

MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
March 23, 1998

AGENDA ITEM 1 - Call to Order

Required statutory notice having been given, a meeting of the Executive Committee 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 at approximately 8:20 a.m., CST, by Ms. Peggy Loafman, Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - Roll Call

Mr. C.C. Howard Gray
Ms. Peggy W. Loafman
Mr. Cornelius A. Martin
Dr. Raymond Mendel
Mr. Burns Mercer

President Gary Ransdell, Mrs. Liz Esters, Staff Assistant and Secretary to the Board of Regents; Mrs. Deborah T. Wilkins, University Counsel; Dr. Charles Anderson, Vice President for Information Technology; Mr. Fred Hensley, Executive Assistant to the President for Public Affairs and Governmental Relations were also present. In addition Regent Gramling was present, and Regent Coffman attended a portion of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - Institutional Review and Planning

President Ransdell provided an update on the Institutional Review reporting that addressing the recommendations is on schedule; there will be a follow-up report at the next Board meeting and subsequent Board meetings until all have been fully addressed. The report will include a more detailed analysis of each recommendation and how it is being addressed with timeliness, etc.

Dr. Ransdell noted that the peer group of ten institutions will be identified by the May Board meeting; against that peer group, an analysis will be done of many of the items that call for us to put empirical data sets in place to target what progress is needed

as it relates to some of the recommendations in the Institutional Review. This needs to be put into place before some of the issues can be addressed.

Dr. Ransdell is satisfied that progress is being made on addressing the recommendations on the academic and physical plant matters. A pecking order is being put in place of renovation projects over the next five to ten years and will soon be shared with the Board. Plans to address parking in significant ways and will be touched upon on the days agenda. Specific physical plant campus matters will be addressed through the Budget and Finance Committee at its next meeting, but in a nutshell, \$32 million has been targeted to go into the campus over the next twelve to twenty-four months. The matter of bringing the campus up to par from the physical plant perspective was the subject of several recommendations in the Institutional Review.

Under technology, plans for the building are unfolding. Dr. Anderson reported that efforts to address year 2000 issue have been under way for some time. The year 2000 issue for administrative systems represents the primary problem; the human resources system is year 2000 compliant currently; the financial system is year 2000 compliant; and the mainframe IBM system is new and will be year 2000 compliant. The major problem is the student information system. A new state-of-the-art system has been purchased and is in implementation. As a backup, the old system is being worked on and assessed and will be patched to make in work in the year 2000 until the new system comes up.

Campus Planning - Ms. Mead reported that a writing committee is drafting a plan which will be taken to the campus for review and will be brought to the Board at the May 15 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Board of Visitors Update

Board members received information which included letter of invitation from President Ransdell to the individuals being asked to serve on the Board of Advisors; a list of individuals who received the invitation; and a purpose of the Board. Later this week a communique will go to all members of the Board which will outline those who have accepted the invitation to serve on the Board along with a tentative agenda for the first meeting on May 7. A list is being developed of fifteen or so specific goals that will be achieved over a five-year period will be the primary topic of discussion for the Board of Advisors on May 7. The entire afternoon will spent on reviewing, polishing, and

endorsing a set of very specific goals to be achieved over a five-year period in which this Board will take specific ownership. They will be very pointed goals that will be easy to measure when achieved.

The criteria used in these invitations was to look for the individuals who have achieved the highest level of success in the private sector. A concern has been to achieve as much balance as possible in gender and race. Individuals who accept will be asked to give their preference to participate in the afternoon discussion groups session on May 7; they will be divided between academic, student life and athletics, administration, and financial matters.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - Athletic Review

Ms. Wilkins provided a brief update indicating that subcommittees are in the process of formulating their individual draft reports which will be compiled into one document on or before April 14. The steering committee which is made up of the chairs of each of the subcommittees will meet and try to condense the materials down to one report on April 15. The consultant, Dr. Obear, is scheduled to be on campus on April 21 to work with the steering committee to further fine tune the report. Everything is on track to have the report and recommendations in the consultant's hands where he can get a final report to the Board.

Ms. Wilkins requested permission to postpone the final report to the Board until the July meeting. Reasons for doing so have to do solely with the survey that's being conducted as a part of the athletic review. The actual survey is not a problem; however, the analysis of the survey data presents a problem for the staff in Institutional Research. That staff is currently in the process of doing unit program reviews for the Institutional Review; collecting programmatic and unit data; working on a client survey of alumni and graduates for HB 109; and are also in the middle of faculty evaluations which must be provided for salary considerations for this year's budget; they're doing a study of the faculty load, developing a system to track and justify faculty teaching loads and are in the process of preparing their annual reports to the Council on Postsecondary Education which relate to enrollment, facilities, and inventory. Ms. Wilkins stated, "With the subcommittees on track to finish their individual subcommittee reports and the only thing we'll be waiting on is the analysis of the survey material that we will be on track for a

July report. For that reason, an extension is requested to go forward with the final report in July rather than at the May meeting. The Executive Committee agreed to this extension.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - Update on Selection of Head Men's Basketball Coach and Performance Standards and Compensation for the Performance

Ms. Loafman moved that:

- the Executive Committee go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) for a discussion that might lead to the appointment of an individual employee. The general nature of the business to be discussed is the appointment of a specific individual to serve as Head Men's Basketball Coach; the reason for the closed session is the privacy considerations with respect to the specific individual applicant; and the specific provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes authorizing the closed session is **KRS 61.810(1)(f)**; and
- the President's contract calls for an evaluation and compensation review by March 31; further moved that the Executive Committee go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) for a discussion related to an individual employee, that being the President of the University and his performance evaluation. The general nature of the business to be discussed is the performance evaluation and salary level of the President; the reason for the closed session is the privacy considerations with respect to the President; and the specific provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes authorizing the closed session is **KRS 61.810(1)(f)**.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Mercer and carried. The Committee, accompanied by President Ransdell; Liz Esters, Secretary; and Deborah Wilkins, University Counsel went into closed session at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Returning from closed session at approximately 1:45 p.m., Ms. Loafman stated, "The subject of the discussion and deliberations during the closed session were restricted to those in motion, and no formal action was taken by the Board in closed session."

AGENDA ITEM 7 - Reports from Committee Chairs

Mr. Mercer reported that the Finance and Budget Committee met recently and had some discussion and is scheduled to meet again April 28.

Dr. Mendel reported that the Academics and Student Affairs Committee met once to review the four proposed programs of distinction being considered. A proposal will be forwarded to the Council on Postsecondary Education on April 17. The Council-appointed consultant has visited once and will visit again on April 14. The Committee is scheduled to meet again on April 14.

With no further business to come before the committee, motion for adjournment

was made by Mr. Mercer and seconded by Mr. Martin. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:46 p.m.