

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REGENTS  
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
July 8, 1969

The Board of Regents of Western Kentucky University convened in a called meeting in the Regents Conference Room of the Administration Building on the campus of the University on Tuesday, July 8, 1969, at 10 a.m., CDT. Chairman Wendell Butler presided.

The meeting opened with a prayer of invocation by Miss Georgia Bates, Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board.

The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Wendell Butler, Chairman  
Mr. Douglas Keen  
Mr. Hugh Poland  
Dr. Chalmer P. Embry  
Dr. J. T. Gilbert  
Dr. W. R. McCormack  
Mr. Albert G. Ross  
Mr. Paul E. Gerard, III

Absent was Dr. Herbert E. Shadowen, who was out of state.

Also present in addition to Miss Bates was President Kelly Thompson.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on June 11, 1969, were presented by the chairman. Mr. Keen moved that the minutes be adopted without a reading inasmuch as each member had previously been provided with a copy. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.

At the request of Mr. Keen, chairman of the Executive Committee, the following report was read by Dr. McCormack:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BOARD OF REGENTS,  
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, JULY 8, 1969

The report of the Executive Committee at this time is necessarily a brief one. Members of the Board of Regents periodically have been sent information since our last meeting, including details of the discussion between the Executive

Committee and the Student Advisory Committee.

It is advisable, and the Executive Committee recommends that each Board member continue to personally evaluate all information, especially applications, nominations, recommendations, and suggestions, as it is received from the secretary of the Board. Members of the Board are urged to communicate with the Executive Committee if at any time the Committee can provide any special information needed, or if any member desires to make any suggestions or recommendations pertinent to the responsibilities and duties of the Committee.

The Alumni Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet with the Executive Committee on July 16. The Faculty Advisory Committee will also have a conference with the Executive Committee on July 16, and information concerning both meetings will be sent to you.

The Executive Committee has stated to the Student Advisory Committee that no specific date has been set relative to final action concerning the appointment of a new president, and it was stated by the Executive Committee that the Board would act when it was convinced that it was ready to take final action.

The Executive Committee recommends that the date of August 20 be set for the August Board meeting and suggests that a check be made to determine how many members of the Board would be available on that date.

President Thompson has told the Executive Committee that he would like to have a meeting with the Board of Regents on September 15, which is the final day of his administration, as suggested in his statement of resignation. He has requested that a check be made to determine how many members of the Board would be available on that date.

Mr. Ross moved for acceptance of the report. Following discussion, the motion was seconded by Mr. Poland and carried unanimously.

President Thompson commented on the absence of the two vice presidents. He stated that Dean Downing was making excellent progress following minor surgery on one of his legs at the local hospital, and that Dean Cravens was in Europe as an observer on a tour sponsored by the World Academy.

The next item on the agenda was the modification of identifications of the Graduate School, Community College, and the Department of Home Economics. Dr. Thompson stated that Dean Cravens, other deans, and department heads, after careful consideration, had recommended to him changes in the names of these three academic divisions of the University. The President's recommendations were as follows:

1. Graduate School be changed in name to the Graduate College. This is in keeping with a trend in higher education across the country and will have certain technical advantages for Western.

2. The Community College be designated the Bowling Green Community College. This division of the University coordinates all of the associate degree and certificate curricula. The identification recommended will provide clarification in the organizational structure for associate degree and certificate programs.

3. The Department of Home Economics be changed in name to the Department of Home Economics and Family Living. This change is recommended because of a broadening curriculum in this field. It will in no way decrease the emphasis on home economics but, on the other hand, will strengthen the entire program.

The motion for approval of the changes in the names of the three academic divisions, as recommended by the President, was made by Dr. Gilbert. Following discussion, the motion was seconded by Dr. McCormack and carried unanimously.

President Thompson made the following recommendations:

1. It is recommended that Dr. William A. Floyd be named as Interim Head of the Department of Home Economics and Family Living for the 1969-70 school year, retroactive to July 1, 1969.

2. It is recommended that Dr. Frank Steele be named Acting Director of Freshman English for the 1969-70 school year, effective September 1, 1969

Mr. Ross moved for approval of the two special assignments as recommended by the President. Following discussion, the motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.

Following a discussion pertaining to acreage owned by Western and following a suggestion by Dr. Thompson, a motion was made by Dr. McCormack that the Board reaffirm at this time its position that the University does not have any land for sale. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.

The Board heard the following report from the President:

The naming of new buildings on the Western campus presents a delicate area in which the President has worked to make proper and appropriate recommendations to the Board of Regents. All recommendations which have been made to the Board and the ones which I shall make at this time are the result of cumulative suggestions, intensive deliberation, and careful analysis. Such recommendations have been made periodically to the Board, and in each instance the President has made recommendations with a keen sense of regret that all individuals worthy of such recognition could not be so honored at a specific time.

I wish that it were possible in some manner to honor now all of the people who have been associated with Western or who are presently associated with Western who would be deserving of such tribute. It is obvious, however, that this is impossible. With the hope that as many as possible of the other worthy, outstanding personalities and contributors to Western's progress will be honored in the future, I make the following recommendations:

1. It is recommended that the new Fine Arts Center soon to be erected on the site of the old football field be named the Ivan Wilson Center for Fine Arts.

Mr. Wilson served Western from 1920 until his retirement in 1958, and during this period served for twenty-five years as head of the Art Department. He is, as you know, a nationally known artist.

