



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE WOU BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
NO. 65– November 19- 20, 2024**

**November 19, 2024  
3:00PM-5:00PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. CALL-TO-MEETING / ROLL CALL**

Chair Fasana calls the meeting to order at 3pm on November 19, 2024 and asked Secretary Sorce to do a roll call.

The following Trustees are present: Board Chair Angela Fasana, Board Vice Chair Kari Nelsestuen, Trustee Evans, Trustee Hunter Hall, Trustee Paige Jackson, Trustee Leah Mitchel, Trustee Rey Perez, Trustee Viviana Romero, Trustee Dana Schowalter, Trustee Kate Schwarzler, Trustee Jim Vu, Trustee Mark Zook

The following Trustees were excused: Trustee Jerry Ambris, Trustee Juan Larios

The following staff are present: President Jesse Peters, Evan Sorce, Maggie Bartosovsky Maureen Brakke, Dr. Jose Coll, Michael Ellis, Tina Fuchs, Michael Gonzalez, Michael Green, Kella Helyer, Dr. Kristin Latham-Scott Randi Lydum, Tom Litterer, Brenda Rocio Martinez, Dr. Becka Morgan, Venu Nair, Desiree Noah, Dr. Steve Scheck, Dr. Judy Silva, Jackson Stalley, LouAnn Vickers, Rico Lujan Valerio, Katie Wojke,

**II. CHAIR'S WELCOME**

Chair Fasana starting everyone by welcoming to the beautiful campus and welcomed everyone to her ancestral homeland as a Member of the Confederated Tribe of the Grande Ronde. The tribe has inhabited the land since time immemorial and she emphasized that it is an honor to sit as Chair of the Board of Western Oregon University Board of Trustees. Chair Fasana also remember the audience that the meeting is lived stream and that there is one modification of the agenda that

**III. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

President Peters welcomed everyone to campus and celebrated the fact that after a long period of time, the fences are finally down on Monmouth Ave. Student Success Building is right at completion and move in date is early January. President Peters specifically thanked the Trustees for choosing to



spend their time serving our campus community on the Board of Trustees.

**IV. STUDENTS AT THE CENTER: WOU Men's Soccer Coach, Michael Behonick and Team Members**

President Peters mentioned that the Men's Soccer team won the GNAC Conference this year in only their third year of existence and then introduced Western Oregon University Athletic Director Randi Lydum to introduce the players. AD Lydum mentioned that this fall was a fantastic season for WOU Athletics, led by the Men's Soccer team. Coach Behonick couldn't attend the board meeting because he and the rest of the team were heading to Denver to play the Tournament's first round. In addition, football, volleyball, and cross country also had wonderful seasons. AD Lydum then referred to the PowerPoint that could be found on page 6 of the docket. AD Lydum then handed it off to the players to introduce themselves.

Edgar David Landeros, Sammy Dreyer, and Nathan Martinez introduced themselves and shared their backgrounds, what led them to WOU and what has their experience as an athlete and a student been like at Western. Vice-Chair Nelsestuen asked the students about their fan base. The students answered that they were wonderful. Since they share a field, most of their games are at 1 pm on weekdays. Many families and friends support the team, but if there were night games or weekend games, it could be better. Other athletes come and support the team. Trustee Schowalter asked what the hardest part of balancing soccer life with student life is. They said schoolwork is hard to balance, but they have a lot of support from their coaches and professors. Trustee Vu asked the student-athletes what skills they are learning now that they think will help them when they are out in the workforce. They mentioned that Coach has emphasized that discipline, time management, responsibility, and hard work will make them successful professionally.

**V. STAKEHOLDER UPDATES**

**1) SHARED GOVERNANCE**

**a) ASWOU | Brenda Rocio Martinez**

ASWOU President Brenda Rocio Martinez gave her update to the Board of Trustees. She started by sharing that ASWOU is updated the process in which Student Members of the Board of Trustees are nominated. They are also working out and revisioning of ASWOU that includes a new website, new space for clubs and organizations as well as thinking about different ways to reach out to and engage students.

**b) Faculty Senate | Dr. Steve Scheck**



Dr. Steve Scheck, President of the Faculty Senate, gave the Faculty Senate report which can be found on page nine of the docket.

c) Staff Senate | Alexis Morrison

Alexis Morrison, President of the Staff Senate, gave the Staff Senate report which can be found on page 10 of the docket.

