

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

March 1, 2002

The seventh meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors was held on March 1, 2002, at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room in Stewart Hall. Board members in attendance were Vaughn Kiger, Roy Nutter and Paul Martinelli. Members joining by phone were Cathy Armstrong, Hank Barnette, Betty Chilton, Paul Gates, Terry Jones, Doug Leech, Joe Lopez, Tom Potter, Rod Thorn, and Sandra Weese. Absent were Sam Chico and Jeremy Posey

A number of WVU officers and representatives of the press were also present: President, David C. Hardesty, Jr., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research, Gerald Lang, Chief of Staff, Margaret Phillips, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Carolyn Curry, Special Assistant to the President and Provost, Ginny Petersen, Assistant to the Vice President for Administration, Finance and Human Resources, Sherri Belmear, Director of News and Information Services, Becky Lofstead, and Senate Chair –elect, Stan Cohen. Joining by phone were: Campus President and Regional Vice President, Mary Rittling, Potomac State College of West Virginia University; Campus President and Regional Vice President, Eric Bitterbaum, West Virginia University at Parkersburg; Campus President and Regional Vice President, Karen Laroe, and Community College Provost, Jo Harris, West Virginia University Institute of Technology; Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean, WVU School of Medicine, Robert M. D'Alessandri;

The meeting was called to order by Vaughn Kiger, Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Kiger announced that the previously announced meeting date of August 30, 2002 is being changed to September 5th –6th to avoid the Labor Day Week-end. (See attached list of meeting dates.)

ACTION ITEM

President Eric Bitterbaum and Dean Joe Badgely presented information about West Virginia University at Parkersburg's request to add Specializations in Social Studies and English to their baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education. They noted that this action was in response to school board needs.

Mr. Barnette moved That the West Virginia University Board of Governors grant permission for West Virginia University at Parkersburg to pursue 5-9 Specialization in Social Studies and 5-9 Specialization in English as part of their baccalaureate degree in Elementary Education. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Weese asked that these courses be scheduled for week-ends and evenings whenever possible to accommodate teachers schedules. Dr. Badgely noted that they plan to do so.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President David C. Hardesty, Jr. noted that the activities of the Policy Commission and the activities of the Legislature – the two topics on the agenda – are both involved with the financial health and welfare of the University and are intertwined.

President Hardesty reported on the status of six pieces of potential legislation or Policy Commission action:

1. A Land Use bill, which would allow WVU to transfer land to the WVU Research Corporation, enabling the Research Corporation to develop a Research Park.
2. The Promise Scholarship bill, where legislators are debating the merits of allowing scholarship stacking, and lowering eligibility requirements.
3. A Tuition and Fee plan, which would have the effect of shifting the cost of higher education to students and away from state appropriations. He noted that this is happening in many other states.
4. A change in Capital Debt allocation, which would shift the burden of payment to the schools benefiting from a 1992 bond issue, and relieve other schools from paying more than their share in bond repayments.
5. The Governor's proposed 3% cutback in funding, which might be changed to a 1½ percent cutback, and the Chancellor's proposal to redistribute the unused 1½ percent cutback according to the HEPC Peers.
6. A Research funding proposal called for in the Governor's budget, which to be useful, needs to be base budget funding, not one time funding.

President Hardesty expressed his appreciation to David Miller for his hard work and diligence in working with the legislators on pending legislation, and noted that while WVU's interests are of the utmost importance to educators, they sometimes fade in comparison to some of the other very serious issues being dealt with by the legislators.

Mr. Jones noted that legislators need to be reminded that the State benefits from what happens at West Virginia University, that investment in WVU is a positive thing for the entire State, and that West Virginia University can not stand further erosion of its base budget.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Virginia Petersen, Assistant Secretary