

Winston-Salem State University
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2024
9:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Chair Bill Miller called the meeting to order.

II. Conflict of Interest Statement

Chair Miller read the following statement: *“All Board Members are reminded of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees’ meeting. If any board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the Board of Trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time.”* There were no conflicts noted.

III. Roll Call

The following trustees were present at call to order: Bill Miller, Alex Johnson, Matthew Cullinan, Tyrone McNair, Jr., Pam Oliver, Ricky Sides, Robert Barr, Laura Gerald. Kathleen Kelly; Virtual Attendees: Carlos Pauling
Trustees present after roll call: Virtual Attendee: Brent Moore
Trustees Absent: L’Tanya Bailey; Drewry Nostitz

IV. Adoption of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to adopt the minutes for the WSSU Board Meeting on September 20, 2024 and the WSSU Special Called Board Meeting on October 1, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Board Chair Report

Chair Miller provided a recap of the board retreat held in September, which was facilitated by Ms. Artis Hampshire-Cowan. The one-day retreat provided Trustees with an opportunity to discuss ways to build on change and transformation for WSSU. He noted that over the next 90 days the board would be focusing on its committee restructure and increasing thought leadership. He also noted that university would be working on a plan to create a clearer structure for the operation of associated entities. He also emphasized the importance of strengthening engagement with past Trustees, increasing the visibility of current Trustees on campus, and providing opportunities for them to engage with faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

VI. Chancellor’s Report

Chancellor Brown’s report included an introduction of new staff and an event summary that includes highlights since September 2024. She briefly mentioned the MOU signing with Wake Forest, the visit from Liberia’s Secretary of Education, WSSU’s partnership with CISCO, the NASCAR Campus Lab Program, the Ramily Road Tour, and Homecoming 2024. She also highlighted the stories of Ms. Cristina Sorensen and Stefani Ramsey, who are two graduate students who have designed an ergonomics program for mothers to reduce injuries while caring for children. Chancellor Brown also shared that Dr. Rashunda Richardson was awarded more than half-a-million dollar grant to advance research capacity at WSSU.

Her report also included an update on brand differentiation, enrollment management, advancement, and talent management. Ms. Cheryl Pollard participated in the update on enrollment management and Mr. Kevan Turman participated in the update on advancement. She closed her report by reminding the board of WSSU's Fall Commencement Ceremony to be held on Friday, December 13, 2024 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

VII. Committee Reports and Recommended Action Items

A. Academic Affairs Committee

Trustee Barr provided a committee report from the Academic Affairs Committee from the prior day and called upon Dr. Anthony Graham for the presentation of the proposed Teaching Effectiveness Policy, Academic Program Review Policy, and the Post-Tenure Review Policy action items. These items received a motion, a second, and unanimous approvals. The Chancellor's Exception Report was also transmitted to the Board as required by policy.

B. Advancement Committee

Trustee Sides provided a committee report from the Advancement Committee from the prior day.

C. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

Trustee Cullinan provided a committee report from the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee from the prior day. He then called for the presentation of the proposed revisions to Office of Internal Audit Charter by Dr. Ivey Brown. The action item received a motion, a second, and a unanimous approval.

D. Finance and Administration Committee

Trustee Cullinan provided a committee report from the Finance and Administration Committee from the prior day; a corrected report was submitted.

He then called for the presentation of the proposal to decrease the debt service fee (with no tuition and fee increase); the requested authorization to execute a lease with Metropolitan Village, and the approval of the appointment of the Commissioning WorCx, RMF Engineering, and SKA Engineering as WSSU's first, second, third choices respectively for the KR Williams Renovation and Expansion Project by Ms. Lisa McClinton. These items received a motion, a second, and unanimous approvals.

E. Governance, Advocacy, Trusteeship and Ethics (GATE) Committee

Trustee Miller provided a committee report from the Governance, Advocacy, Trusteeship and Ethics (GATE) Committee meeting from the prior day.

He then called on Mr. Richard Davis for the presentation of the action item related to the proposed 2025 Legislative Agenda. This item received a motion, a second, and a unanimous approval.

VIII. Closed Session

A motion to convene in closed session was made, seconded, and approved unanimously. Minutes of the closed session were prepared separately.

A motion was made and seconded to reconvene in open session. At the open session reconvening, Chair Miller reported that the Board had approved closed session minutes for September 20, 2024 and

closed session minutes for October 1, 2024, heard an update on the University's plans relative to leadership changes; received an update on the Mitchell case, received an update on the Foundation's plans relative to property acquisition, and considered a contract for the head volleyball coach.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to approve the contract for the head volleyball coach.

IX. Unfinished Business – none

X. New Business

Trustee Sides shared a possible partnership opportunity with the County with the Board. Chancellor Brown indicated staff would follow up.

XI. Adjournment

A motion and second to adjourn was made at approximately 11:05am.