2) **UNION**

a) SEIU | Jackson Stalley

Jackson Stalley, President of the WOU082 Union, and Michael Gonzalez, a member of WOU082, spoke on behalf of the classified staff union. Mr. Stalley started by mentioning that he appreciated coffee events like the Coffee with the Trustee events and thought they were important in breaking down real and imaginary barriers to communication. Mr. Stalley emphasized that although there are still challenges, he appreciated that the leadership team has worked on some long and persistent problems and developed systems to address them. Mr. Stalley also emphasized that WOU 082 is eagerly awaiting the results of the Climate Survey and looks forward to hearing how the administration plans to address the survey results. Mr. Stalley then handed it off to Michael Gonzalez, who talked about different opportunities for staff to build community, including a monthly breakfast and a staff recognition Men's basketball game on December 17th.

b) WOUFT | Dr. Melanie Landon-Hayes

Dr. Melanie Landon-Hayes is at a conference and therefore could not present to the Board. WOUFT's report is in the docket on page 12 for preview.

**VI. CYBER SECURITY PRESENTATION**

- 1) Public Presentation – Tom Litterer - Director of University Computing Solutions & Michael Ellis – Chief Information Security Officer and Assistant Director of University Computing Solutions.

Chair Fasana introduced Tom Litterer, Director of University Computing Solution, and Michael Ellis- Chief Information Security Officer and Assistant Director of University Computing Solutions, to present their report, which can be found on page 15 of the docket for review. After the presentation, Trustee Hall asked if multifactor authentication is required for student workers. The answer is currently no. The goal is to move to a place where student employees are evaluated by their work scope to determine if they need to use multifactor authentication. Trustee Zook asked about regulatory pressures. Mr. Ellis answered that the external auditors look for GLBA compliance, and there are potentially severe consequences if these standards are not met, including the



potential loss of federal financial aid funds. Hence, the university takes that compliance quite seriously.

## 2) Executive Session

Following the public part of the Cyber Security Presentation, the Western Oregon University Board of Trustees will meet in executive session to consider matters relating to cyber security infrastructure and responses to cyber security threats pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(p). Representatives of institutionalized news media are permitted to attend under ORS 192.660(4) on the condition that matters discussed in the executive session remain undisclosed. Pursuant to ORS 192.660(6), no final action may be, or will be, taken in executive session. The following staff were asked to attend the executive session Michael Ellis, Tom Litterer, Michael Green, Nathan Sauer, Venu Nair, LouAnn Vickers, Evan Sorce, Tina Fuchs, Maureen Brakke, Desiree Noah, Randi Lydum, Dominique Vargas, Katie Wojke, Dr. Jose Coll, Ricardo Lujan Valerio

## VII. RECESS

Chair Fasana recessed the meeting until Wednesday November 20 at 10am.

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**November 20, 2024**

**CAMPUS COFFEE CHAT  
9:00-9:45AM**

**WERNER UNIVERSITY CENTER | FIRST FLOOR, ACROSS FROM THE FREEDOM  
CENTER**

**PUBLIC MEETING 10:00AM-3:00PM  
WERNER UNIVERSITY CENTER | COLUMBIA ROOM**

**I. CALL-TO-MEETING / ROLL CALL**

Vice Chair Kari Nelsestuen called the meeting to order at 10:02am on Wednesday November 20, 2024 and asked Secretary Sorce to do a Roll Call

The Following Trustees were Present: Chair Angela Fasana (Arrived at noon) Vice Chair Kari Nelsestuen, Trustee Jerry Ambris, Trustee Gale Evans, Trustee Page Jackson, Trustee Betty Komp, Trustee Juan Larios, Trustee Ray Perez, Trustee Viviana Romero, Trustee Dana Schowalter, Trustee Kate Schwarzler, Trustee Jim Vu

The Following Trustees were Excused: Chair Fasana, Trustee Hunter Hall, Trustee Mark Zook

The following staff are present: President Jesse Peters, Evan Sorce, Maureen Brakke, Dr. Jose Coll, Michael Ellis, Breeann Flesch, Tina Fuchs, Dr. Mark Girod, Michael Green, Kella Helyer, Dr. Kristin Latham-Scott Randi Lydum, Cameron Mortensen, Venu Nair, Desiree Noah, Dr. Judy Silva, Jackson Stalley, LouAnn Vickers, Rico Lujan Valerio, Katie Wojke,

**II. CHAIR'S WELCOME**

Understanding that there is a large number of new Trustees, Vice Chair Nelsestuen asked to go around the table and introduce themselves and mention how they are connected to WOU and a one-word superpower that you have. Each board member shared and then Vice Chair Nelsestuen added that Chair Fasana had a pre-scheduled event and will be back to Chair the meeting as soon as she can.

Vice-Chair Nelsestuen spent some time sharing that she spent time on WOU's website and mentioned a couple updates she found particularly interested including some grants that the university has received as well as recent events. She mentioned at the top of the website the three words "WE GOT YOU" and



that the meeting yesterday was all about those three words from the soccer players sharing their experience, to the stakeholder updates, and the cybersecurity presentation.

Lastly Vice-Chair Nelsestuen reminded the board and audience that the meeting is being live streamed and that there will be two public comment periods near the beginning of the meeting and near the end of the meeting. The sign up sheet to testify in person is on the front table near the door.

