

**VINCENNES UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION**  
**Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – 10:30 a.m. (EDT)**  
**Green Activities Center**  
**120 West Harrison Street**  
**Vincennes, IN 47591**

**Members Present:**

John Stachura, Chair  
Kelly Clauss (Zoom)  
J.R. Gaylor (Zoom)  
Reggie Henderson (Zoom)  
Chuck Johnson, President  
Conner McKinney, Student Trustee  
George Ridgway  
Rick Schach  
Mike Sievers  
Don Villwock

**Others Present:**

Brent Stuckey, Attorney for the Board  
Nancy Irwin, Record Clerk for the Board  
Tony Hahn, Vice President for Government Relations  
Laura Treanor, Provost  
Dave Tucker, Vice President for Workforce Development/  
Community Services  
Linda Waldroup, Vice President for Financial Services

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair John Stachura called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (EDT) in the Green Activities Center in Vincennes, Indiana.

**ROLL CALL/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Nancy Irwin called the roll. A quorum was declared with 10 Trustees present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the 4-28-21 Executive Session, Personnel/Nominating Committee, and Regular Session, the 5-6-21 Finance/Revenue Committee Executive Session, the 6-9-21 Finance/Revenue Committee, and the 6-10-21 Public Hearing on Tuition meetings had been distributed. With no questions from the Board, Chair Stachura requested a motion be made to approve the minutes. Trustee Mike Sievers made a motion to approve the minutes and Trustee Reggie Henderson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and there were 10 yeas and 0 nays, with the minutes passing unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

Chair Stachura stated how great it was to finally get to see everyone face-to-face at the meeting. He also extended kudos to the Grounds crew for their hard work in making the campus look so beautiful. Chair Stachura also stated he was looking forward to the announcement regarding our new Director of Admissions and the report from Sarah Fortune.

**REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES**

**Finance/Revenue Committee:**

Committee Chair Mike Sievers reported on items that had been approved at the 6-9-21 Finance/Revenue Committee meeting and now need approval from the full Board.

**Jasper Administration Building Renovation**

Committee Chair Sievers asked Andrew Young, Director of Architectural Services & Facilities to present information regarding this project. The following bids are for renovations to HVAC, electrical, and LED lighting in the Jasper Administration Building.

**Contract #1 – Mechanical Construction**

H.G. Heinz, Inc. – Vincennes, Indiana

Base Bid	\$1,110,000.00
Alternate #1	\$ 170,000.00
Alternate #2	\$ 60,000.00
Alternate #3	\$ 125,000.00
Alternate #4B	\$ 140,000.00
<b>Total Recommended Mechanical Award</b>	<b>\$1,605,000.00</b>

**Contract #2 – Electrical Construction**

Weyer Electric, Inc. – Ferdinand, Indiana

Base Bid \$ 283,030.00

Alternate #3 \$ 420.00

**Total Recommended Electrical Award \$ 283,450.00****TOTAL RECOMMENDED AWARD \$1,888,450.00****MOTION #21-13**

Chair Mike Sievers made a motion to accept the aforementioned bids, and Trustee Don Villwock seconded that motion. A roll call vote was taken with 10 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

**Collaborative Robots (Cobots) Technology/Equipment Purchases**

Committee Chair Sievers asked President Johnson to present information regarding these purchases. President Johnson reported that the University received a five-year, \$8 million dollar grant through the Lilly Endowment to fund several initiatives, the largest of which was the development of collaborative robot laboratories in Vincennes, Jasper, and Lebanon, as well as into some of the Early College career centers. On behalf of VU, Telamon engaged in extensive negotiations with its suppliers, vendors, and partners to reduce the cost of the collaborative robotics technology. Telamon was a named partner in the Lilly Endowment grant and will continue to serve in an advisory role through the duration of this initiative. The President presented the following bids to purchase 38 collaborative robots.

