

VINCENNES UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 – 10:30 a.m. (EDT)
Learning Resource Center – Innovation Room #112
130 E. College Avenue
Vincennes, IN 47591

Members Present:

John Stachura, Chair
Darrel Bobe (Zoom)
Scott Brand (Zoom)
Kelly Clauss (Zoom)
J.R. Gaylor (Zoom)
Tim Grove
Reggie Henderson (Zoom)
Chuck Johnson, President
Conner McKinney, Student Trustee
Greg Parsley
George Ridgway (Zoom)
Rick Schach (Zoom)
Mike Sievers
Don Villwock

Others Present:

Brent Stuckey, Attorney for the Board
Nancy Irwin, Record Clerk for the Board
Tim Eaton, Vice President for Financial Services (Zoom)
Tony Hahn, Vice President for Government & Legal Affairs
Laura Treanor, Provost
Dave Tucker, Vice President for Workforce Development/
Community Services

CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Stachura called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (EDT) in the Innovation Room at the Learning Resource Center in Vincennes, Indiana.

ROLL CALL/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Nancy Irwin called the roll. A quorum was declared with 14 Trustees present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 3-1-22 Board Retreat and Regular Session had been distributed. With no questions from the Board, Chair Stachura requested a motion be made to approve the minutes. Trustee Don Villwock made a motion to approve the minutes and Trustee Mike Sievers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and there were 14 yeas and 0 nays, with the minutes passing unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chair Stachura expressed his appreciation for all the hard work that goes into making the campus look so nice, and also acknowledged the University recently being recognized as a Tree Campus by the Arbor Day Foundation. Mr. Stachura also recognized the work that goes into creating the Columns Magazine and how it is a very impressive and informative publication.

REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

Personnel/Nominating Committee:

2022-23 Promotion & Tenure

Committee Chair Rick Schach presented the following list of candidates for 2022-23 Promotion & Tenure.

2022-2023 PROMOTION AND TENURE LIST

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES:

Business and Public Service

Charles "Tom" Cunningham, Law Enforcement
Jaci Lederman, Information Technology

Curriculum and Instruction

Jennifer (Kramer) Stafford, Student Success Coordinator

Health Sciences and Human Performance

Stephanie Garrett, Practical Nursing

NEW TITLE

Associate Professor
Professor

Professional Staff Level II

Associate Professor

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

University Primary Care Center

Terri Vieck, Registered Nurse

Professional Staff Level II

VU Bookstores

Karen Faulkner, Director

Professional Staff Level III

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES

Generations

Amy Scott, Care Management Coordinator

Professional Staff Level II

Alisha Smeltzer-Patton, Options Counselor

Professional Staff Level II

Military Education Program

Megan Fackenthal, Senior Site Director, Southern California Region

Professional Staff Level III

Glenn Karmann, Regional Director

Professional Staff Level III

Workforce Development Services

Roscoe Baugh, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Specialist

Professional Staff Level II

Charles "Clay" Whitaker, Manager, Business & Industry South

Professional Staff Level II

FACULTY WHO RECEIVE TENURE

Jennifer Hensley, Sociology/Social Work, College of Social Science, Performing Arts, and Communication

Heidi (Wagoner) Tasa, English, College of Humanities

MOTION # 22-06

With no questions from the Board, on behalf of the committee, Committee Chair Schach made a motion to approve the list of candidates for promotion and tenure and Trustee Tim Grove seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

University Affairs Committee:

Professional Staff Congress Bylaws revisions

Committee Chair Reggie Henderson asked President Johnson to present information on this action item. President Johnson explained the changes proposed by the Professional Staff Congress were basically to "clean up" language regarding certain roles within the membership. The suggested revisions are highlighted below, per their section within the bylaws.

Article III – Members

Section 1. The membership will be identified as individuals who are full-time, Professional Staff employees, as defined by the University Organizational Areas, subject to the final approval of the University Congress body. The University Congress reserves the right to determine the eligibility of its members in accordance with the Bylaws. The Organizational Areas are as follows: Presidential Services, Financial Services, Instructional Services, and Workforce Development/Community Services.

Section 3. The ex-officio members of the University Congress who shall have a speaking, non-voting membership shall be the President of the University; the Provost; Vice-Presidents; the Assistant Provosts for Student Affairs and Curriculum and Instruction; the Faculty Senate liaison; Support Staff Council liaison; and the President of the Student Senate.

Section 4. The formula for Professional Staff apportionment shall be based on the percentage of the Professional Staff population each University Organizational Areas represents, with at least three (3) of the total membership elected to serve as "at-large" representatives and at least one (1) member elected to represent the Jasper campus. A census of all professional staff employees shall be taken every year by March 1st to determine PSC membership and ensure appropriate representation. If there exists a lack of candidates from an organizational area to keep membership proportional, additional members may be selected in the "at-large" category.

