

Marshall University Board of Governors
August 24, 2016
Shawkey Dining Room

Present: Wyatt Scaggs, Chairman; Phyllis Arnold; James Bailes, Oshel Craigo, Phil Cline; Tim Dagostine; David E. Haden; Christie Kinsey; Dale C. Lowther; Joseph McDonie; Joseph B. Touma, MD; Miriah Young, Dr. Cam Brammer; Matt Jarvis, Michael G. Sellards, Ed Howard

I. **Call to Order**

Upon determining a quorum was present, Mr. Scaggs called the meeting to order.

II. **Approval of Prior Minutes**

Upon a motion by Dr. Touma, seconded by Mr. McDonie, the minutes of the June 29, 2016, and July 12, 2016 noting that Mr. Cline was not present at the meeting, the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

III. **Presentation on the College of Health Professions by Dr. Michael Prewitt, Dean**

Some of the highlights from Dr. Prewitt's presentation are:

- Growth significant, in student enrollment and programs have an 85% retention rate; and 85% job placement upon graduation
- New programs: Intent to plan for Social works, Biomechanics, a Friday evening, Saturday morning Graduate Program
- Some completely online programs
- Facilities growth: Huntington Kitchen, Dietetics program and a full time chef
- Recent event was "Lose the Training Wheels" Dr. Gilbert rode around with the students
- Partnering with SOM; Speech and Hearing, OTMPT as well
- Center for Wellness and the Arts – joint program; every band student gets a hearing test annually; for the Romeo and Juliet play – worked with the actors to strengthen their core, agility, and the sword fighting scenes (eye and hand coordination) and breath control. This goes hand in hand with the Pathway to Wellness program.
- Points of Pride: Health Informatics ranked; Respiratory Care bachelors – ranked one of 2 partnering with SMMC; American Ninja Warrior, one of our students participated.
- Located in 5 buildings on campus and 1 off campus

IV. **Committee Reports**

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Christie Kinsey gave the report on behalf of the Committee. It was noted that the “action item” was made an information item. This item will be brought back to the Board once it is fully ready for board approval.

Janet Dooley, Director of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, presented to the Committee regarding that program. She will present at the next board meeting.

Cedric Gathings also spoke to the Committee about his plans for Student Affairs. He would like to have an active parent program and is planning to send out parent newsletters. He also discussed the TTA Bus route for students.

Sonja Cantrell, the newly appointed Registrar, was introduced during the meeting.

Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee

Mr. Haden, Chair of the Committee, gave the report for the Finance Committee. There was one agenda action item.

The Investment Earnings Update was discussed at the Committee and upon a motion by Mr. Lowther, seconded by Dr. Touma, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors receives the Investment Earnings Report for the 2nd Quarter of 2016.

Other updates were given by Brandi Jacobs-Jones regarding the impact of the flooding. Mark Robinson discussed payroll changes and the October 1st deadline. Perry Chaffin gave an update on Auditing.

V. President’s Report

Dr. Gilbert gave updates regarding the happenings on campus and his involvement:

- The day before the Special Meeting in July, we were notified that Pharmacy was accredited; and we have now graduated our first class from the School of Pharmacy.
- Dr. Gilbert participated in white coat ceremonies for School of Medicine and Pharmacy. He was the keynote speaker at the School of Pharmacy ceremony;
- Freshman convocation was held August 19th, and Nawar Shora was the Keynote Speaker. He was a wonderful speaker and stressed to students to not allow failures and/or setbacks to make your life. Convocation lasted 45 minutes and went well.
- Marshall University hosted the first Governors School of Entrepreneurship, which began July 5th and was a 3 week program.
- Teaching a UNI 100 class, 8am on Wednesday mornings.