**Standard costs for the 38 cobots we are purchasing:**-TM5-900: 36 cobots- \$23,000 each (**\$828,000 total**)-TM-12 (larger cobot): 2 cobots- \$28,000 each (**\$56,000 total**)-Venton Custom Stand: 38 cobots- \$4,493 each (**\$170,734 total**)-Basler External Camera: 38 cobots - \$1,200 each (**\$45,600 total**)-Keyboard, Monitor and Mouse: 38 cobots- \$200 each (**\$7,600 total**)-Assembly and Integration- 38 cobots- \$3,200 each (**\$121,600 total**)**"Grippers and Accessories" section (middle portion of the table)- these quantities vary based on the gripper and how many they think we need for each cobot:****Two Finger Grippers:**-RG2: 16 quantity- \$4,360 each (**\$69,760 total**)-2FG7: 21 quantity- \$3,550 each (**\$74,550 total**)**3-Finger Grippers:**-3FG15:15 quantity- \$4,455 each (**\$66,825 total**)**Suction Gripper:**-VGC10: 15 quantity- \$2,955 each (**\$44,325 total**)-TM Robot Kit + Quick Changer: 38 quantity- \$1,205 each (**\$45,790 total**)-Dual Changer: 9 quantity- \$2,215 each (**\$19,935 total**)**TOTAL: \$1,550,719****MOTION #21-14**

Committee Chair Mike Sievers made a motion to accept the aforementioned bids, and Trustee George Ridgway seconded that motion. A roll call vote was taken with 9 yeas and 0 nays, with Trustee Reggie Henderson abstaining from the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

**VU FY 2022 & FY 2023 General Operations & Housing Budget**

Committee Chair Sievers asked Vice President for Financial Services, Linda Waldroup, and Associate Vice President for Financial Services & Budget Director, Tim Eaton, to review the budget information that had been distributed. The Administration is proposing a General Operating Budget of \$85,840,605 for FY 2021-2022 and \$87,570,045 for FY 2022-2023, and a Housing Operations budget of \$11.2 Million for FY2021-2022 and \$11.5 Million for FY2022-2023, with the following major assumptions:

(1) tuition increase of 3.2 percent for FY2021-2022; which is a \$200 annual increase & a tuition increase of 3.2 percent for FY2022-2023; which is a \$206 annual increase;

(2) no annual increase in room and board rates for FY2021-2022, and 3 percent increase in room and board rates for FY2022-2023;

(3) state operating appropriation of \$43,561,521 for FY2021-2022, and \$44,475,375 for FY2022-2023;

(4) dual credit appropriation of \$4,315,365 during each year;

- (5) funding of \$3 million for career tech center early colleges during each year;
- (6) 2 percent compensation pool during each year;
- (7) increase in 8 percent health insurance costs during each year;
- (8) a stable enrollment headcount for FY2021-22 & FY2022-23;
- (9) Institutional R&R expenses of \$1,234,997 for FY2021-2022, and \$1,249,202 for FY2022-2023;
- (10) State R&R of \$1,005,286 for each year; and
- (11) no higher ed capital projects funded; and
- (12) \$1 million for each year for Housing Repair & Rehab projects.

#### **MOTION # 21-15**

Committee Chair Mike Sievers made a motion to accept the FY 2021-2022 and FY 2022-2023 as presented, and Trustee Reggie Henderson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 10 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

#### **REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP**

##### **Recruitment/Enrollment Report**

Sarah Fortune, Senior Director of External Relations, shared a report highlighting the continued work being done in External Relations in graphic design, Slate, advertising, video testimonials, website redesign, news coverage, social media, as well as touching on the next steps moving forward in these areas. Ms. Fortune also reported on enrollment numbers and is optimistic about the Fall enrollment numbers, which are trending above this point last year

##### **Presentation/Update on Assessment**

Chad Bebee, Director of Assessment, reported on the 2020 Higher Learning Commission's Visiting Team review regarding Co-Curricular Assessment. The HLC visiting team's conclusions reflected well on the work that continues to be done at the institution, noting that the evidence of a current assessment culture was also seen during meetings with program directors. The HLC team encouraged the institution to continue in its ongoing work and to consider mapping co-curricular to the goals co-curricular programming might accomplish as a whole to determine other areas where assessment would be helpful and how program areas might complement each other. Mr. Bebee also reported on new and ongoing efforts in Program Review, General Education, and continued collaboration regarding assessment efforts with departments throughout the University. It was also reported that the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) recognized VU's general education assessment work and use of assessment results to drive improvement.

