

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
Board Retreat
Friday, November 18, 2011**

Mr. Mazzola called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room, College Hall.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Adzima, Ms. Conway, Ms. DeMarco Clisset, Mr. Gruel, Mr. Guarasci, Ms. Mascolo, Mr. Mazzola, Ms. Niro, Mr. Pesce, Dr. Pruitt, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Tolub, and President Waldron

ABSENT: Mr. Jackson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Provost and Senior Vice President Weil, VP Bolyai, VP Cohen, VP Ferguson, VP Martone, AVP Goldstein, Executive Director DeDeo, Chief of Staff Dr. Seal, DAG Jennifer Campbell, and Mrs. Santaniello

1. 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 web page and also distributed to The Herald News, The Record, and The Star Ledger more than 48 hours prior to this meeting.

AGENDA

2. Objectives of the Meeting:

President Waldron stated that the objectives for the meeting include a review of the current framework of the strategic plan, inclusive of the Board's input and recommendations from the last Retreat. Discussion will focus on the mission statement, vision statement and core values sections.

3. Approval of Minutes of the September 23, 2011 Board Retreat:

The minutes of the September 23, 2011 Board Retreat were approved as distributed.

4. Review of Activities of the WPU Strategic Planning Steering Committee since last Board Retreat, September 23, 2011:

As the Board's representative to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, Mr. Pesce provided a brief update on the Committee's activities. He said the process has been transparent, collaborative and inclusive. He said there have been three town hall meetings, three faculty senate sessions, and meetings with the leaders of the unions on

campus. Mr. Pesce said the Committee has been informed, prepared, and engaged in their meetings. They have completed homework assignments and provided in-depth insights and feedback on every step of the process. Mr. Pesce reported that there have been many revisions since the last Board Retreat. The focus of this meeting will be on mission, vision and values. There will be ample opportunity to comment on the document.

5. Review of Campus Feedback on the Strategic Framework of September 6, 2011:

President Waldron commented on the feedback on the framework received from the University community. Three general themes prevailed – (1) the framework did not give enough emphasis on a main academic mission; (2) a plan is only as good as its execution; and (3) an implementation plan is missing. President Waldron said explanation was provided that the framework is not an implementation plan, which will be forthcoming as a separate element. Another comment revolved around our reputation and visibility and why that wasn't included as a goal. The Committee believes that if the five goals are met, the University will emerge with a stronger presence and become more well-known outside the local community. There is real concern that the University is not well-known.

The Committee has requested that a full meeting of the Faculty Senate be devoted to the Strategic Plan. The meeting scheduled for January 31, 2012 has been designated for this purpose. Faculty Senate President, Professor John Parras, is a member of the Committee and has been very active in the process.

Mr. Pesce reviewed the timeline of the framework and the steps leading up to Board approval of the Plan in Spring 2012.

6. Discussion of Revised Strategic Framework (attached) which now includes a Vision Statement and Core Values:

Mr. Pesce asked for comments about Vision, Mission and Values. He asked if there were any surprises, major omissions, or unclear communications contained in these sections. Ms. Conway said it captured the spirit of all that the Board discussed. She said the Vision and Mission are long, but worded well. Regarding the Core Values, she questioned the changed order, regarding diversity - the use of the word "pluralistic" vs. "global" and the value of using "stated" mission instead of "public" mission.

Mr. Taylor made a general comment that he is supportive of the essence and contents of the Mission, Vision and Core Values. He said he favored the sequence on page 6 more than the proposed sequence in red – maintaining student success preeminence was key for him. His main comments were about strengthening the text under student success – to reflect outcomes.

Mr. Pesce invited comment on the sequence of the student success section to get a consensus in favor of its current sequence, or if there were strongly suggested changes. Ms. Mascolo, Ms. DeMarco and Mr. Gruel were in favor of the sequence as stated. Mr. Gruel said student success encompasses so much and is central to our being. Ms. Niro and Mr. Guarasci said they thought it was well-written. Mr. Pesce questioned the Board

on the importance of using the word “affordable” or not. There was agreement about the concept of affordability and high value, but not in the use of the words. Discussion continued. Mr. Pesce asked if there were any major omissions. Mr. Adzima said athletics was omitted and he thought it should be included in the document. It is part of campus life, generates pride and engages alumni. The Board agreed this should be referenced in the document and VP Martone suggested the wording curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular which covers all activities. Additional thoughts were shared about deleting the last sentence in the mission because it was repetitive of a similar sentence in the vision. There was agreement to the change. Mr. Pesce suggested that when the strategic plan is completed, the Board should include in all its meeting materials the mission, vision and values statements, not just the mission statement as we currently do.


The discussion turned to the value of identifying the University as a residential campus and focusing on all that campus life offers, rather than as a commuter campus.

Mr. Pesce said he heard consensus among the Board that there were no major disagreements with the Vision, Core Values and Mission and the exchange of ideas was very productive.

President Waldron outlined the next steps: a first draft of the Strategic Plan including a proposed mission, vision and core values incorporating the Board’s discussion to the community on or about December 15th in a document of 15 – 20 pages. That will become a public document on campus for discussion and feedback. Board Committees will meet on January 17, 18, and 19 and will have an opportunity to have some discussion at that time. A town hall meeting is scheduled for January 26; a Faculty Senate meeting devoted entirely to the Strategic Plan is scheduled for January 31; and a second town hall meeting is scheduled for February 1st. There are many other ancillary meetings scheduled or being scheduled across campus. The Board agreed that they would hold a retreat following the Board meeting on February 3. The second draft would then be generated and sent back to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee with all the suggestions and input from the Board and the University community. Once the second draft is completed, it will be sent back to the SPSC. It will then be presented to the Board for final review and subsequent adoption.

Mr. Mazzola adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Santaniello
Assistant to the President
and Board of Trustees

11/18/11