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The Minutes of the Marshall University Board of Governors Meeting, March 12, 2009

Marshall University Board of Governors

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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Memorial Student Center

March 12, 2009

Members present, in person: Robert L. Shell Jr., Michael Farrell, John Hess, Virginia King, General Mooney, Michael Perry, Joe Touma, Gary White, Sherri Noble, Monica Brooks, Randy Tomblin, Brent Marsteller (arrived during Executive Session),

Other Members present by phone: Gary Adkins

Members Absent: Letitia Chafin, Verna Gibson, Mike Sellards

Others in Attendance: Stephen Kopp, Jan Fox, Gayle Ormiston, Ron Area, Layton Cottrill, Bill Bissett, Anita Lockridge, Dr. Charles McKown, Jim Schneider, Mike Dunn, Rosalyn Templeton, Michael McGuffey, Perry Chaffin, Lance West, Parthenon reporters

I. Call to Order

Mr. Robert L. Shell Jr., Chair, called the meeting to order.

II. Minutes Approval

Upon a motion by Virginia King, seconded by General Mooney, the minutes of the January 14, 2009 meeting were approved.

III. President's Report

Dr. Kopp gave an Admissions update stating that Fall 2009 First time freshmen applications up 448 (11.3%) overall this week compared to 2008 at the same point in time. Fall 2009 First time freshmen admits up 128 (5.1%) overall at this point in time. The projections indicate a positive trend on-Track for a +4% increase in freshmen enrollment in the Fall.

The Marshall Recreation Center (MRC) grand opening will be April 27, 2009 in the 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. timeframe. The time will be confirmed later. He asked all Board of Governors to attend.

Legislative news was given regarding key bills. Budget-wise, he said we were planning initially for a 2% reduction from the State; however, that figure could change depending on the outcome of the budget bill for FY 2010 passed by the WV Legislature.

A systematic effort is underway to open the budget and budget planning process campus to improve its transparency and general awareness. President Kopp reported that he will be giving budget presentations at the next Faculty Senate and Classified Staff meetings.

Dr. Kopp gave examples of tuition increases at other Universities as informational.

He discussed the revamped Summer School schedule. It has been compressed from 6 sessions to 4. Each college has been given the challenge of ensuring a balanced budget for the summer program at a minimum. For students nearing graduation, priority will be given to courses required by students to complete their degree requirements.

Dr. Kopp discussed the utility costs of buildings on campus both in terms of annual costs as well as costs during the summer. Dr. Jan Fox and Anita Lockridge completed a study that was discussed with the Board. The main goal of the study was to evaluate summer utility costs by building and to determine the potential cost savings associated with utility conservation measures, particularly during the summer. A plan to consolidate classes, if possible, within fewer academic buildings during the summer terms is under study. Implementation of this proposal will occur if appreciable cost savings can be realized. One of the compelling reasons for undertaking this study is that AEP is requesting an 18.5% increase in rates for 2010 and double digit rate increases for each of the next two years thereafter. A “budget neutral” impact on campus utility costs during the next fiscal year through utility conservation measures would be a major achievement.

Dr. Kopp discussed \$2.3 million in major renovations that are planned or are underway in Old Main, Prichard Hall, Smith Hall, Harris Hall. These renovations include ADA upgrades to existing rest room facilities on campus to improve handicap accessibility.

Regarding the federal stimulus package, Marshall has submitted a list of “shovel ready” projects, which are largely renovation projects. By being “shovel ready” means those projects for the next 120 days.

The federal omnibus appropriations bill passed by Congress and signed by President Obama included approximately \$13.5 million in federally-directed funding for Marshall University.

IV. Finance, Audit and Investment Committee

Mr. Perry discussed the following agenda items:

- a) In the 1980’s, the state required the former HTSB building (our RCBI)

to be a lease purchase. This property has now been paid off and we are requesting permission to accept the transfer of the real property.

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors, as the successor governing body of the University of West Virginia Board of Trustees for Marshall University, is willing and desires to accept the transfer of the real property situate at 1050 4th Avenue, Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, from the Huntington Municipal Development Authority.

Upon a motion by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mrs. King, and none opposed, the motion carried.

