

MINUTES
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

October 27, 1995

AGENDA ITEM 1 - Call to Order

Required statutory notice having been given, the fourth quarterly meeting of the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University was held in the Regents Conference Room of the Wetherby Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Earl Fischer, at approximately 11:30 a.m., CDT, following meetings of the Academics and Finance Committees.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - Invocation

The meeting opened with an invocation by Mr. Ron Beck, Director of Planned Giving, Office of Development.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - Roll call

The following members were present:

Mr. Earl Fischer
Ms. N. Joy Gramling
Mr. C.C. Howard Gray
Ms. Tara D. Higdon
Mrs. Peggy Loafman
Mr. Cornelius A. Martin
Dr. Raymond Mendel
Mr. Burns Mercer
Mr. Fred N. Mudge
Mr. Raymond B. Preston

Ms. Bale was absent.

Also present were Dr. Thomas C. Meredith, President; Mrs. Liz Esters, Staff Assistant for Special Projects and Secretary to the Board of Regents; Dr. Robert Haynes, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. James R. Ramsey, Vice President for Finance and Administration; Dr. Jerry Wilder, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Randall Capps, Parliamentarian; Mr. Fred Hensley, Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Director of University Relations, and Ms. Deborah Wilkins, University Counsel.

In keeping with the policy of the Board, the agenda for the meeting and information and materials pertinent to items thereon had been mailed in advance

of the meeting by the President to members of the Board.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Disposition of minutes of the special meeting of September 22, 1995

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 22, 1995, were presented by Chairman Fischer. Motion was made by Ms. Loafman and seconded by Mr. Mudge to approve the minutes as submitted inasmuch as copies had been mailed to the Board members prior to the meeting. The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - Committee Reports

5.1 Academics Committee, Mr. Fred Mudge, Chair

[Minutes of the Academics Committee are attached as ATTACHMENT A.]

Mr. Mudge reported that the committee met earlier in the morning and (1) heard a report from Dr. John Petersen on the annual report from the Office of International Programs; (2) discussed a proposal to establish a School of Integrative Studies; and (3) began a discussion on approving the implementation plans for "Moving to a New Level While Keeping Old Traditions."

**5.1.1 Recommendation for approval of a proposal to establish a School of Integrative Studies in Teacher Education within the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
RECOMMENDATION:**

President Thomas C. Meredith recommends approval of a proposal to elevate the current Department of Teacher Education to the status of a School of Integrative Studies in Teacher Education within the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. The School would focus on providing those instructional, research, and educational services necessary to promote quality teaching in the public schools of Kentucky. The state's educational reform directives recognize that content cannot be effectively separated from the instructional process and stress the importance of applying and integrating content in an authentic manner. Therefore, the School would encourage and promote campus-wide collaboration and serve as a catalyst for the development and delivery of interdisciplinary models that blend effective teaching practices with meaningful content.

Background:

Kentucky institutions of higher education that provide teacher education programs have an obligation to support the public education process of the state, recommend competent candidates for teacher certification, and provide opportunities for teachers to enhance their skills and abilities. In recent state level discussions, however, there is an indication that this obligation must also be evidenced, as in Western XXI, by a real institutional commitment

...visibly making teacher...personnel preparatory programs an institutional priority for programmatic as well as funding purposes.

In the Report of the Governor's Task Force on Teacher Preparation, it

states:

By January 1, 1994, each institution (public and independent) shall clearly indicate its intent to continue or discontinue its teacher education program. A decision to continue this program shall be contingent upon the institution's designating teacher education as a top program priority, with concomitant commitment of resources to adequately support this program.

The above statement seems to clearly indicate the level of commitment to teacher education that is expected by the state. This level of commitment requires the time, structure, and expertise to facilitate comprehensive change in teacher education programs and consistently monitor and maintain the quality of those programs. Therefore, universities will have to possess and demonstrate a true commitment to teacher education. Establishing a School of Integrative Studies in Teacher Education has the potential to consolidate our resources toward maintaining Western Kentucky University's reputation as a leader in teacher education, as well as energizing faculty by providing new professional opportunities and a clearly defined focus for their efforts.

Detailed information on this recommendation is presented in the minutes of the Academics Committee that are attached as **ATTACHMENT A.**

Having discussed the proposal in the Academics Committee and hearing it summarized by Dr. Carl Martray, Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, a motion was made by Mr. Mudge and seconded by Mr. Mercer to approve the recommendation. The motion carried.

5.1.2 Recommendation for approval of the implementation plans for "*Moving to a New Level While Keeping Old Traditions*" as developed by the task forces appointed to develop such plans

[The recommended implementation plan is included in the Minutes of the Academics Committee - ATTACHMENT A.]

Mr. Mudge reported that the committee had some discussion on the proposed implementation plans; however, the committee passed a motion to recommend that the Board meet again on November 11 at 9 a.m. to address the content of the implementation plans for "*Moving to a New Level While Keeping Old Traditions.*" This was put in the form of a motion by Mr. Mudge, seconded by Mr. Mercer and carried.

5.2 Finance Committee, Mr. Burns Mercer, Chair

[Minutes of the Finance Committee are included as ATTACHMENT B.]

