Board of Trustees

February 5, 2015
President’s Boardroom, The Horace Mann Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Trustees Frank, Hagan, Hill, Johnson, Landrau, Martin, Queenin, Scheibel, and Slakey.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING REMOTELY: Trustee Marcus.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustee Perez.

Trustee Scheibel called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

Trustee Marcus called in at 3:11 PM. Trustee Scheibel stated he would be participating remotely due to his geographic distance.

MOTION made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Queenin to accept the minutes from the December 15, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank  Yes
James Hagan  Yes
Robert Johnson  Yes
Madeline Landrau  Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair)  Yes
Robert Martin  Abstain
Kevin Queenin  Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair)  Yes
Linda Slakey  Yes

Motion passed.

Trustee Hill entered the meeting at 3:22 PM.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Dr. Elizabeth Preston, President, reported the Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Affirmative Action Plan (The Plan) will be implemented statewide March 15, 2015. Mr. Larry Johnson, Director for Non-Discrimination Compliance, briefly reviewed The Plan, explaining and identifying responsible employees. Further information regarding The Plan will be provided to the board in April.

The campus globe was vandalized by university students on Sunday, February 1, 2015 after the Patriots won the Super Bowl. Several students have provided the Department of Public Safety with videos of the vandalism occurring but officers are unable to identify the students, with the exception of one, due to the poor quality of the videos. Students, faculty, and staff are very upset. The globe was an icon for the university. Dr. Preston made it clear university resources will not be used to replace or repair the globe. Nor with the efforts of the Office of Development or Westfield State Foundation be redirected in an effort to raise funds for replacement or repair. In 2009, the globe was appraised at $75,000. It’s anticipated the cost to replace the globe will be significantly more.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Dr. Carlton Pickron, Vice President for Student Affairs, reviewed proposed policy eliminations and updates to student conduct regulations.

**MOTION** made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Martin to eliminate the Admission of Applicants with Criminal Convictions and/or Student Disciplinary Records policy. Massachusetts state law establishes the discretionary authority to review these matters in admission practices and decisions.

**ROLL CALL VOTE** taken:

- Joshua Frank  
- James Hagan  
- Terrell Hill (Secretary)  
- Robert Johnson  
- Madeline Landrau  
- Steven Marcus (Vice Chair)  
- Robert Martin  
- Kevin Queenin  
- Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair)  
- Linda Slakey

Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION** made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Scheibel to eliminate the Emergency Notification Procedure policy, the content of which is duplicated in other emergency policies and procedures.
ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank  Yes
James Hagan    Yes
Terrell Hill (Secretary) Yes
Robert Johnson Yes
Madeline Landrau Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair) Yes
Robert Martin  Yes
Kevin Queenin Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair) Yes
Linda Slakey   Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Landrau to accept all changes to the University Student Conduct Regulations and Procedures Manual. Such changes will become effective the same day the Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Affirmative Action Plan becomes effective statewide, on or about March 15, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank  Yes
James Hagan    Yes
Terrell Hill (Secretary) Yes
Robert Johnson Yes
Madeline Landrau Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair) Yes
Robert Martin  Yes
Kevin Queenin Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair) Yes
Linda Slakey   Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Hagan to approve the granting of Staff Emeriti status, effective February 5, 2015, to the following individuals:

1) Ms. Deborah Gentile  Staff Emerita
2) Mr. Arnold Grimaldi  Staff Emeritus
3) Ms. Lucia Sullivan   Staff Emerita
4) Ms. Lynne Vella     Staff Emerita
5) Mr. A. Morgan Wheelock, Jr.  Staff Emeritus
ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank  Yes
James Hagan  Yes
Terrell Hill (Secretary)  Yes
Robert Johnson  Yes
Madeline Landrau  Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair)  Yes
Robert Martin  Yes
Kevin Queenin  Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair)  Yes
Linda Slakey  Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Queenin excused himself from the meeting at 4:31 PM.

Trustee Queenin returned to the meeting at 4:32 PM.

Trustee Johnson reviewed the revised draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Westfield State University and Westfield State Foundation. The MOU has been reviewed and approved by James Cox, Esq., Rubin and Rudman LLP.

MOTION made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Queenin to accept the proposed memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Westfield State University and Westfield State Foundation subject to further non-substantive edits by Westfield State Foundation.

ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank  Yes
James Hagan  Yes
Terrell Hill (Secretary)  Yes
Robert Johnson  Yes
Madeline Landrau  Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair)  Yes
Robert Martin  Yes
Kevin Queenin  Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair)  Yes
Linda Slakey  Yes

Motion passed unanimously.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Frank to ratify the Executive Committee’s appointment of Diversified Search as the firm to oversee the presidential search for Westfield State University’s 20th President as recommended by the Presidential Search Advisory Committee at an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee on January 15, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE taken:

Joshua Frank Yes
James Hagan Yes
Terrell Hill (Secretary) Yes
Robert Johnson Yes
Madeline Landrau Yes
Steven Marcus (Vice Chair) Yes
Robert Martin Yes
Kevin Queenin Yes
Elizabeth Scheibel (Chair) Yes
Linda Slakey Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Martin excused himself from the meeting at 4:40 PM.

Trustee Martin returned to the meeting at 4:43 PM.

FINANCE AND CAPITAL ASSETS COMMITTEE

Dr. Kimberly Tobin, Vice President for Administration and Finance, reviewed second quarter financials ending December 31, 2014. The university has been forced to return $375,000 to the commonwealth through 9C cuts in order to bridge the commonwealth’s budget deficit. The university is continuing conversations how best to bridge their own budget gap being mindful of current financial constraints, capital projects, and deferred maintenance.

Trustees noted there have been significant reductions in travel compared to years past. Some noted the numbers maybe too conservative.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Trustee Hill reported Dr. Kim Morrisson, Senior Managing Director for Diversified Search, would be on campus February 11 – 12, 2015 conducting stakeholder interviews. Trustees are encouraged to attend as their schedules permit.

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.