

**MINUTES**  
**Marshall University Board of Governors**  
**Microsoft Teams Meeting at**  
**Glade Springs**  
**Livestream and In-Person**  
**August 9, 2022**

Present: Patrick Farrell, Shawn Ball, Kathy D'Antoni, Donnie Holcomb, Isabella Griffiths, Carol Hurula, Chris Miller, Angel Moore, Sam Moore, Robin Riner, Geoff Sheils, Bill Smith, James C. Smith

PH: Chad Pennington

Absent: Bill Noe

**I. Call to Order & Swearing in of New Members**

After welcoming the new members, James C. Smith and Isabella Griffiths, and having their completed oath of office documents in hand, it was announced that the ceremonial swearing in will be done at the next meeting in October. Then, determining a quorum was present, Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order.

**II. Minutes Approval**

The minutes of the meeting on June 16, 2022, and the special meeting held on June 24, 2022. For the special meeting Mr. Geoff Sheils called in remotely to the meeting and with that change, upon a motion by Mr. B. Smith, seconded by Mr. Sheils, the June 16<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved, and the June 24<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved as amended.

**III. Committee Meeting Reports**

**Academic and Student Affairs Committee** action items were as follows:

- A) Approval of amendments to Policy No. AA-6 Awarding of Undergraduate, Graduate, and Professional Fee Waivers.

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby approve Policy No Aa-6 Awarding of Undergraduate, Graduate, and Professional Fee Waivers on an emergency basis.*

*Further Resolved, Be it further resolved, that the policy is to be approved through the normal "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" process.*

*Further Resolved, That the policy changes are approved as final at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.*

*This emergency policy, in this case, was done to prevent substantial harm to the public interest or to deal with financial exigency.*

*Fiscal note: There is an anticipated cost to the institution for implementing this policy, however, the cost is difficult to calculate as it is difficult to determine the exact number of students who may take advantage of this benefit.*

Upon a motion by Dr. Riner, seconded by Ms. Hurula, no discussion, a vote of aye, and hearing no objections, the motion carried.

B) Change of Degree: Master of Science in Sport Administration

The MS in Sport Management Degree program is being moved from the College of Health Professions (COHP) to the Lewis College of Business (LCOB) under the name of the Sport Administration.

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the Degree Addition for MS in Sport Administration.*

Upon a motion by Mr. S. Moore, seconded by Ms. Hurula, no discussion, a vote of aye, no objections, and the motion carried.

C) Review and approval of the following Academic Affairs Policy, MUBOG AA-12 Academic Dishonesty

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby take the following action as it relates to MUBOG Policy AA-12. We recommend approval of changes to the policy that clearly differentiate expectations and sanctions applied to undergraduate and graduate students for acts of academic dishonesty. In essence, the*

*proposed changes make clear that Marshall University holds graduate students to a higher standard than undergraduate students.*

Upon a motion by Dr. Riner, seconded by Mr. Sheils, no discussion, a vote of aye, no objections and the motion carried.

#### **UPDATES:**

**Provost Avi Mukherjee** gave the Provost's Update. Provost Mukherjee updated the Board on the progress of the Strategic Enrollment Management plan that is being completed at the college and division levels. The End-to-End Student Experience project is now underway, as well and in the coming month, we will be introducing a new student mentoring program. He updated happenings in the colleges both grants and achievements.

**Isabella Griffiths, Student Body President**, gave a student body update, reporting that the last election and all representatives have been filled. They are beginning a program of peer mentors for first year students and alumni mentors for juniors and seniors. Walker Tatum will chair the Memorial Fountain Ceremony Planning Committee. Her areas of focus this year for Marshall and West Virginia include food insecurity, community engagement, and mental health initiatives. October will be the fourth annual Month of Service in collaboration with WVU, and more can be found on the SGA website.

**Dr. Bobby Miller**, Interim Dean of the School of Medicine gave the School of Medicine report. He updated the Board Collegiate athletic trainers for all student-athletes at Marshall University are now housed within Marshall Health and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine under the direction of Head Team Physician John J. Jasko, MD, an associate professor of orthopaedic surgery. The Marshall University Physician Assistant (PA) program received \$1.46 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to enhance the rural training experience of every Marshall University PA student. Through the five-year grant, program leaders will implement a four-week rural primary care rotation requirement that may be completed at a site affiliated with Lincoln Primary Care Center or Pleasant Valley Hospital, with the option of an additional four-week rotation at the other site. More than 94 incoming resident physicians and fellows officially began their training this month at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, including the first neonatal-perinatal medicine fellow. Assistant Professor Price E. Dickson, PhD, received a \$407,000 NIH grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to study the genetic and genomic mechanisms driving the relationship between social reward and cocaine addiction.

The full reports with more detail can be found as part of the board updates.

#### **Athletic Committee**

There were no action items from the Athletic Committee.

There was an update on NCAA Compliance with a timeline. Mr. Christian Spears gave a Budget update including facilities. Other updates discussed by Mr. Spears were Beer Sales at the Cam/Baseball Softball Complex, Hall of Fame schedule of events, The Thunder Trust – NIL Initiative, which is being handled by Tyler Hutchison, Champions Advisory Board (CAB) overview, which is a new group of donors in Athletics, and there will be a schedule change in 2023, which the contract is outstanding.

**Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee**

The following are action items from the Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee:

Action Items

- A) Approval of amendments to the Employee Dependent Undergraduate Tuition Assistance Program

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approves the amended Policy No. AA-42, Employee Dependent Undergraduate Tuition Assistance Program.*

*Further Resolved, that the policy is approved as final at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received with an effective date of the first day of the Fall 2022 semester.*

Upon a motion by Mrs. Hurula, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, no discussion, all votes were aye, no opposition and motion carried unanimously.

