the emeritus title upon retirement and upon written request by the faculty member to the provost; and

WHEREAS, the listed faculty members served the University in a fully-affiliated and full-time status and have formally requested emeritus status; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the requests for emeritus status for the aforementioned faculty members, as submitted to this meeting be, and the same hereby are endorsed.

Trustee Kejriwal moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Thompson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

C. Approval of Program Deactivations

Provost Thompson stated that as part of the Academic Effectiveness and Efficiency work, there were 34 programs recommended for deactivation. She noted that as directed by the Board at the February Committee meeting, the University completed the deactivation process with final approval from the Board needed.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF PROGRAM DEACTIVATIONS

RESOLUTION 24-39

WHEREAS, University policy permits deactivation of academic programs with concurrence of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the President and Faculty have recommended the deactivation of programs as submitted to this meeting; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the program deactivations as submitted to the Board of Trustees are hereby approved.

Trustee Thompson moved to approve the resolution and Vice Chair Bucklew seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

D. Approval of New Programs

Provost Thompson stated that after careful review and evaluation, the University was recommending seven programs for approval by the Board of Trustees. She noted that only two of the seven proposed programs were new programs with the remaining five being the reimagining of existing programs.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

APPROVAL OF NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

RESOLUTION 24-40

WHEREAS, Wright State University is a regional workforce development hub, tasked with educating the needed workforce for the Dayton region and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the proposed programs meet a demonstrated workforce development need in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Provost, in consultation with the Faculty Senate, recommends the approval of the

proposed programs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the proposed programs as submitted to the meeting be, and the same hereby is endorsed.

Trustee Peters moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Thompson seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

III. RECOGNITION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

Chair Conway noted the final actionable item before the committee was a resolution recognizing the achievements of the President and Vice President of the Student Government Association.

Secretary Palmer read the following resolution:

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

RESOLUTION 24-41

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith were selected by the Wright State Student Body to serve as their president and vice president for the 2023-2024 academic year; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith have demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in their roles in the Student Government Association; and

WHEREAS, Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith have served with distinction as advocates of the Wright State Student Body; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Wright State University Board of Trustees recognizes the achievements and contributions of Stephanie Buettner and Aliesha Smith

Trustee Peters moved to approve the resolution and Trustee Kejriwal seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was conducted and the resolution passed unanimously (7,0,0).

IV. REPORTS ON ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

Ms. Susan Schaurer, Vice President of Enrollment Management, presented the enrollment management report and provided an additional update on the challenges with FAFSA due to the federal government overhaul of the program. She noted optimism for enrollment for the upcoming academic year.

Provost Thompson presented the retention report, noting that midterm grades, mentoring, and

multiterm registration were having a meaningful impact on retention rates. She also provided an update on the first-year seminar implementation for the upcoming Fall 2024 semester.

V. NEW BUSINESS

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Kejriwal moved to adjourn and Trustee Peters seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.