

**VINCENNES UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
Wednesday, August 28, 2019 – 10:30 a.m. (EDT)
Vincennes University Jasper Campus
Center for Technology, Innovation and Manufacturing
961 College Avenue – Room 226/227
Jasper, Indiana 47546**

Members Present:

John Stachura, Chair
Darrel Bobe
Scott Brand (by audio)
J.R. Gaylor (by audio)
Tim Grove
Brianna Jobe, Student Trustee (by audio)
Chuck Johnson, President
Greg Parsley
George Ridgway
Rick Schach (by audio)
Mike Sievers

Others Present:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Stachura called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (EDT) in Room 226/227 of the Center for Technology, Innovation, and Manufacturing (CTIM) Building, 961 College Avenue, Jasper, Indiana.

ROLL CALL/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Nancy Irwin called the roll. A quorum was declared with 11 Trustees present. The agenda was approved by consensus of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 6-26-19 Personnel/Nominating Committee, Finance/Revenue Committee, and Regular Session had been distributed. With no questions from the Board, Trustee Mike Sievers made a motion to approve and Trustee George Ridgway seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and there were 11 yeas and 0 nays, with the minutes passing unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chair Stachura expressed appreciation to Dean Christian Blome and the Jasper Campus for inviting the Board of Trustees to campus for the meetings today. He also welcomed members of the VU Jasper Campus Advisory Board and Jasper Foundation Board who were in attendance at the meeting. Chair Stachura acknowledged this was Student Trustee Brianna Jobe's final meeting, but she was not able to be in attendance as she was required to take a test in her major of Nursing. He expressed his appreciation for her service, input, and wisdom as the student trustee over this past year. Chair Stachura asked the Board members to review the information that was recently emailed to them regarding the annual review of the President, as these items will be discussed at an Executive Session at the October Board meeting. The other item to be discussed at the October Executive Session will be concerning the information University Attorney, Brent Stuckey had recently emailed to the Board members, regarding a proposed change in the performance evaluation process for the President.

REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

Personnel & Nominating Committee:

Treasurer/Vice President for Financial Services

Committee Chair Rick Schach asked President Johnson to report on changes regarding the Treasurer/Vice President of Financial Services for the University. President Johnson explained that the position of Vice President for Financial Services and Government Relations is also deemed the Treasurer of the University. With the passing of Vice President Phil Rath, the University is restructuring this area. The President made the announcement that Linda Waldroup has agreed to step in to the role of Vice President of Financial Services; Tim Eaton has become Associate Vice President for Financial Services and

remains the Budget Director; Conya Wampler has become Controller. The President stated the University is in the process of restructuring the government relations side and he will report to the Board in the near future updates on this process. The President is recommending that Linda Waldroup be officially appointed by the Board as the Treasurer of the University.

MOTION #19-14

With no questions from the Board, Darrel Bobe made a motion to approve this recommendation and Trustee Mike Sievers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with 11 yeas and 0 nays, with the motion passing unanimously.

Finance/Revenue Committee:

Committee Chair Sievers reported the committee meeting that was scheduled for August 26, 2019 regarding bids for the French Village project had been cancelled and asked Vice President Linda Waldroup to provide a brief overview. VP Waldroup reported that bids on the project came back a bit high, and there was also concern that only one bid was received for each phase on the general construction. Re-bids will go out within a couple of weeks, after which, a Finance/Revenue Committee meeting will take place and recommendations will be brought to the full Board.

Conflict of Interest

Chair Stachura asked Vice President Linda Waldroup to present the information, which is attached to these minutes. VP Waldroup reported that we are in the process of making the purchase of a lot for a Building Trades construction project and the appropriate Conflict of Interest statement needed to be reported. VP Waldroup recommended to the Board that the statement for Mike Sievers be accepted.

MOTION # 19-15

Trustee Tim Grove made a motion to approve, and Trustee George Ridgway seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, and there were 10 yeas, 0 nays, with Trustee Mike Sievers abstaining from the vote.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Recruitment/Enrollment Report

Heidi Whitehead, Director of Admissions, distributed the University Enrollment and Recruitment report. Reports showed that 4,053 students had been accepted to the Vincennes Campus, with the conversion rate for accepted applicants outpacing the previous year. Illinois applications were holding steady with 314 enrolled students as of the report, compared to 322 this same time last year. 111 students had accepted the CTE Housing Scholarship; recipients were 34% female and 65% male (1% being N/A). The mean GPA was 3.0 and mean credit hours earned was 11.3. The Jasper campus is showing growth in several categories, including 5 more enrolled, incoming students and a higher median and mean GPA for these students.

Presentation – Christian Blome

Christian Blome, Dean of Vincennes University Jasper, presented an update regarding the Jasper Campus. The campus currently consists of 140 acres, 5 buildings, just under 500 students, and 25 programs of study, and next summer will celebrate their 50th anniversary. The new campaign of “Start Local and Save” continues to create conversations with students, teachers, staff, and community leaders. Dean Blome stated a significant investment has been made in four areas for the Jasper campus: advertising, scholarship development, academic program innovation, and community engagement.

PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

- The President thanked Brianna Jobe for her service on the Board as the Student Trustee.
- Congratulations extended to Linda Waldroup, Tim Eaton, and Conya Wampler on their new roles at the University.
- President Johnson expressed appreciation to Christian Blome (Dean), Jacob Berg (Director of CTIM), Jim McFaul (Director of Continuing Education), faculty, and staff of VU-J, as well as members of the VU Jasper Campus Community Advisory Board and Jasper Foundation for all their work in contributing to the success of the Jasper Campus and its mission. He expressed excitement and encouragement by what is taking place within the area schools and industry partners and the programming that is being developed, and looks forward to continued growth and opportunities.
- VU hosted a nationwide meeting of the FAME (Federation of Advance Manufacturing Education) organization this summer. Discussions took place on how Indiana can grow the models, such as the programs VU currently has in place with Toyota, Subaru, and the CAP (Career Advancement Partnership) program in Jasper. The Indiana Manufacturer’s Association has established IN-FAME to create a state-wide network of these programs, and VU will

very much be involved in these discussions. From conversation with industry leaders, VU is highly respected for the leadership it has shown as the education partner in these types of programs.

- While in China earlier in the summer, discussions and negotiations were conducted with Yancheng Polytechnic College to create our first 2+2 baccalaureate pathway with China. Students will graduate from Yancheng with an associate degree and then come to VU to complete a bachelor's degree over a two-year period. Once this model is in place, it could create a tremendous opportunity for students at other colleges in China. The President thanked Provost Treanor, Rick Kribs, Ty Freed, Terry Nicoletti, and Wade Chen for all their assistance in this process.
- Indiana Commission for Higher Education issued a report earlier in the summer focusing on student completion and student success trends for Vincennes University over the past 5 years. The momentum we have in student completion and success is very good, as we have a 169% growth in completion rates on-time over the period of 2011-2016. This growth represents the dedication the University has committed to student success and retention efforts. Also, when students graduate on time, it produces real savings, not only for our students, but also for the state of Indiana.
- Ribbon cuttings over the summer have included the Rotary Shelter House at Kimmell Park and the New Ag Facility, which will house our John Deere programs, Ag transfer programs, Agribusiness programs, and our partnership with Purdue. Also through our partnership with Purdue, the facility will house a food science/food security lab.
- Fall classes were able to begin in the Wathen Business Building and Davis Hall; work will continue to be done in the facilities, but classes are up and running in those buildings. Construction on the Learning Resource Center continues to be on schedule and we look forward to that grand opening, as it promises to be a transformative space on the Vincennes campus. The Jasper Campus has also transformed their learning resource center and enhanced their Academic Center for Excellence.
- A new tutoring program will be piloted this year. *Brain Fuse* is an online tutoring support system that can also be laced with our tutoring labs on campus.
- Odelet Nance-West, Assistant Dean of Instruction at East Allen University, received a \$109,000.00 grant from the Governor's Workforce Cabinet to work with Early College and dual credit students on career readiness, career coaching, and other life skill readiness programs.
- The Indiana Commission for Higher Education will be conducting their September 12th meetings at VU-Jasper.
- On September 18th a ribbon cutting/dedication will take place on new playground equipment at Kimmell Park, which is the result of a combination of partnerships, including the Indiana Housing Authority, several community members, and Vincennes University.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the Regular Session adjourned at 11:25 a.m. (EDT).

J.R. Gaylor, Secretary

John Stachura, Chair

UNIFORM CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Indiana Code 35-44-1-3 provides that it is a Class D Felony for a University employee to benefit financially from a contract or purchase connected with the University, unless the University employee files a written disclosure statement prior to the University taking final action on the contract for purchase, which discloses the employee's financial interest in the contract or purchase. The disclosure statement must be approved by the Board of Trustees and filed with the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The work performed for the University by the employee must be unrelated to the contract or purchase. In addition, a written disclosure statement is required if the employee's spouse and child may financially benefit from a purchase or contract of the University over which the University employee has some direct or indirect responsibility.

I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to be familiar with the provisions of Indiana Code 35-44-1-3 and with the University's Conflict of Interest Policy. In compliance with Indiana Code 35-44-1-3, I make the following disclosure statement:

1. My name: _____ Michael J
Sievers _____

2. My title or position with the
University: _____ Trustee _____

3. This statement is submitted (check one):
 - a. _____ as a "single transaction" disclosure statement, as to my financial interest in a specific contract or purchase connected with the University; or
 - b. _____X_____ as an "annual" disclosure statement, as to my financial interest connected with contract or purchases of the University made on an ongoing basis.
4. Name of contractors or vendors with whom the University does business from which I may financially benefit: _____ Sievers and Companies LLC / Fox Ridge Development LLC _____

5. Description of University contracts or purchases from which I, my spouse, or my children may financially benefit (describe the kind of contract or purchase and the amount of money involved in the contract or purchase): VU – VU Bldg Trades Program, or other development property defined as needed or necessary for VU

6. Description of my financial interest in the contractor or vendor (describe the amount of your ownership interest in the contractor or vendor, and the amount of financial benefit you would expect to receive from the University's contract or purchase from the contractor or vendor):

Owner

7. Dates of expected contracts or purchases between the University and the contractor or vendor:

Unknown

I affirm under the penalties of perjury the truth and completeness of the foregoing Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. I ask the University Vice President for Financial Services to file this Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement with the Board of Trustees for their acceptance and with the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

8/19/19

Dated: _____

Signature