A. The University Congress Vice-President shall:

1. Serve as presiding officer whenever the President is unable to perform the duties of the office.
2. Serve in all capacities as Assistant to the President.
3. Perform any other duties mandated by the President or a majority vote of the University Congress.

4. Serve on the President's Advisory Council as the Professional Staff Congress representative.

B. The University Congress Historian shall:

1. Coordinate with University Congress Secretary to ensure preservation of all University Congress meeting agendas and minutes.
2. Coordinate with University Congress members to ensure preservation of all University Congress records.
3. In conjunction with the VU Library Liaison, maintain the University Congress historical documents on the designated share drive.
4. Maintain the University Congress webpage and update, as necessary.
5. Ensure transition of University Congress share drive privileges, as well as meeting with incoming Historian to communicate expectations for the share drive.

MOTION # 22-07

With no questions from the Board, on behalf of the committee, Committee Chair Henderson made a motion to approve the proposed revisions and Trustee Don Villwock seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

Curriculum Items

Committee Chair Reggie Henderson asked Provost Laura Treanor to present information on the following Program Additions, Program Suspensions, and Academic Guidelines and University Core Curriculum items:

The following items have been approved by the Vincennes University Curriculum and Academic Affairs Committee and Faculty Senate. These items are submitted for consideration by the Board of Trustees as approved by Provost Laura Treanor and President Charles R. Johnson, Jr.

Academic Guidelines and University Core Curriculum Items

UCC Committee Curriculum Proposals UCC-2, 2022-23

Academic Guidelines Proposal AG-1, 2022-23

Academic Guidelines Proposal AG-2, 2022-23

Approved:



Charles R. Johnson, Jr., President



Laura Treanor, Provost

Provost Treanor explained the curriculum items involved a title revision and learning outcome addition regarding diversity and cultural competence; providing better clarity to the grading system, as it relates to incomplete grades; and, shoring up the process in regards to the University's Academic Honesty Policy, specifically the process for both the faculty member and the student.

MOTION # 22-08

With no questions from the Board, on behalf of the committee, Committee Chair Henderson made a motion to approve the curriculum items and Trustee Mike Sievers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

Authorizing new VU Police Officers

Tim Eaton, Vice President for Financial Services, reported that the University recently hired two new police officers – Alex Ice and David LaCour. Both are graduates of Vincennes University; Ice in Conservation Law and LaCour in Law Enforcement. Both officers were officially sworn in on March 31, 2022 and VP Eaton requested and recommended that the Board grant them their authority and powers to serve as Vincennes University Police Officers.

MOTION #22-09

With no questions from the Board, Chair Stachura asked for a motion to approve this recommendation from VP Eaton. Trustee Don Villwock made the motion to approve and Trustee Greg Parsley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 14 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Update on Admissions and Enrollment

Ryan Barbauld, Director of Admissions, shared a report on admitted student numbers for Fall 2022 vs Fall 2021. While there is currently a slight decrease in numbers for the Aviation Technology Center, Distance Education, and the American Sign Language programs, numbers are increased for the Vincennes and Jasper campuses. Ryan remains cautiously optimistic regarding the numbers for the upcoming Fall semester. Mr. Barbauld recently attended a conference sponsored by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and shared topics/concerns that were addressed at the conference, some of which included: a) more Hoosiers than ever are questioning the value of postsecondary education; b) the pandemic and inflation have created new barriers for students and adults enrolling in postsecondary education; and, c) as fewer Hoosiers enroll, the equity gaps widen. Ryan also shared dates for upcoming registration events, as well as new outreach efforts being implemented, such as personalized communication, social media presence, and postcards sent to homes of admitted students. Lastly, he announced a new member to the Admissions team – Daryl Henderson, Assistant Director of Admissions, who will focus on the northern part of the state.

