## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## **BOARD OF REGENTS**

## WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

September 7, 1990

Required statutory notice having been given, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Soard of Regents was held in the Regents Conference Room of the Wetherby Administration Building. The meeting was called to order at 12 noon by Mr. Joseph Lacane, Chairman.

The following members were present:

Mr. Danny Butler Mr. Joseph Iracane Mrs. Patsy Judd Mr. Denny Wedge

Other members in attendance were Mr. Chambless and Dr. Evans.

Also present were Dr. Thomas C. Meredith, President; Dr. Paul B.

Cook, Executive Vice President for Administrative Affairs and Interim Vice President for Business Affairs; Dr. Jerry Wilder, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Stephen House, Executive Assistant to the President; Mrs. Liz Esters, Staff Assistant for Special Projects and Secretary to the Board of Regents; and Mr. Fred Hensley, Director of University Relations.

President Meredith reported that on Friday, August 31, the enrollment figure was 15,115.

President Meredith reminded the Board Members present that the bonds for the Health & Activities Center will be sold on September 25, which will require that the Board of Regents or the Executive Committee to meet on that date. The bids will be opened at 11 a.m. on September 25.

In addition, a timetable for the completion of Western XXI was distributed to the Executive Committee.

Mrs. Judd moved that the Executive Committee go into closed session for discussion of personnel items. The purpose of the closed session is to protect the reputation of the individuals being considered. The motion was seconded by Mr. Butler, and passed by voice vote.

Chris Devore from the <u>College Heights Herald</u> made the following statement on the behalf of other reporters who were present from the <u>College Heights Herald</u>:

"In discussions with Chairman Iracane yesterday, we were under the impression that the Executive Committee would meet—would have a closed session to discuss personnel policies that may or may not affect individuals at the University. This is a statement that we have to read: On behalf of the

students at Western Kentucky University and the College Heights Herald, we are protesting the decision of the Executive Committee to go into closed session. We've consulted with attorneys of the Kentucky Press Association and reviewed Kentucky Revised Statute KRS 61-810, which states that the exception for personnel matters must be limited to discussions of hearing which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member or student without restricting that the employee's, member's or student's right to a public hearing if requested provided that this exception is designed to protect the reputation of the individual person and shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret. Unless the committee is meeting in closed session to take action on the hiring or firing of certain individuals which might harm the reputation of the certain individuals, we do not feel the Board is warranted in its decision. According to lawyers at the Kentucky Press Association, nacetings to discuss the creation of departmental or college-wide policies which may or may not affect certain individuals is not exempt under KRS 61-820."

Upon the reading of the motion again as directed by the Chairman, the Executive Committee went into closed session at approximately 12:06 p.m. accompanied by President Meredith, Mr. Chambless and Dr. Evans.

The Executive Committee returned from closed session at approximately 5:05 p.m. Chairman Iracane stated, During the closed session, the Board discussed only matters within the scope of the Potion, took no formal action and made no decisions."

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, motion for adjournment came at approximately 5:06 p.m.

## CERTIFICATION OF SECRETARY

I hereby ce lify that the minutes herein above set forth an accurate record of votes and actions taken by the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University in the meeting held on September 7, 1990, in the Regents Conference Room of the Wetherby Administration Building on the Western campus and further certify that the meeting was held in compliance with KRS 61.810, 61.820, and 61.825 (enacted as Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 of House Bill 100, 1974 Regular Session, General Assentally).

Joseph Iracane Chairman

October 26, 1990

Elizábeth W. Esters

Secretary

October 26, 1990

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I hereby certify that the closed session of the above meeting was held in compliance with KRS 61.815. The Board discussed only matters within the scope of the motion and took no formal action.

Joseph Iracane

Chairman

October 26, 1990