

MINUTES

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

September 5, 2013

The University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, September 5, 2013, in Carter Hall in the University Center. Present were Chair Ted C. Ziemer Jr. and Trustees Ira G. Boots; W. Harold Calloway; Brenden J. Davidson '15; John M. Dunn; Amy W. MacDonell; and Ronald D. Romain '73. Trustees Jeffrey L. Knight and Kenneth L. Sendelweck '76 were absent. Also in attendance were President Linda L. M. Bennett; Provost Ronald S. Rochon; Vice President for Finance and Administration Mark Rozewski; Vice President for Government and University Relations Cynthia S. Brinker; Faculty Senate Chair Mary Hallock Morris; and Student Government Association President Zachary Mathis.

Chair Ted Ziemer called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

SECTION I – GENERAL AND ACADEMIC MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2013, MEETING

On a motion by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Romain, the minutes of the July 11, 2013, meeting of the Board of Trustees were approved.

B. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION

Mr. Ziemer called on Vice President Brinker, who announced the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Thursday, November 7, 2013, on campus.

Vice President Brinker referred the Trustees to a handout about a Board Development Workshop sponsored by the Association of Governing Boards to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 24, 2013. She invited the Trustees to contact the President's Office if they wished to attend the workshop.

C. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ziemer called on President Bennett, who noted the excitement among students, faculty, and visitors who attended the topping out ceremony for the Teaching Theatre Project earlier in the day. She thanked the Trustees for attending and sharing in the event.

President Bennett made the following statement related to enrollment.

" 'You're really growing out there.' That's the first comment I hear about USI. I always follow up with descriptions about the latest event or program we are launching, or the success of our graduates, but the narrative about USI is fundamentally about enrollment growth. And why shouldn't it be? From our founding as Indiana State University Evansville in 1965 to our break for independence in 1985 and emergence as the University of Southern Indiana, it has been a remarkable story of growth. That growth has sparked a cultural shift in educational attainment in this region and we are proud of our role in that shift. When we became the University of Southern Indiana in 1985, barely one in three high school graduates in this region continued their education in a post-secondary institution. Today 84 percent of high school graduates seek to continue their education. We are proud of the educational opportunities we have provided to Indiana residents and to students from across this nation and around the world.

"With recent headlines about our drop in enrollment, I've been asked questions about whether USI will continue to grow its enrollment. The short answer is 'yes.' We have been on an intentional path to raise expectations for all of our entering students. We will be organizing for greater recruitment and retention effectiveness with the end goal being

a growth in the enrollment of college-ready students. The irony amidst the decline in enrollment this year is that we could not accept all highly qualified applicants to our high-demand programs in the health professions and engineering because we need more full-time faculty to meet the intense demand for those programs.

"USI's leadership in fields including science education, health professions, business and accounting, engineering, and the arts, among many other fields, will continue and expand. We have a compact with Indiana to produce the graduates who will be tomorrow's leaders. Many of today's leaders already have a USI degree. Growth will continue to be an important part of our story, but the excellence of our programs, the strength of our partnerships with area businesses, and our graduates' commitments to their communities describe our greatest impact."

President Bennett referred the Trustees to two data dashboards in their handouts. One dashboard compares USI with other state institutions of higher education. The other is an Institutional Snapshot, which was shared with all faculty and staff at the annual fall meetings. It contains student and faculty profiles and important data related to assessment and the strategic plan.

Dr. Bennett called on Provost Rochon, who introduced Dr. Wesley Durham, director of Graduate Studies, for a report titled *Graduate Studies: Present and Future*. Dr. Durham began by comparing graduate studies at USI with national trends. He noted that while enrollment declined approximately two percent for two consecutive years nationally, USI's enrollment increased by approximately 16 percent from fall 2010 to fall 2012. Dr. Durham reported on challenges that could limit future growth in Graduate Studies, including:

- High demand graduate programs are at or near capacity, leaving minimal opportunity for growth in the programs (Master of Science in Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Master of Social Work, and Master of Science in Occupational Therapy);
- New policies regarding distance education for programs leading to licensure have temporarily decreased Master of Science in Nursing enrollment for 2013-2014; and
- Changes in state requirements for teachers have resulted in an enrollment decrease in the Master of Science in Education program.

