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✓ FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
FROM THE PRESIDENT



Vol. 8 No. 6

April 25, 1977

## ACTION OF THE COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

The agenda of the Council meeting for March 30 included two items of major significance for Western Kentucky University--one for action and the other for discussion with action scheduled for April 20.

The action taken by the Council on March 30 was to recommend that the Council's existing authority to approve or disapprove institutional programs at the graduate and professional levels be extended to cover all programs at all levels. I spoke in opposition to that proposal during the consideration of it. However, after discussion and debate, the voting members of the Council unanimously adopted the proposal. It is no longer an issue under consideration but is an accomplished Council action. Therefore, I have no further comment to make about it. We will devote our best efforts toward making it work.

The item discussed at the March 30 meeting that was acted upon April 20 consists of Council staff recommendations for revised statements of the roles and missions of each of the state-supported institutions.

The redefinition of the roles and missions of the institutions was mandated by the General Assembly, encouraged by the Governor, and is being undertaken by the Council. I concur in and am supportive of the judgment that redefinition is needed. A sound set of redefinition statements can serve the public interest in many ways and, at the same time, benefit the individual institutions by clarification of what is expected of each. The Council instructed its staff to meet and confer with institutional officials in work sessions prior to the April 20 meeting. The time was short and did not allow as much discussion and deliberation throughout the University as I would have liked. Even so, we encouraged each member of the faculty and staff to assist in developing a university-wide position for presentation to the Council staff.

The public discussions on the matter to date have included expressions of a wide range of educational, social, economic, and philosophical viewpoints. Considerable public attention has focused on a suggestion that more program specialization or areas of designated program emphasis be mandated for Western Kentucky University and the other regional universities. Unquestionably, strong support exists for that general concept, and I do not disagree with the concept. At the same time, it is vitally important to retain a clear recognition of the fact that a multi-purpose character for the regional universities is indispensable if essential high-quality educational opportunities are to remain accessible and available to the people throughout the Commonwealth.

The following mission statement for Western Kentucky University was approved in principle at the meeting of the Council on April 20:

Western Kentucky University shall serve as a residential, regional university offering a broad range of programs to the people of southcentral and portions of western Kentucky. Recognizing the needs of its region, the University should offer programs at the associate and baccalaureate degree levels, especially programs of a technological nature.

Subject to demonstrated need, selected master's degree programs should be offered as well as the specialist programs in education. A retrenchment or elimination of duplicative or non-productive programs is desirable while development of new programs compatible with the mission is appropriate.

The University should continue to meet the needs in teacher education in its primary service region and the Louisville metropolitan area.

Because of the limited community college opportunities in the service region, the University should develop its Bowling Green Community College component, emphasizing career-oriented associate degree programs. The University should develop close working relationships and develop articulation agreements with other institutions.

The mission statements for the five regional institutions were approved in principle, subject to a review of the statements in a conference involving the five presidents and the Executive Director of the Council on Public Higher Education. The purpose of the conference will be to clarify the statements and make editorial changes. Differences of opinion with respect to editorial changes or changes of a substantive nature resulting from the discussions are to be considered by the Council at the next meeting.

It is my hope--indeed, it is my present expectation--that these discussions will lead to additional clarification and that Western Kentucky University's essential character as a viable multipurpose regional university will be preserved. It is toward that objective that we have been and are striving and will continue to strive. On the other hand, it would be misleading if I did not state that I do not expect additional substantive changes in the statement approved in principle.

#### INTERIM BETWEEN SPRING SEMESTER AND SUMMER SESSION

##### Post Office Schedule

Campus mail delivery will be suspended from Monday, May 16, through Friday, May 20. Those individuals who must pick up mail during this period may rent a box at the College Heights Post Office. Those who do not have a box should have the mail sent "general delivery." The College Heights Post Office will observe the following schedule for the convenience of those desiring to pick up personal and departmental mail:

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Monday-Friday | 8 a. m. - 10 a. m.<br>2 p. m. - 4 p. m. |
| Saturday      | CLOSED                                  |

Normal post office operations will be resumed Monday, May 23 and will continue through Friday, August 5. The operating hours during this period will be:

|               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Monday-Friday | 8 a. m. - 4 p. m.  |
| Saturday      | 8 a. m. - 10 a. m. |

##### Food Service Schedule

The facilities in the University Center will operate according to the following schedule:

##### DOWNING UNIVERSITY CENTER GRILL

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| May 14             | 7:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| May 22             | 11:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m. |
| May 23 - June 10   |                          |
| Monday - Friday    | 7:30 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| Saturday           | 8:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| Sunday             | 9:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| June 12            | 3:00 p. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| June 13 - August 5 |                          |
| Monday - Friday    | 6:30 a. m. - 7:00 p. m.  |
| Saturday           | 8:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |
| Sunday             | 9:00 a. m. - 6:00 p. m.  |

Food Service Schedule (Continued)

DOWNING UNIVERSITY CENTER CAFETERIA

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| May 16 - 20        | 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.                           |
| June 13 - August 5 |  |
| Monday - Friday    | 10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.<br>4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. |

GARRETT CONFERENCE CENTER SNACK BAR

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| June 13 - August 5 |                       |
| Monday - Friday    | 7:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. |

Work Schedule - Interim Between Spring Semester and Summer Session

May 15 - June 10

Employees on an eleven-month basis will observe nonwork days in accordance with paragraph 2, Personnel Policy 4 (December 1, 1970) and as directed by their supervisors.

Personnel on a twelve-month basis will be given three vacation days during the period. All administrative offices will remain open during the interim, and the head of each office should work out a schedule for the staff which will adequately provide for the transaction of all University business.

As has been announced, the beginning hour for Summer School classes will be 8 a.m.; however, offices will operate on the following schedule in the period May 15 through August 19.

Office Hours Schedule

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| May 16 - June 10     | 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
| June 13 - August 5   | 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |
| August 8 - August 19 | 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. |

REMINDER FROM THE REGISTRAR

All final grades from the spring semester are to be submitted to the Office of the Registrar by 12 Noon, May 16.

The 1977 Summer Session will open with the registration at 8 a.m., Monday, June 13, in the E. A. Diddle Arena. Classes will begin on Tuesday, June 14, and will continue through Friday, August 5. Summer commencement is scheduled for Friday, August 5.

### COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Approval has been given to the plans and program for the 1977 Spring Commencement as recommended by the Graduation Committee. Commencement and related events have traditionally been characterized by unusual dignity and beauty of which Western is proud. In calling your attention to the 1977 Spring Commencement, I would also urge that we not overlook the importance of this event in the lives of the graduates and their relatives and friends. Each member of the faculty and staff is requested to make every effort to participate in the commencement events in a manner which will guarantee the success of these functions. The following schedule of events is provided to aid you in planning for the occasion, and particular attention is called to the Instructions for Participants in Graduation Exercises attached for your information:

- |        |             |   |
|--------|-------------|---|
| May 13 | 2:00 p. m.  | <u>ROTC Commissioning Exercises</u> - Garrett Conference Center Ballroom. Speaker: Major General Richard Frymire, Commanding General, Kentucky National Guard.  |
| May 14 | 10:00 a. m. | <u>Commencement Exercises</u> - E.A. Diddle Arena. Speaker: Mr. David Grissom, President, Citizens Fidelity Bank and Trust Company, and Chairman, Council on Public Higher Education. Degrees will be conferred upon candidates for master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees.      |
|        | 11:15 a. m. | <u>Faculty and Administrative Staff Reception for Graduates</u> - Lobby, Downing University Center. Each member of the faculty and staff is a co-host and is requested to be present for at least a short period of time during the reception to greet the honorees and their guests. |
|        | -           |   |
|        | 1:00 p. m.  |   |

Dero G. Downing  
President

Instructions for Faculty and Administrative Staff Participants  
in Graduation Exercises

Graduation is scheduled for 10 a.m., Saturday, May 14, in the E. A. Diddle Arena. It is respectfully requested that faculty and administrative staff assemble in academic regalia, taking place in the line no later than 9:45 a.m. In timing your arrival at the arena, special consideration should be given to the parking and traffic problems which will result from the large crowd that is expected for the occasion.

Dr. Paul Corts is coordinating the faculty and staff processional, and he has requested that the participants assemble on the University Boulevard side of the parking lot adjacent to the L. T. Smith Stadium. Please follow the marshals during the processional, as they will indicate the route and the proper seating arrangement.

In case of inclement weather, there will not be a processional; and participants are requested to be seated in the chair sections behind the stage by 9:45 a.m.

The Committee on Graduation will appreciate the cooperation and assistance of each person so that we can be assured of having an excellent commencement program.

Stephen D. House, Chairman  
Committee on Graduation