

Regular Business Meeting

Trustees present: Rich Christensen, Jodi Hart-Wilson, Marilee Eyre, Vance Smith, Beverly Burgess, Shannon Dulaney, Sydney Nakken

Excused trustees: Michael Wankier, Myndee Kay Larsen

Others present: Frank Hall, Ann Marie Allen, Lucia Maloy, Bill Heyborne, Matt Zufelt, Mitch Bealer, Mary Jo Anderson, Daniel Bishoff, Debbie Corum, Steve Meredith, Stuart Jones, Robert Eves, Marvin Dodge, Mindy Benson, Trisha Robertson

**Welcome by Chair Christiansen**

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The meeting called to order by Chair Christiansen at 9:08 AM in the Charles Hunter Room.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Minutes from previous meeting**

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The minutes of December 4, 2019 were presented for approval.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Shannon Dulaney; seconded by Vance Smith.

Vote – Unanimous.

**R401: New Emphasis – L.P.N. to B.S.N. (Nursing)**

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Provost Robert Eves: Bridge program from LPN to BSN. STech admits 20 students per year, auto acceptance into this program

Motion to approve: Jeff Carr

Second: Beverly Burgess

Vote – unanimous.

**Policy #11.1 SUUSA Constitution**

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Jeff Carr: Modify student government to accommodate trimester system and operate through the Summer.

Sydney Nakken – with a year-round schedule, when will elections be held?

Elections will remain in March; new officers would start in April. Some officers were already required to be involved through the Summer, new policy expands that view.

Chair Christiansen: Limit to 20% of budget can be used in Summer; is that enough?

Fall semester is expected to continue as the most active semester; 20% will allow for a balanced use of funds.

Changes to reporting structure to align goals and intentions for officer positions.

Judicial branch to remove oversight of government positions from their own body.

Spread work among officers to involve more people.

Motion: Jody Hart-Wilson

Second: Sydney Nakken

Vote – Unanimous

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

- Endowment Report (September 2019)
  - Soltis consulting for one year; familiar with strict investment regulations
  - \$26 million total endowment
- Personnel and Retirements
- Sabbatical Leave Requests
  - Record number of sabbatical requests
  - Fulbright program: competitive scholarship providing financial assistance to faculty and research
  - Requirements of sabbatical: tenure track or terminal degree seeking; support from Dean and Department Chair; propose meaningful sabbatical project and report back; one semester or one-year options; salary is still given to faculty member, coverage of classes by overload and adjunct hires

Motion: Marilee Eyre

Second: Jody Hart-Wilson

Vote - Unanimous

## **INFORMATION & REPORTS**

### **College reports**

#### **Jeff Carr:**

SUUSA constitution update; task force to get students more involved with focus on athletic events; student fees under annual review; accepting applications for elections coming up in March; University student association presidents working on a campaign to get students involved with local and state elections

SUUSA builds videos and updates website to promote and recruit for the University

Student perspective on the trimester program is generally positive. Financial and general support from the University has been received very well.

**Marilee Eyre:**

Magic of Education department is hands on learning. All programs require time in a classroom. Creating more classes to help paraprofessionals, substitute teachers, aides, and others to certify as a teacher.

Head Start – Teaching lifestyle skills such as eating lunch in groups and working together; involving high school students; very grateful for funding and support

**President's report:**

Next Trustee meeting will be at the Aviation hangar with potential opportunities for a helicopter ride.

Aviation spotlight

Video shown: Chuck Aaron James Bond on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3HLacix5rA>

Aviation is exploring a commercial arm to allow pilots to recertify through SUU.

SUU is producing 10% of pilots in the country. We received full approval to host a maintenance program.

Ann Marie introduced Lucia Maloy as new hire in Legal office. Lucia will be helping with Title IX and Title VII. Family ties to SUU; from rural Nevada. Expertise in personnel law.

Marvin introduced Trisha Robertson as new hire in his area; Trisha has an accounting background. She will be also filing in as secretary for the Trustees until an Assistant to the President is on board in March.

Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education by Nathan D. Grawe

Enrollment crisis; book distributed to Trustees. Colleges and Universities on the East Coast have closed for lack of enrollment. Page 6 highlight: Recession in 2007 started a drop in fertility rate. Less children in those years will impact college enrollment starting in 2026. Graph on page 69 illustrates that effect. Higher Education demand index: how dropping enrollment and fertility rate will affect regions, education sector, etc.

Page 101 drop of students leads to drop in faculty and staff positions; steady decline in tenure track and full-time faculty positions. SUU in a better spot with about 50% of funding coming from the state. Other institutions are much more dependent on tuition dollars.

Page 71 Three types of 4 year schools: leads (Harvard), national (BYU, NSU), regional (SUU)

President and Steve Meredith host a podcast exploring more of these ideas

<https://www.suu.edu/presidentspodcast/>

Governor's recommended budget includes a tuition freeze until affordability is defined. Tuition in the state has increased by over 200% in the same time inflation has been 48% and median household income even less.

SUU did not ask for tuition increase last year which puts us in good light. System wide budget evaluation at the state level. Projections have costs exceeding revenues at the state level which is driving tax reform and other discussions.

Marvin believes we are prepared to handle a tight budget year.

Chair Christiansen proposes to close at 10:47 AM

Motion: Jeff Carr

Second: Beverly Burgess