- Meeting with Yeager scholars; formed book club and have been having some very engaging discussions regarding “To Kill A Mockingbird” and “Go Set a Watchman”.
- Hosting a principals luncheon; we want their students and be available to the local school systems.
- Dr. Sherri Smith, Associate Vice President in Academic Affairs, is engaging new activities to increase retention. Up 2% over last year. Looking at an absence reporting effort, which will be implemented this fall for our freshman class. We have made a promise to do all we can to graduate students in four years. “15 to Finish” It takes 120 hours to complete a degree at MU.
- Last couple weeks have been great for research. Dr. Uma Sundaram received a \$2.4 million grant from NIH for Nutrition and Absorption impact on inflammatory bowel disease. Also another major grant of \$1.8 million (of \$3.8 million) was received to PI’s Dr. Jeff Kovatch of Bio and Dr. William Ford of Engineering. It is a water quality associated with toxic algae blooms, done in collaboration with Murray state and University of Kentucky.
- The goal is to double the research dollars at MU for the next couple years.
- Public private partnership is on track for Pharmacy and housing for medical and pharmacy students. Opening the financial component of the proposals on Sept 14th. Will have a private organization build for us in the Fairfield area.
- A LEED Gold certification for the Applied Engineering Complex
- Hosted a media and public speaking workshop for all VPs and Deans on July 25th to teach all how to interact in public speaking and media. Mock exercises were done for emergency situations. We hope to be better prepared to accurately respond to the media
- Student Affairs to host two campus “listening sessions”, to try to be proactive with problems within our student communities and the problems in the world.
- Flooding reiteration; everyone stepped up. Heartwarming and inspirational. Great time to be part of the Herd.
- Senior Staff volunteered for Habitat for Humanity in the Fairfield community. We discovered some were better with a hammer, and some with a power drill.
- Honored to go with Congressman Jenkins to Lilly’s Place announcement for funding
- Gave a speech to the “Women to Women” group of the Chamber. Senator Capito attended this event.
- Looking for ways to get students involved to engage them in rich experiences during their time on campus
- Provost Ormiston led an effort to the West end of Charleston with Rev. Watts, to help with that end of Charleston. This is near the South Charleston campus. We are hoping to help and recruit students to our South Charleston campus.
- Dean Van Horn and Dr. Gilbert met with a famous jazz musician, Ellis Marsalis in New Orleans. His agent called and has been hot on the trail to get MU involved in a youth piano competition held here in Huntington at MU. This will help bring national attention to MU.

- On Aug 15th Fairfield Alliance had the inaugural meeting with Mayor. Dr. G is serving on this committee as is Cedric Gathings. This group will be looking for ways to inject new life into the Fairfield community
- A group was put together regarding substance abuse. 40 folks, from many areas on campus, will be getting together to talk about coordinating efforts regarding drug problem in area. There was an editorial in newspaper about MU. MU wants to be involved. The first step is to acknowledge the problem. We plan to be actively engaged.
- Leadership changes...Cedric Gathings is now here and has hit the ground running, Bob Simpson, was named Interim Dean at the Lewis College of Business. All reports thusfar are glowing. Bob had just retired and we brought him back. We are seeing a new spirit of cooperation. A national search is being done by AGB.
- While Dr. Gilbert was taking a few days of vacation, Mary Ellen Heuton called him and resigned. On behalf of the University, we wish her best of luck. She is going to Montevallo State, which is near Atlanta. Mark Robinson will be the Interim CFO and VP for Finance. Dr. Gilbert and Mr. Robinson have talked many times and are not out of the woods regarding our budget. We are working on what can we do to contain costs, add revenue, and recruit more students, to name a few.
- Private donors also helped during the flooding situation. The total donated is around \$9,800.00 for students in the flood affected areas. We continue to look at ways to connect with donors.
- Thank you to the BOG and others for the work, support and planning of an investiture ceremony. It will be held Sept 22, 10:30 am, outside in the John Marshall Circle. Sent a lot of invitations. Dr. Gilbert said it is humbling and he is looking forward to it.

VI. **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Scaggs thanked Dean Prewitt for his presentation. He also reminded the Board that the next meeting is November 2, 2016 in South Charleston.

VII. **Executive Session under the authority of WV Code §6-9A-4**

Upon a motion by Mrs. Arnold, seconded by Mr. McDonie, the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter.

After a brief period of time, upon a motion by Mr. Sellards, seconded by Mr. McDonie, the Board resumed open session.

The following resolution was read by Mr. Bailes:

Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approves the MU Severance Plan as presented for consideration before the Legislative Joint Committee on Pensions and Retirement.

Upon a motion by Mr. McDonie, seconded by Mr. Lowther, the resolution was unanimously approved.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no other business to be brought before the Board of Governors, upon a motion by Mr. Haden, seconded by Dr. Touma, the meeting was adjourned.

Joseph McDonie, Secretary

