



Board of Trustees

February 11, 2016
President's Boardroom, The Horace Mann Center

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Trustees Connolly, Hagan, Hill, Johnson, Landrau, Marcus, Martin, Queenin, and Sullivan.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trustees Perez and Slakey.

Meeting called to order at 3:02 PM.

Commissioner Carlos Santiago, Department of Higher Education, addressed the board expressing the need for students to graduate at faster rates and move into the workforce at greater rates than ever before. This presents challenges but opportunities as well. Institutions are faced with things they have never had to face before: homelessness, food security, and campus security just to name a few. Massachusetts ranks 49 out of 50 states serving need based students. Institutions are not providing students with what they need in order to be successful.

In order to expedite a lengthy process, Commissioner Santiago will be making changes to the presidential evaluation process. No longer will evaluations be due in October of each academic year. Instead, the Commissioner will send board chairs the data dashboard in April to use in the completion of their evaluation. The evaluation itself will be due in June. The Commissioner will then meet with every institutional president, one-on-one to talk about their goals for the next academic year.

President Ramon Torrecilha addressed the board and announced the establishment of a Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Work. He also spoke to funding for the collective bargaining agreement (CBA), unfunded pension, and Title IX. He has initiated four search committees to fill the following positions: Vice President for Administration and Finance, Vice President for Advancement, Alumni and University Relations, Director for Campus Communication, and Assistant to the Board of Trustees. It is his intent to have all positions filled by the end of June 2016.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Connolly to elect the following slate of officers for the remainder of the 2016 academic year:

Steven P. Marcus, Chair
Terrell M. Hill, Vice Chair
Madeline Landrau, Secretary

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Connolly to accept the minutes from the December 11, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting. Trustee Sullivan abstained. Motion passed.

MOTION made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Hagan to approve the granting of Emeritus status, effective February 11, 2016, to the following individuals:

Ms. Patricia Conant, Professor Emerita, Art Department
Dr. Susan Dutch, Professor Emerita, Psychology Department
Mr. Philip Ettman, Professor Emeritus, Economics and Management Department
Mr. Kenneth Haar, Associate Professor Emeritus, Computer and Information
Science Department
Dr. Kathleen Itterly, Professor Emerita, Education Department
Mr. Gary Merlo, Professor Emeritus, Economics and Management Department
Mr. John "Jack" Shea, Professor Emeritus, English Department
Dr. Henry Wefing, Associate Professor Emeritus, Communication Department
(posthumously)

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Hill, seconded by Trustee Martin to approve the granting of Staff Emeritus status, effective January 20, 2016, to the following individuals:

Mr. Norman Hierschie, Staff Emeriti
Mr. Andrew Johnson, Staff Emeriti
Ms. Lucia Sullivan, Staff Emerita
Ms. Marion Zomek, Staff Emerita

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve and adopt updates to Chapter 1, Section 13 of the Westfield State University Department of Public Safety's General Order, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Martin to approve and adopt the Westfield State University policy on Trust Fund Management as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Landrau to approve the establishment of all current Westfield State University Trust Funds as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Landrau to approve and adopt the new Westfield State University policy on Taxation of Gifts, Prizes, and Awards as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Hill to approve and adopt the updated Westfield State University policy on Debt as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve and adopt the updated Westfield State University policy on Motor Vehicle Insurance as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Connolly to approve and adopt the updated Westfield State University policy on Motor Vehicle Acquisitions and Replacements as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION made by Trustee Queenin, seconded by Trustee Landrau to approve the elimination of Westfield State University policy on Off Campus Equipment as presented. This policy has been replaced in its entirety by the new policy Computer Allocation, Support, and Tracking. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.