

MINUTES

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

March 15, 2012

1. Call to Order

Chairman David Hendrickson convened a meeting of the West Virginia University Institute of Technology Revitalization Committee at 1:30 PM on the campus of West Virginia University Institute of Technology in the Tech Center Ballroom, 405 Fayette Pike, Montgomery, West Virginia and by conference call. The following Committee members were present: George "Matt" Edwards, Robert Griffith, David Hendrickson, Paul Hill, Bill Hutchens, Carolyn Long, Dorothy Phillips, Ed Robinson, Garth Thomas, and Bruce Walker. Absent: John Estep.

2. Introduction of Committee Members

Chairman Hendrickson asked each Committee member to provide a brief introduction and an overview of their role in the Committee and with the institution.

3. Welcome by Chairman David Hendrickson

Chairman Hendrickson provided a welcome to the Committee and those in attendance. He stated that he is looking forward to working with the Committee and the entire campus community to build a brighter future for the institution.

Chairman Hendrickson noted that the Committee will focus on reviewing academic programs and campus facilities in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of campus operations and student outcomes. This work will be led by the Academics and Facilities Subcommittees with regular reports to the full Committee. The Committee will meet in the months to come in order to establish a plan to be released on or around December 1, 2012 for subsequent presentation to the West Virginia University Board of Governors, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, and ultimately, the West Virginia Legislature.

Chairman Hendrickson encouraged individuals to sign-up to receive updates regarding the work of the Academics and Facilities Subcommittees. He also encouraged individuals to sign-up to address the Committee and those in attendance as part of the public comment opportunity near the close of the meeting.

4. Overview from Chancellor Paul Hill and Campus Executive Officer Carolyn Long

Chancellor Paul Hill provided an overview of several higher education indicators both at the institutional and state levels. Campus Executive Officer Carolyn Long reviewed the institution's academic profile including Fall enrollment, headcount enrollment by major and gender, and classroom utilization as well as dashboard and trend data.

As part of her presentation, Campus Executive Officer Long reported on the concept of a Student Success Center aimed at increasing the institution's retention and graduation rates. The Center, which is to be located in the Vining Library, will provide increased student support through academic advising, counseling, etc.

Dr. Griffith moved approval of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the West Virginia University Institute of Technology Revitalization Committee approves the Student Success Center for further staff review and subsequent implementation contingent upon available funding.

Ms. Phillips seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Campus Executive Officer Long noted that everyone may not agree on the process, but everyone must work together in order to secure a better future for the institution. In closing, both Chancellor Hill and Campus Executive Officer Long noted that the materials from their presentations are available online at www.wvhepc.org/wvutech.

5. Subcommittee Reports

A. Facilities

Dr. Ed Magee, the Commission's Vice Chancellor for Finance, provided an overview of a report by Sightlines that was conducted in May 2011. The report includes a comprehensive review of all campus facilities with recommendations for future facilities planning and management. Dr. Magee noted that the Facilities Subcommittee will review the Sightlines report and the institution's 2006-2010 facilities plan and provide recommendations at future Committee meetings.

In addition to the facilities review, Dr. Magee noted that the institution ran out of cash in March 2010. Furthermore, in order to keep the institution operating, West Virginia University has been providing regular cash infusions, totaling more than \$9.2 million. Dr. Magee estimated that the institution will require another \$2.2 million from West Virginia University throughout 2012. Dr. Magee provided an overview of a revenues and expenses document, which is available at www.wvhepc.org/wvutech.

B. Academics

Mr. Patrick Crane, the Commission's Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, provided an overview of follow-up information as requested by the Academics Subcommittee. Mr. Crane's presentation included the average nine-month salary of full-time instructional faculty by rank, a profile of Bridgemont Community and Technical College, total degrees and certificates conferred by the institution and Bridgemont Community and Technical College from 2006 through 2010, and student faculty ratios for the state's public and private institutions. Mr. Crane noted that the institution's ratio of 11:1 is at or below the state's private institutions and significantly below all of the state's public institutions. Mr. Crane noted that the information is available at www.wvhepc.org/wvutech.

6. Overview of Survey and Responses

Mr. Crane provided an overview of the results received from an online survey, which was launched in late February. To date, 75 individuals have responded with a variety of ideas to assist the institution in terms of mission/role, strengths, areas of improvement, new academic programs, facility/infrastructure needs, and student recruitment initiatives. Mr. Crane noted that the responses varied widely with a full summary available at www.wvhepc.org/wvutech. In closing, Mr. Crane noted that the survey will remain open and updates will be provided at future Committee meetings.

7. Presentation from Textbook Publishing Representatives Regarding Possible E-Textbook Pilot Program

Dr. Debra Volzer, Senior Executive Director at Pearson Learning Solutions, and Mr. Reid Yanchar, Director of Institutional Solution at Cengage Learning, gave presentations regarding the availability and utilization of e-learning courses and materials. In today's technological society, Dr. Volzer and Mr. Yanchar encouraged the Committee to examine ways to expand the institution's reach with students outside of the immediate service area through online learning and the engagement of technology with on-campus students.

8. Open Dialogue with Campus Community

Chairman Hendrickson offered a reminder that those in attendance had an opportunity to sign up to address the Committee throughout the course of the meeting and asked Ashley Schumaker, the Commission's Senior Director of Board and Public Relations, to report on the sign-ups. Ms. Schumaker reported that four individuals asked to address the community and would be allotted five minutes each. She noted that individuals were to come to the podium to address the audience.

9. Discussion of Next Steps

Chairman Hendrickson announced that the next full Committee meeting will be held on-campus during the afternoon of May 15, 2012. He noted that additional meeting details would be provided to the Committee, the campus community, the media, and the general public.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

David K. Hendrickson

Chairman

Robert Griffith

Academics Subcommittee Chair

Ed Robinson

Facilities Subcommittee Chair