Mr. Mercer reported that the committee met as a committee of the whole Board just prior to the Board meeting. Mr. Mercer moved adoption of 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, and 5.2.5 from the Finance Committee Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and carried.

Note: The recommendations are outlined below: (More information is contained in the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting that are attached as **Attachment B.**

- 5.2.1 Recommendation for acceptance of the 1994-95 Annual Financial Report**
- 5.2.2 Review of First Quarter Financial Statement for 1995-96**
- 5.2.3 Recommendation for approval of the Revised Budget for the First Quarter Financial Report for 1995-96**
- 5.2.4 Recommendation for approval of the fund balance allocations**
- 5.2.5 Recommendation for approval of budget priorities for guidance during the preparation of the 1996/97 budget**

AGENDA ITEM 6 - Recommendation for approval of personnel

recommendations since September 22, 1995

The recommended personnel actions are contained in the next eight pages.

The recommended personnel actions were presented by Chairman Fischer. Regent Mendel requested that the personnel actions pertaining to Training and Technical Assistance Services, which is headed by his wife, be broken out and voted on separately so that he could abstain on that part of the recommendation.

Motion was made by Mr. Mercer and seconded Mr. Gray to approve all the recommended personnel actions excluding those within the Division of Training and Technical Assistance Services. The motion carried.

Mr. Mudge made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Loafman, to approve the recommended personnel actions within the Division of Training and Technical Assistance Services. The motion carried with Regent Mendel abstaining.

**AGENDA ITEM 7 - Recommendation for approval of new positions in
Microcomputing Support Center and Computing and Informational Services
Department**

RECOMMENDATION:

President Thomas C. Meredith recommends approval of the new positions in the Microcomputing Support Center and the Computing and Informational Services Department described herein.

Background:

Use of the University's computer network - WKUNET - has increased dramatically. This use will grow further with the completion of the network to all campus offices and classrooms during this semester. Existing users of microcomputing resources have already taxed the existing staff in the Microcomputing Support Center with a 59% increase in service requests (17,971 total in 1994-95) during the past year. Support of users and training are critical to the full utilization of our investment in computing technology. Furthermore, an emphasis on innovative instructional uses of computing requires the addition of positions with specific background in multimedia, and other instructional computing technologies. The installation of our network system has been accomplished within budget and with existing resources. To move the application of our technology and information systems to a new, or the next level now requires additional staff.

Three new positions are proposed in the Microcomputing Support Center:

- Senior instructional microcomputing consultant with expertise and experience in multimedia and other instructional computing applications. This position will be responsible for planning, organizing, and conducting training for faculty, assisting faculty in technology projects, and in leading the instructional technology team which will include graphics artists, television producers, and other computing professionals on an ad hoc basis. This position will also be expected to facilitate the development of user groups and faculty technology mentors.
- Instructional computing consultant with expertise in multimedia and other instructional computing applications as well as Macintosh and programming expertise.

- General microcomputing applications consultant with experience in word processing, spread sheets, databases, graphic presentation and e-mail software. This position will support and train all users of this software, and will participate in the university computing help desk.

One new position is proposed in the Computer and Information Services:

- Database administrator responsible for the support of a new data warehouse providing academic and administrative decision makers with access to student and personnel data. A relational database will extract data from the existing data files and provide easy and instantaneous analysis of the data through the use of client software on the users desktop.

Total annual cost for the positions, including benefits, is estimated at \$140,000.00 (\$70,000.00 for the remainder of 1995-96).

Following a presentation providing justification for the requested positions by Dr. Charles Anderson, Assistant Vice President for Finance and Administration, who answered questions from the Board, motion for approval was made by Ms. Loafman, seconded by Mr. Mudge and carried with Regent Mendel abstaining.

Dr. Mendel felt that more consultation with the academic side of the University in bringing these positions to life would have been preferable.

AGENDA ITEM 8 - Recommendation for approval of the naming of the library in the Counseling Center as the "Elsie Dotson Memorial Library"

RECOMMENDATION:

President Meredith recommends the naming of the library in the Counseling Center as the "*Elsie Dotson Memorial Library.*"

Background:

Elsie Dotson, a native of Harlan, first joined the Western Kentucky University faculty in 1946. She left Western in 1948 to pursue doctoral studies at the University of Kentucky. After several years at the University of Texas, Marquette University, and East Caroline University, she returned to Western in 1963 as a psychology faculty member and remained at Western until her retirement in 1989.

When she retired, she offered her collection of professional books and journals to the Counseling Center. Dr. Dotson had a long record of interest in the Counseling Center and served as the "unofficial" counselor for many students at Western. She gave one-quarter time to the Center when the Clinical Psychology faculty had dual appointments.

Continuing her "presence" in the Counseling Center through the Elsie Dotson Memorial Library, located in Potter Hall, is a most notable way to give permanent tribute to one of Western's most giving and caring faculty members.

Motion for approval was made by Dr. Mendel, seconded by Ms.

Gramling and carried.

AGENDA ITEM 9 - Recommendation for approval of a proposal to change the name of the Center for Coal Science to the Materials Characterization Center.

Background:

