

**MINUTES**  
**Marshall University Board of Governors**  
**Microsoft Teams Meeting at the**  
**Shawkey Room in the Memorial Student Center,**  
**Livestream and In-Person**  
**April 21, 2022**

Present: Patrick Farrell, Shawn Ball, Kathy D'Antoni, Carol Hurula, Chris Miller, Bill Noe, Aylssa Parks, Chad Pennington, Robin Riner, Geoff Sheils, Bill Smith, Toney Stroud  
PH: Donnie Holcomb, Angel Moore, Sandra Thomas  
Absent: Sam Moore

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

After determining a quorum was present, Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order.

**II. Minutes Approval**

The minutes of the meeting on February 10, 2022, and the special meeting minutes on February 21, 2022, were approved without objection.

**III. Committee Meeting Reports**

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

- A) Review and Approval of Academic Affairs Policy: MUBOG AA-46 Distance Education Courses.

Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud, seconded by Ms. Parks, the following recommendation was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby take the following action as it relates to MUBOG Policy AA-46. We recommend amendment to the policy's name and other changes throughout the policy to reflect the increasing number of degree programs offered completely online. We further recommend the addition of hyflex course type.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

B) Review and Approval of Program Review Recommendations

Upon a motion by Dr. Riner, seconded by Mrs. Hurula, the following recommendation was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the 2021-2022 Academic Program Review Recommendations attached as Exhibit 1.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

C) Degree Addition: Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Upon a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, the following recommendation was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approve the Degree Addition for BS in Psychology.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

**Provost Avi Mukherjee** gave the Provost's Update. He highlighted that Cabell County was "low" risk and currently no masks were needed inside on campus. He thanked Chris Miller and his family for their generous donation to the new College of Business facility. He spoke about the Department Chair Leadership Academy and the John Marshall Leadership Fellows program. He is very proud of these programs for professional development of staff and faculty. He talked about the English Language Institute in COLA that is now fully online and can have international students. He gave kudos to Dr. Kim McFall for Fulbright Award to Poland, Dr. Brian Kinghorn for organizing TedX at Marshall, and to an exercise science student. He noted that Accounting student association received an award, Dr. Tiffany Davis of School of Pharmacy received an award of \$1.6 million from DHHR. Dean Chuck Somerville of the College of Science is returning to faculty at the end of June, and Brian Morgan will be the interim dean of the College of Science.

**Dr. Shapiro** gave an update on the School of Medicine. He noted that the Class of 2022 achieved 100% match rate. A total of 68 students from the Class matched to residency programs. The BS/MD Program continues to thrive and a selection of 10 high school seniors entered the newest class of students. This program allows exceptional WV high school students the opportunity to earn their BS and MD degrees from MU in just 7 years. There are 34 BS/MD students in medical school and 28 in the undergraduate portion of the curriculum. We have two physicians named to *Executive Magazine's* Health Care Hall of Fame. They are Chad D. Lavender, MD, and Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD. Marshall sports Medicine Institute formalized a

partnership to provide medical coverage for state championship events for all events in southern West Virginia, fulfilling one of our goals to provide high quality sports medicine care to student-athletes.

**Ms. Parks** gave an update on Student Affairs. She noted that the Feed Huntington Project fed over 800 people. Lavendar Graduation went well. She noted that Kente was this evening. There will be a Minority and Men's Concert following Kente. SS80 has their first meeting on Tuesday. She graduates in one week. Isabella Griffiths is now President and Walker Tatum is Vice President. The inauguration will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm, which will also be livestreamed. Ms. Parks introduced Ms. Griffiths to the Board.

### ***Athletic Committee***

A) Approve 2022-2023 Budget.

Upon a motion by Dr. Riner, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, the following recommendation was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approves the proposed Marshall Athletics Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

**David Steel** gave an update on Plan vs. Actual 2022 – explaining that the change of conferences shows some lost income on trip expenses.

**Jeff O'Malley** reported on Compliance and Athletics Teams Updates and highlights. He noted the Fountain Ceremony would be before the Spring Game.

### **Finance, Audit and Facilities Planning Committee**

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

A) Investment Earnings Update

Mr. Stroud made a motion to receive the Investment Earnings Update Report for the period ending February 28, 2022, seconded by Mr. Miller, and hearing no opposition, the report was received.