- B) Approval of updated Policy No. FA-9, Purchasing Policy

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the Marshall university Board of Governors does hereby approve Policy No. FA-9, Purchasing Policy.*

*Further Resolved, that the policy is approved as final at the conclusion of the comment period if no substantive comments are received.*

Upon a motion by Mr. Holcomb, seconded by Mrs. Hurula, no discussion, a formal aye vote, with no opposition, and the motion carried unanimously.

- C) Approval of additions to the list of counties eligible for Metro tuition rates

This addition expands a 100-mile radius to the existing Metro counties.

The following resolution was read:

*Resolved, that the counties of Adams, Athens, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Fairfield, Fayette, Highland, Hocking, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Ross, Vinton and Washington in Ohio and the counties of Bath, Bourbon, Bracken, Breathitt, Clark, Clay, Estill, Fleming, Harrison, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lewis, Magoffin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Owsley, Pendleton, Perry, Powell, Robertson, Rowan, and Wolfe in Kentucky be added to the list of our-of-state counties eligible for Metro tuition rates effective with the Fall 2023 term.*

Upon a motion by Bishop Moore, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, no discussion, all votes were aye, no opposition and motion carried unanimously.

Information items updates were given by Mr. Jason Baldwin. Mr. Baldwin presented the Investment Earning Update and answered questions. Brandi Jacobs Jones gave an Operations Update noting the highlights. To name a few these were Byrd Biotech Cage Washer, Football Stadium Turf Replacement, Horizontal Mine Shaft, MU Health Chiller, Smith Hall Cooling Towers, Smith Hall Elevator Replacement, and Tri State Airport School. Other updates given were expressions of interest, demolitions, and lastly, Public Safety. The targeted enforcement of 25 mph speed limits on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> avenue, was funded through Highway Safety grants. The Internal Audit update was given by Mr. Chaffin detailing his activities since the last meeting, activities before the next meeting and his ACUA professional development activity

A Funding Formula Update was given by Mr. Baldwin. Of note, a special board meeting will be called to review the Funding Formula in depth.

#### **IV. President's Report**

President Smith gave a big thank you to the board members that participated in Community Cares Week. There were 451 people that participated in the Spring-Cleaning project. Herd Nation showed up and transformed Campus. He hoped everyone had seen the Community Cares work sizzle video. He also asked everyone to support the Student Government Association for their service projects in October.

In other items, progress has been made in our team and prosperity in our State.

We have added 4 cabinet positions: Christian Spears, Avi Mukherjee, Marcie Simms and Toney Stroud. We are involved in 3 active searches: Chief Marketing Officer, Chief Information Officer, and Chief Financial Officer. These searches will be finalized in 4-6 weeks. There are 2

searches on deck: Dean of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine beginning in January 2023 and the Bill Noe Flight School Chief Aviation Officer, which will be discussed more in the future.

President Smith talked about the Choose West Virginia Tour. On Tour was Speaker of the House, Roger Hanshaw; Craig Blair, Gordon Gee, John Chambers, Mitch Carmichael, and himself. There was a fireside chat discussing Design Thinking with California folks, they met with Investment Bankers in New York, and Federal Congressional Leaders Trade Ambassadors and others in Washington, DC. He then shared the “sizzle reel” that was a beautiful story about West Virginia!

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Dr. Riner, the board entered Executive Session under the authority of WV Code §6-9A-4 to discuss certain personnel matters.

After a brief session, the Board entered open session. No votes were taken during executive session.

#### **VI. Chairman Farrell’s Report**

Chairman Farrell talked about change. Higher Education is changing across the Country. Everything at Marshall is being reconsidered, of what it was and what it needs to be. The What, the when, the how of what we are doing is being looked at, and he is happy the why we are here is not changing. We are here for students. We are here to be a prosperity platform for economic development for the region and that part is what rounds us and keeps us centered on the Creed and Mission while we still look at what, when, and how we execute that mission. In the coming months, President Smith has very tough tasks and he has concerns about how fast we can move. Not because of the pace of the President, because he has set the course. We as a community need to keep up and keep pace with the greater change of all things that we are doing. This starts with us, this board. Chairman Farrell would like better, faster, stronger, for example, make better decisions, fast decisions and if we do that, we will have strong rewards. Each of you as a stronger board member will lead to a stronger president, a stronger faculty and staff, a stronger faculty and staff will make stronger students, and will make a stronger University. Now is the time for all of us to lean into that work. I’ve heard the President say many times, “Be the change you want to see in the world” so what Chairman Farrell asks all board members is to Be That Change. All the things that are moving, engage and make it happen. Across the world, higher education has a reputation for being slow, not wanting to change or adapt to the times. We cannot afford to do that now. The way to make change happen is to lean into it. All the words we have heard, the videos, this retreat, they are just words. The work must happen. As Chairman, he wants to see us “Do the Work.” Do the work that we need to do to reach the heights the President is leading us to. It starts with the Board,

and goes to the administration, to the faculty and staff, and to the students. We just must do the work. It is an exciting time to be here, and he is grateful to all of you for being part of it as well.

**VII. Announcements**

There will be a special meeting between now and the October meeting, as was mentioned earlier. The notice will be forthcoming.

Judge Hutchison was not able to be here today for our meeting to swear in our new board members, so that will be done at our October meeting.

Lastly, our dear board member, Sandy Thomas, has submitted her resignation to the board due to health concerns. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Without objection, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Miller, Secretary