**III. CONSET AGENDA**

- 1) Meeting Minutes:
  - a) **April 16-17, 2024 Meeting Minutes**
  - b) **June 11-12, 2024 Meeting Minutes**
  - c) **August 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

**2) FY25 Management Report (As of September 30, 2024)**

Trustee Romero moved and Trustee Mitchell seconds to approve the consent agenda as listed in the docket. There was no additional discussion.

Roll Call Vote on the motion:

Vice Chair Nelsestuen:	Aye
Trustee Ambris:	Aye
Trustee Evans	Aye
Trustee Komp:	Aye
Trustee Jackson	Aye
Trustee Larios:	Aye
Trustee Mitchell	Aye
Trustee Perez	Aye
Trustee Romero	Aye
Trustee Schowalter	Aye
Trustee Schwarzler	Aye:
Trustee Vu	Aye

Motion Passes 12-0-0

**IV. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was given at this time.

**V. STAKEHOLDER UPDATES**

- 1) **WOU FOUNDATION REPORT** | Katie Wojke, Vice President for Advancement





Katie Wojke presented her report, which can be found on page 57 in Appendix B of the Docket for review. President Peters mentioned how Katie was instrumental to two new brewery partnerships with local breweries (Parallel 45 and Xicha) both have made WOU beers which part of the proceeds going to scholarships to support WOU students. Additionally, Trustee Evans expressed her appreciation to Katie and her team for the progress they have made in fundraising and towards the Capital Campaign goal.

- 2) **LEGISLATIVE REPORT** | Ricardo “Rico” Lujan Valerio, Director of
- 3) Government Relations

Ricardo Lujan Valerio presented his Legislative report to the Board of Trustees. His report can be found on page 12 of Appendix B in the docket for Review, and in addition to his report, Mr. Lujan Valerio added that since the recent election, the Democrats now have a supermajority in the Senate and likely one in the House. This means that Democrats have complete control of the agenda in the Legislature. This potentially has an impact on how higher education is funded. The most recent revenue forecast showed a pretty rosy outcome with an additional \$2 billion in revenue. This could alleviate some of the concerns the Governor’s office and legislators had. The forecast was promising, but more to come. Vice Chair Nelsestuen asked how the Board could be helpful in the upcoming session. Mr. Lujan Valerio mentioned they will plan a lobby day in late April or early May. Would love the Board to participate on that day actively.

## **VI. PRESIDENT’S REPORT** | President Jesse Peters

President Jesse Peters presented his report, which can be found on page 25 of the docket for review. Trustee Romero asked President Peters if there is a plan to reduce the number of online classes because, as a student, they are frustrated that some of their required classes are online, and the online fee creates an additional cost that could be a barrier. President Peters thanked Trustee Romero for the perspective and said that the Provost and the President are working on a plan to rethink the number of online classes offered and how online classes are offered at WOU.

## **VII. BREAK**

At 11:33am, Vice Chair Nelsestuen gaveled the meeting into recessed for thirty minutes to allow the Board members to take a break and get lunch before the meeting is reconvened for the showcase presentation.

**Please Note: at Noon Chair Fasana arrived.**

At 12:05 Chair Fasana gaveled the board back into session. Chair Fasana gave gratitude to catering for preparing the delicious meal as well as everyone who works behind the scenes to make the board meetings flow so smoothly.



**VIII. LUNCH / SHOWCASE PRESENTATION: Facilities & Capital Construction**

Update: Presenters Include:

- 1) Rebecca Chiles – Assistant Vice President for Safety & Operations
- 2) Jason Krawczyk – Director of Capital Planning & Construction

Chair Fasana introduced Jason Krawczyk, Director of Capital Planning and Construction, and Rebecca Chiles, Assistant Vice President for Safety and Operations. Their report is on page 41 of the docket.

Director Krawczyk presented first, and there were no questions after his presentation. Assistant Vice President Chiles presented on behalf of Facilities and Public Safety. Trustee Romero asked if there is a plan to replant trees to replace the ones removed as part of the steam pipeline project. Assistant Vice President Chiles responded that for every tree cut down, there is a plan to replant, but that facilities would love to hear from students about where they would want to see a tree planted and what kind of trees they want to see on campus. Trustee Perez asked if facilities use a software system to remind the team of needed maintenance and replacement of equipment across campus. The Assistant Vice President responded that there is a software system that reminds and informs staff of required maintenance as well as a central database for work orders, etc.