B) Schedule of Marshall University Tuition and Fees for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Upon a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, the following resolution was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approves the Marshall University Tuition and Fees for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

C) Proposed Marshall University Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Upon a motion by Dr. D'Antoni, seconded by Mr. Stroud, the following resolution was presented for consideration:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors approves the proposed revised budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.*

Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

**IV. President's Report**

President Smith's first 100 days is now completed, it has now been 111 days. The biggest surprise, so far from going to higher education from private industry, was during the winter storm. He discovered during the call to see if we should delay opening campus on the first day of classes after we had a bad winter storm. During the call, he found out that several staff came to campus the night before and stayed, so they could be on campus to get ice and snow off the walks and make campus safe for the parents and students that would be arriving that day. That is such a difference from private industry, and he is proud to serve alongside those faculty and staff, i.e. they are working for more than just a paycheck.

Three things to share as a gift:

1. What we are doing to develop and strengthen team members.
2. The high-level things that emerged from the 100 Day Listening Tour.
3. Share what we are doing with the surrounding community. With this share, we request help in a couple areas as well.

In his welcoming address, he said he strives to inspire others to dream bigger, deliver faster and seek to define excellence. The campus community has risen to that calling

daily and has worked throughout the Pandemic in this leadership transition to make it a reality. I am pleased and thankful the Board of Governors approved the restoration of the salaries that many employees willingly sacrificed during the early days of the Pandemic. In addition to that, the Board approved a \$1,000 raise and an additional 1.65%, an average of a 3.3% raise. He acknowledged that more work to do and more to come.

A couple of key positions have now been filled: a world class Provost and a world class Athletic Director. We conducted open and extensive searches on a national basis. Christian Spears has been here 30 days running at a championship pace in athletics. Provost Avi Mukherjee has been the interim almost a year. He entered a National Search and he vigorously competed and distinguished himself amongst very qualified candidates. Academics are the heartbeat of our institution and our reason for being. We could not have a stronger provost as Dr. Avi Mukherjee. There are two other national searches. One is our Legal Counsel, a position held for years by Layton Cottrill. We will be bringing folks in, and the plan is to hire the person and Layton will be able to mentor and get him/her up to speed. The second is VP of Student Affairs, a very important role held currently by Maurice Cooley. He will be stepping down due to retiring and will stay on contract with us. Both searches will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

## 2) Insights and Results of the 100 day listening sessions:

More than 1000 participants in 38 listening sessions and over 1,200 suggestions were captured. We worked with an outside firm using data analytics to get the top themes on which to focus. Across the community there is tremendous pride in our vision, which is to inspire Learning and Creativity, which ignites the mind, nurtures the spirit and fulfills the promise of a better future. Everyone feels a sense of pride from that and the role the University plays in the Community.

This also paints a picture of a bigger dream where Marshall is more inclusive, more accessible, and more affordable. It is not just a degree but continues through a lifetime of learning. We will begin to craft that together as a community. We will put words around it going into fall.

The five areas that rose to the top that we plan to tackle and now have action plans in place:

- 1) Reverse the Multi-year enrollment decline by adopting a holistic strategic enrollment strategy. Childhood, not stopping at degree, but when you have a job or opportunity/role in society calling this End to End.

- 2) Improve all students.
- 3) Professional Development of our workforce.
- 4) Build on Equity and Diversity for a dedicated team, policies, and practices.
- 5) Opportunity to strengthen our marketing, lean into digital and write the narrative we want people to hear about our community, city, institution, and our people.

These areas will be called “The Big 5” and will be working toward action plans to start to make an impact in the very near future.

Community: We are Marshall. Our town and gown relationship is second to none. So goes our community, so goes Marshall. Marshall takes our role in this community very seriously. In fact, we just did a revised impact analysis. For every dollar the state puts into Marshall University, we produce a 14x return on that investment. That is 14 times impact, and we will be continuing to build upon. It would not be possible without Mayor Williams, our State, our local leaders, and our community leaders. These partnerships, since our last meeting, have produced:

- Pedestrian safety. We have partnered with Mayor Williams and State Officials, to install a pedestrian walkway on 20<sup>th</sup> Street to access the stadium.
- Road safety audits on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues and until the audits are completed, the speed limits will be reduced in the area around campus to have safe access for our students and pedestrians to cross the street.
- Revitalize the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue sector with a connector to the new College of Business creating a two-block innovation district.
- Plans to partner in the ACF development area.
- Committed to getting a Baseball Stadium built, not just the commitment but with bulldozers moving ground.

At every listening session, someone will ask, “How can we help?” So, we came up with some ways to help. June 20<sup>th</sup> is WV Day; the day WV became a state. It also will be what we are calling “Community Cares Week” at Marshall University. On June 20<sup>th</sup> we invite everyone to pick up a t-shirt and hear exciting ideas if you will come to campus. From June 21<sup>st</sup> through June 24<sup>th</sup>, we invite Community, Alumni and anyone that wants to help with some good old fashioned “taking care of the house” projects. From cleaning to painting to landscaping, we have 45 identified projects. It’ll be a time for food, fun, surprises and sprucing up the house!

President Smith hopes to see everyone attend!

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

VI. Upon a motion by Mr. Stroud, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, the Board entered Executive Session under the authority of WV Code § 6-9A-4 to discuss Personnel Matter, Real Estate, and Matters involving Commercial Competition.

Upon a motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Sheils, and duly passed the Board entered Open Session. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

1) Approval of Program Statement for Horizontal Research Mine Shaft Construction:

Upon a motion by Mr. Sheils, seconded by Mr. Miller, the following resolution was read and passed:

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby approve the Program Statement for Horizontal Research Mine Shaft Construction.*

2) Approval of Athletic Department Personnel Contracts

Dr. D'Antoni stepped out of the meeting.

Upon a motion by Mr. Holcomb, seconded by Mrs. Hurula, and no opposition, the following resolution was read, motion carried, and the contract was approved.

*Resolved, that the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby approve the one athletic department personnel contract addendum as presented and requested by the Athletic Committee.*

3) Approval of The Renaming of the Marshall University Athletic Hall of Fame

Mr. Pennington spoke. He said to become and exemplify the "We" in We are Marshall for all Hall of Famers, and not just himself, he would like the Board to consider the following resolution:

*Resolved, that pursuant to Marshall University Board of Governors Policy No. GA-10, Naming Policy for Units and Facilities and at the request of Mr. Chad Pennington, the Marshall University Board of Governors does hereby approve the renaming of the Chad Pennington Athletic Hall of Fame to the Marshall University Athletic Hall of Fame. It is further resolved that the President of Marshall University is hereby directed to take all necessary steps to effectuate the renaming.*

**VII. Chairman Farrell's Report**

Chairman Farrell reiterated the 3 challenges that the Board had identified one year ago:

1) Financial stability; 2) Affordability for our students by trying to keep tuition low and job opportunities high and 3) Adaptability of the University. We have addressed each of these items today as a Board and the University addressed these challenges head on. We talked about the budget and a plan for financial stability going forward. It takes a lot of effort and clear objectives of where we are and where we want to be. Chairman Farrell feels confident that there is a plan going forward. The second is affordability for our students. There are many first-generation students that as tuition goes up and job opportunities go down, other choices must be made. Today with the administration and President Smith, Chairman Farrell is confident that is being addressed. Third is adaptability and is the most satisfying for him. A lot of changes are ahead, and Chairman Farrell reiterated that doing this together collectively as a group will make it successful. The 38 listening sessions was the President going out and listening with lots of people coming out and sharing their ideas.

Shared governance is not just a Board and President's decision. Dr. Riner is leading the faculty/staff/students sharing how we make decisions together. Mr. Pennington's decision as an alumnus, student athlete, proves this is "We". "We are Marshall" is not just something we say, it is something we live. Chairman Farrell is encouraged our university is moving in the right direction and is excited now about the future more than any other time being a Board Member. Chairman Farrell feels Marshall is on the right track and it is an exciting time at Marshall. He is happy to be a part of it.

#### **VIII. Announcements**

Starting after the August Board Meeting, the Board will begin meeting on Wednesday's instead of Thursday's.

In our June 2022 meeting, this board will choose new officers for the next academic year. If anyone would like to serve on the Nominating Committee, please contact Chairman Farrell.

There were no further announcements.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Without objection, the Board Meeting was adjourned.