New graduate program development is essential for continued enrollment growth, and Dr. Durham noted it should be guided by needs assessment data. There is an opportunity for USI to develop innovative, cross-disciplinary programs and to explore more distance, hybrid, and accelerated formats in appropriate programs. He noted the importance of graduate assistantships and the USI Foundation funds that provided for \$120,000 in graduate scholarships and grants in 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. Dr. Durham concluded his report by sharing the following steps toward growth in graduate studies: developing new programs; refining existing programs; more effective marketing; and securing additional funds.

In answer to questions from the Trustees about how USI could increase capacity in high demand programs, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions Ann White explained the differential tuition for graduate programs approved by the Board of Trustees at its July 2013 meeting will provide funds to hire additional faculty and expand the program.

President Bennett asked Professor Mary Hallock Morris, chair of Faculty Senate, for a report from the Senate. Dr. Hallock Morris reported the Senate held a fall retreat in August 2013. Kristalyn Shefveland of the College of Liberal Arts was elected secretary, Jason Fertig of the Romain College of Business was elected vice chair, and faculty appointments to various University committees were made. In other business, the Faculty Senate Assessment Committee was charged with recommending an assessment data management program. In an effort to maintain open communication, Dr. Hallock Morris has invited members of the USI community to attend Senate meetings to discuss topics including assessment, the final report of the University Core Curriculum Task Force, issues related to the library, University budget, marketing and identity, and the Campus Action Response and Engagement of Students in Distress (C.A.R.E.) Team. Professor Morris concluded her report by reporting an update of the Faculty Senate web site is underway.

President Bennett called on Student Government Association President Zack Mathis for a report. Mr. Mathis reported SGA is working to develop new criteria for travel grants and student organization support grants in alignment with its new Travel Policy. He reported the organization is planning its annual National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, and hopes to schedule Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller and State Senator James Merritt to visit USI to discuss the Indiana Lifeline Law. USI's Student Government Association played a significant role, along with student organizations at Purdue University and Indiana University, in promoting passage of the law. Mr. Mathis concluded by reporting SGA members are involved in Tutor-A-Thon, a weekly student-organized tutoring session.

Dr. Bennett called on Athletics Director Jon Mark Hall for an update on the department of athletics. Mr. Hall was pleased to report USI had four Academic All-Americans in 2012-2013. They are Susan Ellsperman, women's soccer; Austin Andrekus, men's soccer; Brad Wannemuehler, baseball; and Ben Boesing, men's tennis. Mr. Boesing also received the Elite 89 Award from the NCAA, an honor that was a first in the history of the USI athletics program. The Elite 89 recognizes the true essence of the student athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in his or her sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her peers. The Elite 89 is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's 89 championships. Mr. Hall reported 121 student-athletes and seven athletic teams were recognized as All-Conference performers by the Great Lakes Valley Conference

On the playing fields, USI teams won three conference championships in 2012-2013. The men's cross country team won its eighth straight conference championship and its twentieth in the 33-year history of the championship meet. The men's cross country program continues to be the most decorated program of any conference program in any sport. The women's cross country team won the team championship for the seventh time in program history. The men's tennis team claimed a conference championship, hosted the NCAA regional on our USI campus, and won the regional to advance to the NCAA Championships Final Sixteen.

Mr. Hall reported USI and the Evansville community hosted three conference championships in 2012-2013 for men's basketball, women's basketball, and baseball. He announced that the GLVC men's and women's basketball championships will return to Evansville in 2013-2014 and he reported that a plan to bring the GLVC Baseball Championships to the city is nearly complete. In 2014, the Evansville community will host the NCAA Division II National Basketball Championships, the Elite Eight, at the Ford Center. USI has worked with the Evansville Sports Corporation to bring this national championship to town. Mr. Hall reported the goal is to continue bringing GLVC and NCAA Championship events to the Evansville community. In Great Lakes Valley Conference news, Mr. Hall reported that Truman State University will join the conference this season. With the addition of Truman State, the conference has six state institutions and ten private institutions. He reported Kentucky Wesleyan College will no longer compete in the GLVC, following its transition to the Great Midwest Conference. Mr. Hall concluded by reporting that NCAA Division II has 315 member institutions. Fifty-one percent of members are public institutions and 49 percent are private institutions.