**IX. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (FAC)**

- 1) Committee Chair Report | Trustee Gayle Evans

Trustee Evans gave the Finance and Administration Committee Report. The Finance and Administration Committee met for three hours on November 5th. Welcomed many new members of the committee. Trustee Evans thanked Interim VP for Finance and Administration Mike Green for his willingness to join the university in an interim role and help make some critical improvements. Trustee Evans also expressed her sincere appreciation to Director of Budget and Planning Camarie Moreno for her years of guidance and support of the committee and for stepping up when Ana Karaman had to step away. Lastly, she expressed appreciation to Darrin Silbernagel, who came out of retirement for a second time to help support the university during this transition. During the November 5th meeting, the committee approved the management report that is in the docket in the consent agenda. The committee also heard updates from the University Budget Advisory Committee and the University Technology Advisory Committee and an update from the Finance and Administration team. The big lift was to move the FY 25 Adjusted Budget to the board for consideration.

- 2) Committee Recommendations for Board Discussion/Action
  - a. Approval of FY 2025 Adjusted Budget





Trustee Evans asked Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Green and Director of Budget and Planning Camarie Moreno to present the FY 2025 Adjusted Budget. The budget can be found on page 66 of the docket for review. After the presentation, Chair Fasana asked Trustees if there were any questions. Trustee Komp asked about how bargaining went with the faculty. President Peters said he wished Dr. Landon-Hayes could attend the meeting because she would probably have loved sharing how she thought the process went. Both sides mutually agreed on using interest-based bargaining. People engaged in a way that promoted good conversation, and both sides reached an agreement that was ratified by the union. Trustee Komp appreciated both sides working together and found a path to agreement without too much delay. Trustee Ambris asked what the best practice of the fund balance as a percentage of revenue is. The board has a policy to keep that percentage between 5 and 15 percent, with a target of 10 to 12 percent. The proposed adjusted budget is slightly about that 12 percent target. Trustee Vu asked where the 10 to 12 percent fund balance is compared to other universities. Acting VPFA Green said that 10 to 12 percent is pretty on track of with the universities across the state of Oregon. Trustee Jackson asked what the logic was around cutting the fee remissions budget. Interim VPFA Green said they looked at the budget actuals for the last few years and reduced the budget to be closer to what the university typically spends in these remissions.

Trustee Evans moves and Trustee Vu seconded that the Western Oregon University Board of Trustees approves the FY 25 Adjusted Budget as presented in the budget.

Roll Call for the Proposed Motion:

Board Chair Fasana:	Aye
Vice Chair Nelsestuen:	Aye
Trustee Ambris:	Aye
Trustee Evans	Aye
Trustee Komp:	Aye
Trustee Jackson	Aye
Trustee Larios:	Aye
Trustee Mitchell	Aye
Trustee Perez	Aye
Trustee Romero	Aye
Trustee Schowalter	Aye
Trustee Schwarzler	Aye:
Trustee Vu	Aye

**X. ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (ASAC)**



1) Committee Chair Report | Trustee Leah Mitchell

Trustee Mitchell gave an update on the last Academic & Student Affairs Committee, which was held on November 18, 2024. The committee heard an informative update from Athletic Director Lydum regarding athletics. They talked about how athletics has been a part of the campus that has grown in athletics. The committee also discussed the strategic plans for Athletics, Academic Affairs, and Student Affairs. This information can be reviewed by looking at the November 18, 2024, Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting. It was clear to Trustee Mitchell that we have excellent leadership on this campus who have put a lot of time and effort into this process.

**XI. DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, & ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE (DEIAC)**

1) Committee Chair Report | Trustee Jerry Ambris

Trustee Ambris mentioned a bit of what happened at the October 17 DEIAC and then introduced Executive Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Dominique Vargas to speak give an Equity Assessment update.

2) Committee Recommendations for Board Discussion/Action

- a. Equity Assessment Update | Office of Diversity Equity Inclusion  
Executive Director Dominique Vargas

Executive Director Vargas gave her update, which can be found on page 72 of the docket for review. After Executive Director Vargas' presentation, Trustee Ambris thanked her for her hard work and leadership through this process and expressed excitement for Dr. Jordan Shelby West's presentation in late January.

**XII. EXECUTIVE, GOVERNANCE & TRUSTEESHIP COMMITTEE (EGTC)**

1) Committee Chair Report | Board Chair Angela Fasana

Chair Fasana gave the Committee Chair Report. The Executive, Governance, and Trusteeship Committee (EGTC) met on October 28, 2024. During the meeting, the committee received an update from the Internal Audit Team. Additionally, the committee debriefed the Board Retreat among themselves and then with Dr. Ellen Chaffe, the Associated Governing Boards Consultant we used for the retreat. Lastly, the committee had a robust conversation about goal setting for the 2024-2025 Academic year. The committee asked Secretary Sorce to work with senior leadership to create a framework template that ties in with the strategic plan for goal-setting conversations in each committee.

**XIII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was given at this time.



**XIV. ANNOUNCEMENT/COMMENTS**

Please RSVP to President's Club Dinner or the Winter Reception if you are planning on attending the events.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Fasana adjourns the meeting at 2pm