- b) Received additional update regarding University investments with CommonFund. The state of these investments was characterized as mirroring personal 401K's and other personal investments that have a significant equity investment portfolio. We have been advised and have chosen to "stay the course recommended." However, should the asset allocation model change drastically, Mr. Perry moved that the Board authorize the Executive Committee to intervene, should this happen. The motion was seconded by General Mooney, none opposed, and the motion carried. A question was raised by Mr. Shell about the Madoff situation regarding our investments with CommonFund. We have been assured by CommonFund, in fact they issued a statement, giving us solid assurances that neither CommonFund, nor their second tier investments were involved in any way.
- c) Deloitte & Touche LLP was selected as the auditors through a RFP process coordinated by HEPC. Marshall University will have their own separate engagement letter for the annual audit.

V. Academic Committee, Verna Gibson, Chair

In the absence of Verna Gibson, Monica Brooks reported on the Academic Committee.

Dr. Brooks reminded and thanked those that will be participating in the upcoming "Program Review" on April 16 and 17. She then introduced Dr. Gayle Ormiston for updates on three specific items.

- 1) Summer School – Dr. Ormison announced that 15 face-to-face courses will be taught on the South Charleston campus, and six E' courses will also be offered.
- 2) The newly formed Retention Committee has spent five months working on a plan for improving student success and retention. Once finalized, the plan

will be shared with the Board.

- 3) Dr. Ormiston also provided an update on the work of the Ad Hoc Core Foundations Committee.

Dr. Brooks then discussed the BS in Medical Imaging and introduced Dr. Rita Fisher of St. Mary's Hospital and Dr. Hossler from the School of Health Professions. A brief overview of the program was given. It is a cooperative Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Imaging with St. Mary's Medical Center School of Medical Imaging and Marshall University College of Health Professions. This will begin with the fall 2009 semester. The program will offer the first baccalaureate in medical imaging sciences program to be offered at a public university in West Virginia. Two other programs of study are offered in WV, but at private schools with much higher costs for education.

VI. School of Medicine

In the absence of Brent Marsteller, Jim Schneider reported on the School of Medicine Committee. The item requiring approval is regarding a CT Scanner Acquisition for Virtual Colonoscopy. This will be the technology of the future.

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors authorizes the School of Medicine to acquire and install a Computed Tomography (C-T) Scanner in the Byrd Clinical Center as part of a federally funded Virtual Colonoscopy Screening Project, and authorizes the submission of a Certificate of Need application to the West Virginia Health Care Authority if required.

After some questions and discussion, Gary White moved, seconded by Virginia King and the item unanimously approved.

VII. Athletic Committee

Mr. Farrell discussed the economy and football ticket renewals. He also noted that this morning the 2009 football schedule was announced. He gave a marketing observation that was shared with the committee. He noted that WVU and Virginia Tech needed to be marketed this year as part of the package.

Mr. Farrell also mentioned the Baseball Field and its challenges. Mr. Shell agreed to go and look at the current field. Obviously, one of the reasons we don't have a new baseball field is the financial justification. We will do our best under these tough financial circumstances and will review the finances.

VIII. Next Meeting Item

A handout was given to the Board regarding the Yellow Ribbon Program. Dr. Kopp

shared information about this federal program with the Board and ask them to review it for possible action at the next Board Meeting.

IX. Executive Session

Upon a motion by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Hess, the Board went into Executive Session.

After a period of time, Mr. Farrell moved that the Board rise from executive session into open session. Virginia King seconded and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hess moved that Mr. Robert Shell Jr., as chair of the Marshall University Board of Governors, sign the Memorandum of Understanding with MCTC as updated on March 6, 2009. Upon a motion by Mr. John Hess, seconded by A. Michael Perry, none opposed, the Board unanimously approved.

The Board of Governors Committee Structure was changed. There will now be four committees: 1) Executive Committee; 2) Academic and Student Affairs Committee; 3) Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee and 4) Evaluation and Nominating Committee and Compensation Subcommittee (as needed).

Upon a motion by Mr. Hess, seconded by Mrs. King, and none opposed, the Board unanimously approved this committee structure. This structure will be implemented for the April 30th Board Meeting.

X. Adjournment

Before adjourning, Mr. Shell made two presentations. The first one was to A. Michael Perry, which was a framed State Journal article from Mr. Shell and the Board. Congratulations to Mr. Perry for the 2008 Lorenelle White Lifetime Achievement Award given in February 2009.

The second presentation was to General Mooney. This was a framed article regarding General Mooney's service to the Guyan International Board.

As there were no other matters to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Virginia King, Secretary