

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY**

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:10 p.m. in the College Hall Board Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Adzima, Mr. Burroughs, Dr. Fan, Ms. Gehrman, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Mazzola, Mr. Pesce, Dr. Pruitt, Ms. Rosado, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Temple and President Speert.

ABSENT: Mr. Campbell, Mr. Gruel

OTHERS PRESENT:

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Hahn, Vice President Bolyai, Vice President Deller, Vice President Martone, DAG Cheryl Clarke, Mr. Seeve, Dr. Schaeffer, Mrs. Santaniello, administrators, faculty, and others.

ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ADEQUATE NOTICE OF MEETING:

In accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act," the Chairperson publicly announced and had entered into the minutes that "adequate notice" of this meeting was provided. In compliance with this Statute, this notice was posted on the University's bulletin board, reserved for these announcements, and also distributed to The North Jersey Herald and News, The Record, and The Star Ledger more than 48 hours prior to this meeting.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the following resolution.

2-06-1 RESOLUTION, TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (Appendix 1)

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

At approximately 7:15 p.m., the Public Session resumed.

Discussion of Priority Goals and Measurable Outcomes of Mission Statement

Mr. Taylor welcomed Mr. Michael Seeve, Vice Chairman of the WPU Foundation, Inc. Board and thanked him for participating in the discussion as part of the efforts to engage both Boards in shared goals. He remarked that the meeting is the next phase in the discussion of mission and prioritizing goals and establishing measurable outcomes that began at the December Board Public Retreat.

Mr. Taylor said the Board would discuss the identification of key goals for the University and work on determining measurable outcomes for those goals.

President Speert said that he envisioned the discussion resulting in quantitative measures the Board could use to assess the University's success and progress in achieving the key goals identified.

Mr. Taylor introduced Interim Vice President Stephen Hahn who led a presentation on the Student Success Plan 2005 and guided a discussion on how assessments are used for program improvement. Dr. Hahn first reviewed the Summary of Goals and Objectives, which provided the parameters for the University to focus on for the near future, approximately the next five years. Each of the five goals has associated objectives. He discussed some of the measures used for the goals associated with Student Achievement, pointing out that some measures may result in a greater degree of variation than others. He pointed out that the

broader the mission, the harder it is to effect change in a short time period. Dr. Hahn also pointed out how the goals are interrelated and interdependent. For instance, Goal 5, achieving a higher level of financial support for students, would enable students to devote more time to their studies, enhancing the potential for them to graduate in a more timely fashion, thereby raising the level of achievement of Goal 1, Student Achievement, improvement of time-to-degree for undergraduate and graduate students. The discussion continued with various questions and suggestions from the Board.

Mr. Pesce suggested that the "Desired Outcomes" section of the Student Success Plan 2005 be used as a starting point in discussing measurement. As an example, Student Achievement – "Improved student retention and graduation rates" is missing qualifiers like – by how much, and by when? Creating "how," "when," and "who" statements to measure the achievement of the "Desired Outcomes" will help operationalize the process and facilitate measurement. He suggested that the administrative leadership determine which indicators are the "vital statistics" that would, at any point in time, reveal The University's position relative to its goals. Mr. Jackson said key data elements should be identified that would provide a snapshot by which the Trustees could measure progress and direct future efforts. He added that the development of core processes which monitor and measure achievement of goals would be one step in developing that kind of snapshot. Mr. Adzima raised the issue of benchmarking as an important tool. He said it was important to decide whether to benchmark against our peers, or ourselves, or institutions we aspire to reach.

Dr. Speert recommended that the Board members review the material presented by Interim VP Hahn and select six key issues to focus on. The six key issues identified along with the data, would then be discussed in the context of the University's history, against benchmarks identified, and within the framework of fulfilling our mission. Dr. Schaeffer pointed out that the information needed for the purpose of the exercise could be found in "Measures for Tracking Progress" on pages 26 – 29 of the Student Success Plan 2005. It was agreed that the selection exercise be completed before the next Board meeting.

Mr. Taylor thanked Interim VP Hahn and Dr. Seal for the presentation and materials prepared for the discussion by and consideration of the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

At approximately 8:35 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made and seconded for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Santaniello
Assistant to the President
and Board of Trustees

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