##### **Presentation on Enrollment Modeling**

Dale Pietrzak, Senior Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Research, reported on the following items: 1) retention and cluster analysis and its role in retention and beyond; 2) application to enroll review – the general flow and predictive modeling; 3) system-wide enrollment projections; and 4) prediction of Vincennes Main and Jasper campuses, using moving average and growth modeling.

#### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

- The President thanked Sarah Fortune, Chad Bebee, and Dale Pietrzak for their reports and for showing how VU is using data and assessments to drive planning and decision making.
- The President also extended thanks to the Board for their support and oversight of VU in passing the two-year budget. A special thanks was given to Tim Eaton, Linda Waldroup, and the entire Financial Services team for their great work in putting together the budget and accompanying materials.
- VU is moving forward to help students and families still impacted by the pandemic, with significant outreach to incoming and returning students and nearly \$500,000 in enhanced scholarships across each location, plus the housing scholarship for Vincennes campus residential students that is worth up to \$10,000 over two years.
- Susan Brocksmith was acknowledged and welcomed as the new Dean of the College of Business and Public Service. Thanks and congratulations were also extended to outgoing Dean, Ann Miller, who is retiring July 1.
- Plans are still underway to resume fall courses in a traditional face-to-face environment and return to more "normal" college experiences. VU is not planning to require the vaccine, but is looking at testing and other mitigation strategies that it can deploy to help keep students, faculty, staff, and our communities safe.
- Projects on the Vincennes campus continue to make progress and are expected to be completed this summer. The electrical infrastructure project is on target to wrap up in July, and the French Quarter Phase II is expected to be open in time for classes to start in August. Phase I of the French Quarter is nearly at capacity for fall.
- As recently announced, PACE Community Action Agency has developed a new childcare initiative in partnership with VU that will make affordable child care more accessible for Vincennes campus students. Thanks was given to Dr. Bertha Proctor and her team for their wonderful support of our students.

- VU's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council, co-chaired by Provost Treanor and the President, is continuing to meet over the summer and our summer retreat is scheduled for next week. At the retreat we will establish strategic priorities and set the agenda for the coming year. The Council has four sub-committees addressing pressing DEI issues for Vincennes University: Diverse Student Recruitment, Closing the Achievement Gap, Preparing Graduates for Life and Work in a Diverse and Global Society, and Ensuring that VU is Able to Compete for and Retain Talent in a Diverse Talent Pool.
- VU was recently awarded a \$3 million Student Learning Recovery grant from the Indiana Department of Education. The grant will assist students and families from VU Early College sites throughout Indiana. Through the grant, VU's Early College will provide college and career counseling to first-generation citizens, immigrants, and refugee families. Congratulations were extended to Dr. Odelet Nance, Assistant Dean for Early College at East Allen and her team, and Stephanie Stemle in the Grants office for her support of this successful grant application. With the addition of this grant, VU has received a total of more than \$15 million in grants from public and private sources over the past nine months.
- Ryan Barbauld has accepted our offer to become Director of Admissions and will start on June 21. Ryan has a strong background in Admissions and higher education. He comes to VU from the University of Louisville, where he is Senior Associate Director of Admissions. Prior to U of L, Ryan was at Iowa State and Purdue. He started his Admissions career at Vincennes University 14 years ago. A graduate of the University of Southern Indiana, Ryan and his wife and family are looking forward to returning to SW Indiana. Ryan could not join us today because he is finishing his work at U of L, but will join the Board Meeting in August. During this transition, Brenda Knebel, who had been Interim Director of Admissions since April, will continue her work for VU this summer as Senior Advisor to the President. Many thanks were extended to Brenda for her great work as Interim Director.
- The VU Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Committee has been undertaking a review of VU's Strategic Plan, including Institutional Objectives documents. The Board will be receiving a recommendation on the Strategic Plan and relevant documents and statements at the August Board meeting.

Trustee J.R. Gaylor shared with the Board the very favorable comments recently made by several state Senators regarding President Johnson's leadership at Vincennes University.

#### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the Regular Session adjourned at 12:15 p.m. (EDT).

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J.R. Gaylor, Secretary

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John Stachura, Chair