Update on Community Services programs

Dave Tucker, Vice President for Workforce Development and Community Services, presented information and team members involved in the various community services programs offered by Vincennes University. Directors and Program Managers from Generations, WorkOne Region 7 and Region 8, Adult Basic Education, TRIO Programs, and JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) gave informative presentations on the important and impactful work they are doing throughout the state. VP Tucker concluded the presentation highlighting the annual budgets, full-time and part-time employees, and number of people served through each of these programs.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- The President congratulated all the faculty and staff that had been approved for promotion and tenure.
- The President expressed gratitude to the presenters from the Community Services area for all the incredible work they are doing on behalf of VU and communities around the state. A thank you was also extended to Ryan Barbauld for his Admissions update and the work being done by his team.
- President Johnson shared an initiative VP Tucker's area launched earlier this year to expand our partnership with Amazon. We already have a great partnership with Amazon through the Mechatronics and Robotics Apprenticeship Program, but this new initiative allows VU to reach other Amazon employees who perhaps want to take advantage of Amazon's great Career Choice tuition assistance program. VU is an approved provider of education at Amazon, and VP Tucker and his team are reaching out to the fulfillment centers in Indiana to get the word out that VU can be a source for them to advance their careers with the education offered through our Distance Education and other areas. VP Tucker added there are over 10,000 Amazonians that are eligible for Career Choice in the state of Indiana.
- Blazers Give Day was April 7 and figures are still being tallied, but this year's program exceeded many goals for new gifts, matching gifts, and total amount raised. Thanks to lead donors, Don and Joyce Villwock, Chris and Tom Ernst, and Mike and Bev Gehrich for their matching gifts. Thanks also to the many faculty, staff, and volunteers from VU and the Foundation, for their hard work.
- Ze Chen (Academic Fellow), Rad Wang (R1SE Education), and Shanni Simmons (Asst. VP of Lifelong Learning), have worked together to develop a creative approach to keep our International students engaged with VU despite being unable to travel and be on a campus, due to the pandemic. In the Spring of 2021 an Online Cohort program was started just for the International students. Since then, 77 students have been involved in the cohort; 900 credit hours earned; and currently we have 8 students coming to our campus in the Fall, 2022 semester, all of which is a result of this innovative outreach to our International students.
- Several summer programs are being developed and launched, including Techmester and XMester programs, which are for CTE Early College students. Currently, 350 students are registered for these events. The STEM Academy is a new initiative for the Vincennes and Jasper campuses. 60+ students will be at the Jasper campus; 80+ at the Vincennes campus. Much credit goes to Nicole Hagemeyer-McVay, Drew Findlay, Nicole Shankle, and Kevin Mowrer for all their work in promoting and building up these important programs.
- The JAG Academy will return to a face-to-face environment. This academy, as well as the STEM Academy, are focused on reaching underserved populations of students and first-generation students.
- The launch of these academies has been underwritten by the Lilly Endowment and much appreciation was expressed for their continued generosity and support. Acknowledgement was given to Stephanie Stemle, Angela Dougherty and VP Tony Hahn for all their work in creating proposals and being good stewards of all the grants we have received.

- The President shared that conversations continue regarding the Knox County CTE Initiative, which is a program working with schools and career cooperatives. He expressed thanks to Trustees Darrel Bobe, Tim Grove, and Greg Parsley and their teams, as well as Michelle Cummins (VU) and Brandon Small (Twin Rivers Career Cooperative).
- The HLC multi-site visits are wrapping up this week in Arkansas and a good report is anticipated. The President stated members of the Continuous Quality Improvement committee and Provost Treanor's Academic Leadership Team have all undertaken a significant investment of time and effort to go through each of the five criteria for accreditation to make sure we have appropriate levels of evidence that we can provide to show that we are compliant with those criteria. This is all helpful in developing a framework and foundation for drafting the Assurance Argument that Dr. Dale Pietrzak is putting together. The Assurance Argument is due 30 days prior to our site visit, which is scheduled for late January of 2023; our plan is to have the final draft out by early November of 2022. President Johnson expressed thanks to Dale for all his work and he feels very good with all the things VU has done over the past three to four years; we just need to be certain we are presenting ourselves with the best possible argument.
- The HLC Annual Conference was earlier this month and several members of VU attended, including Dr. Pietrzak, Jennifer Holscher, and Chad Bebee from Institutional Effectiveness and Research, Provost Treanor, and President Johnson. The sessions were informative regarding the current and emerging trends in higher education, changes in federal regulations, and accreditation guidelines. Provost Treanor co-presented a session with colleagues from other institutions on evolving budget models for academic transformation and did an outstanding job representing Vincennes University. Dr. Pietrzak has put together a list of current and expected changes in accreditation requirements, standards, and federal regulations, which he has shared with the Executive Team and CQI Committee and will share it later this summer with the Board.
- VU is currently working with Tim and Tina Swarens of TMS Communications to focus on community relations efforts, and as a result, the President has been speaking with various Rotary Clubs and Chamber of Commerce clubs throughout the state, as well as some places in Illinois. The goal is to speak at 20 events this year, with the primary focus to both enlighten the challenges that came about as a result of the pandemic, and how VU is positioned to address those issues, and in some cases, leading the way.
- Commencement ceremonies on the Vincennes campus will be Saturday, April 30th, with a morning session and afternoon session. Honorary Doctorate recipient Jeff Harrison will be honored at the morning ceremony; Teresa Lubbers at the afternoon ceremony. May 6th will be the ceremonies for ASL and ATC; May 7th will be the Jasper campus ceremony.
- The President concluded his remarks reading a letter to the editor from the Dubois County Herald newspaper. The letter was written by a VU-Jasper student and was a wonderful testimony to the great experience the student has had at VU-J.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the Regular Session adjourned at 12:00 p.m. (EDT).

J.R. Gaylor, Secretary

John Stachura, Chair