2. It is recommended that the Graduate Center now under construction be named the Raymond Cravens Graduate Center.

Dr. Cravens has been very outstanding as Dean of the Faculties and Vice President for Academic Affairs during my administration, and it is most appropriate that this recognition be extended to him.

3. It is recommended that the University Center now under construction be named the Dero Downing University Center.

Mr. Downing has been very outstanding as Dean of Business Affairs and Vice President for Administrative Affairs during my administration, and it is most appropriate that this recognition be extended to him.

4. It is recommended that Regents Hall be renamed the Bates-Runner Hall in honor of Georgia Bates and Etta Runner, each of whom has served so effectively as secretary to the Board of Regents.

Both Miss Bates and Miss Runner have made contributions to Western that only those of us who have worked with them in this important area of responsibility can fully appreciate.

5. It is recommended that State Hall be renamed W. R. McCormack Hall.

In addition to the services of Dr. McCormack as a member of the Board of Regents, he has over a long period of years made generous personal and financial contributions to Western, especially as team physician for Western's program of athletics. He has given freely of his time, and his efforts have aided the University immeasurably.

6. It is recommended that Terrace Hall be renamed J. T. Gilbert Hall.

During the forty years which I have served as an employee of Western, I have never known a Board member to more conscientiously prepare himself for his responsibilities by becoming fully acquainted with the various aspects of the University. He has given freely of his time, and his efforts have aided the University immeasurably.

7. It is recommended that White Stone Hall be renamed Florence Schneider Hall.

Miss Schneider served Western for a longer period of time than has any other individual--forty-eight years--and was closely associated with all three presidents in the demanding business administration area of the institution. She was actively involved in all matters relative to the bringing into existence of this particular dormitory facility.

8. It is recommended that the new baseball field be named the Nick Denes Field.

Mr. Denes's contribution as football coach and as baseball coach at Western needs no elaboration, and I suggest that it is most fitting that this beautiful new facility be named in his honor.

9. The Academic Complex which has just been completed is made up basically of three wings. It is recommended that the educational television wing be named the Robert Cochran Wing.

Mr. Cochran has served Western since 1948. During the early years of my administration, the demand upon his services was far beyond what in any manner could be considered normal; and during his entire tenure, he has served Western admirably. Mr. Cochran was a student employee at Western during all four years of his undergraduate work.

10. It is recommended that the hospital wing of the Academic Complex be named the L. Y. Lancaster Hospital Clinic.

Dr. Lancaster is recognized as the "father" of Western's widely recognized pre-medical program, and I have on file letters from doctors across the nation who have expressed the hope that appropriate recognition be accorded him when possible.

11. It is recommended that the wing of the Academic Complex housing home economics and nursing be named the E. H. Canon Wing.

Mr. Canon served Western as registrar from 1925 until his retirement in 1959. His contribution to Western during those years was most outstanding and was appreciated by all with whom he worked.

12. It is recommended that the theatre in the Center for Fine Arts be named the Miller Theatre in honor of Dr. Russell Miller.

Dr. Miller was a member of the Western faculty from 1947 until the time of his death on November 24, 1968. His ability in the field of drama and speech has been widely recognized. Many students who studied under Dr. Miller and others have written to Western, suggesting that an appropriate honor be set up in his name when possible.

It is suggested that these recommendations be considered separately by the Board.

Following discussion,

1. Mr. Poland moved that the Fine Arts Center be named the Ivan Wilson Center for Fine Arts. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ross and carried unanimously.
2. Mr. Ross moved that the Graduate Center be named the Raymond Cravens Graduate Center. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.
3. Dr. McCormack moved that the University Center be named the Dero Downing University Center. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.
4. Mr. Keen moved that Regents Hall be renamed the Bates-Runner Hall. The motion was seconded by Dr. McCormack and carried unanimously.
5. Mr. Ross moved that State Hall be renamed W. R. McCormack Hall. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poland and carried with Dr. McCormack abstaining.
6. Dr. McCormack moved that Terrace Hall be renamed J. T. Gilbert Hall. The motion was seconded by Mr. Keen and carried with Dr. Gilbert abstaining.
7. Mr. Poland moved that White Stone Hall be renamed Florence Schneider Hall. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ross and carried unanimously.
8. Dr. Gilbert moved that the new baseball field be named the Nick Denes Field. The motion was seconded by Dr. McCormack and carried unanimously.
9. Mr. Poland moved that the educational television wing of the Academic Complex be named the Robert Cochran Wing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ross and carried unanimously.
10. Dr. McCormack moved that the hospital wing of the Academic Complex be named the L. Y. Lancaster Hospital Clinic. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.



11. Dr. Embry moved that the wing of the Academic Complex housing home economics and nursing be named the E. H. Canon Wing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gilbert and carried unanimously.

12. Mr. Ross moved that the theatre in the Center for Fine Arts be named the Miller Theatre in honor of Dr. Russell Miller. The motion was seconded by Dr. McCormack and carried unanimously.

Dr. McCormack, Dr. Gilbert, and Miss Bates each expressed appreciation for the honor bestowed upon them.

In other business, a check was made to determine how many members of the Board would be available on August 20 for the August meeting. Because of conflicts in the schedules of some members, the date of Friday, August 22, was agreed upon with the preference that the meeting be held in the afternoon. It was further agreed that the meeting in September would be held on September 15 with the hour of the meeting to be determined on August 22.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 o'clock.

Wendell P. Butler  
Chairman

Georgina Bates  
Secretary