

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD
OF REGENTS AND THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, JUNE 27, 1969

The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University met with the committee of students who had been requested to serve in an advisory capacity on Friday evening, June 27, 1969, at 8 o'clock in the Regents Conference Room, Administration Building.

Present for the meeting were the members of the Executive Committee; namely,

Mr. Douglas Keen, Chairman
Dr. J. T. Gilbert
Dr. W. R. McCormack

and members of the Student Advisory Committee; namely,

Mr. Paul E. Gerard, III
Mr. William Straeffer
Mr. Laurence Zielke

Also present were President Kelly Thompson and Miss Georgia Bates, secretary to the Board.

Chairman Keen presided.

In his preliminary remarks, Mr. Keen expressed appreciation to the Student Advisory Committee for willingness to serve the university by representing Western students.

Mr. Gerard, after expressing appreciation of the student committee, read the following memorandum, copies of which were distributed to those present:

Memorandum to: Executive Committee, Board of Regents
From: Student Advisory Committee
Concerning: Appointment of a President to Western
Kentucky University

The Student Advisory Committee acknowledges the vast responsibility that accompanies the appointment of an advisory-screening committee to assist the Board of Regents in the selection of a new President. Speaking on behalf of the student body, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to express our ideas.

Our committee has tried to cohere the thoughts of a majority of our cohorts rather than to selfishly reflect the thoughts of just three students. The following page represents what we believe to be the qualifications (both professional and personal) that the President of Western should possess. We have tried to accept our responsibility in a fashion befitting of the University.

Sincerely,

/s/

Paul E. Gerard, III
Student Regent

/s/

William H. Straeffer
Past President, Associated Students

/s/

Laurence J. Zielke
President, Associated Students

Mr. Gerard then read and distributed the following listing of qualifications:

I. Professional

1. Wide experience and proven ability in university administration and preferably devoted his life's work to education.
2. Aware of the contemporary complexities and potentialities of the university community.
3. Especially dedicated to further developing the academic aspect of the university.
4. Places the university before his personal glorification.
5. Accessible and receptive to students, faculty, alumni.
6. Considers all aspects of a problem and while being deliberate acts in a reasonable amount of time.
7. Possesses foresight.
8. Doctoral degree.
9. Has a demonstrated ability in financial and other business operations of the university.

II. Personal

1. Under fifty years of age and married.
2. A person who can accept criticism and be receptive to all viewpoints whether they be student, alumni, administration, faculty, or community citizens.
3. Possesses a sense of humor.
4. Articulate and expresses his ideas clearly, both publicly and privately.
5. High integrity.
6. A person who does not flatter wealth, cringe before power, or boast of his own possession or achievement.
7. Thinks of the rights and feeling of others rather than his own.
8. Faith and belief not only in himself but in his fellowman and in God.

The students stated that they had listed the attributes and qualifications with the understanding that the Board would select a person whom they believed to have as many of the listed qualifications and attributes as possible.

In response to Mr. Gerard's question as to when the Board of Regents would take final action, Mr. Keen stated that the Board would act when it was convinced that it was ready to take final action and that no specific date had been set by the Board.

Mr. Keen outlined the procedures that are being followed by the Board in the choice of a new president. Reference was made to the fact that the information concerning the situation had been sent to accreditation and other major agencies of higher education. It was pointed out that Board members are now receiving and considering all information concerning applications, nominations, suggestions, etc., the secretary of the Board having been charged with the responsibility that such distribution be made.

There followed a thorough discussion concerning the qualifications and attributes which the student committee had listed.

In conclusion, the Executive Committee commended the Student Advisory Committee for the excellent manner in which it had represented the student body. The committee was invited to communicate with the Executive Committee, individually or as a group, including specific, as well as general, recommendations. The students responded by stating that they welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Executive Committee and that it was hoped that President Thompson's successor would possess as many of his qualifications and attributes as possible.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10 o'clock.