Dr. Bennett acknowledged that while USI desires to be very competitive in athletics and strives to win, the University has an athletics staff who understand and emphasize that they work with student-athletes. She expressed her appreciation for athletes who excel in the classroom and also are excellent competitors on the field. She thanked Mr. Hall for setting the tone in athletics and for a job well done.

President Bennett announced the ribbon cutting for the Applied Engineering Center is scheduled for Friday, September 20, 2013, at 2 p.m. She invited the Trustees to attend the opening of the facility.

D. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Academic Affairs Committee met prior to the Board of Trustees meeting on September 5, 2013. Mr. Ziemer called on Committee Chair Harold Calloway, who reported the Committee heard a report about the University's archaeology research program in New Harmony. Provost Rochon added that Professor Michael Strezewski's presentation brought history to life as he described how he and his students discovered details of the Harmonists' town planning, household configurations, religious practices, and life style.

E. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2013 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Mr. Ziemer asked Vice President Rozewski to review two 2013 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements in Exhibit I-A. Mr. Rozewski recommended approval of the statements. Indiana Code 35-41-1-3 describes conflict of interest on the part of a public servant and provides for the filing of a disclosure statement regarding possible conflicts of interest. The statement must be reviewed by the Board of Trustees and forwarded to the State Board of Accounts. The University requires statements of trustees and senior staff, including those with no potential conflicts of interest to disclose. A list of individuals who have submitted a Possible Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for calendar year 2013 is in Exhibit I-A.

On a motion by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Boots, the disclosure statements described in Exhibit I-A were approved.

SECTION II – FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. REPORT OF THE FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Finance/Audit Committee met prior to the Board of Trustees meeting on September 5, 2013. In the absence of Committee Chair Jeff Knight, Mr. Ziemer called on John Dunn for a report. Mr. Dunn reported the Committee took the following action:

- Approved a recommendation for 2014-2015 housing rates. This recommendation will be presented to the Board later in this agenda;
- Approved a recommendation for 2014-2015 meal plan rates. This recommendation will be presented to the Board later in this agenda;
- Reviewed the audits completed by the Internal Audit Department thus far in 2013 and reviewed the revised audit plan;
- Approved a recommendation to request general repair and rehabilitation funds. This will be presented to the Board later in the agenda;
- Approved a construction change order for the Teaching Theatre Project; and
- Reviewed construction change orders for the Teaching Theatre Project previously approved by Vice President Rozewski.

B. APPROVAL OF 2014-2015 HOUSING RATES

Mr. Ziemer called on Vice President Rozewski to review the proposed 2014-2015 housing rates. Mr. Rozewski reported student housing at USI includes 580 apartments in 43 buildings and 236 suites in four residence halls. In fall 2013, student housing opened at 91 percent occupancy, down approximately three percent from fall 2012. Most of the decline was in new housing contracts.

Mr. Rozewski proposed a rate increase of \$55 per semester (2.75 percent). The proposed rate will be \$2,070 per semester for a double occupancy room. He reported the increase is necessary for the operation to continue to meet its debt coverage ratios, and to allow for a small salary increase for the staff in 2014-2015. USI continues to offer the most affordable air-conditioned double occupancy room among state-supported institutions in Indiana.

He reported on the summer rehab program designed to keep the housing complex in good condition. The budget funds a \$750,000 summer rehab program during which every unit is cleaned and repaired as needed. In recent years, eight apartment buildings have been completely renovated, a program that will continue as surpluses over budget allow. The renovation was done for approximately \$9,300 per bed. Mr. Rozewski noted because the structures are sound, the floor plans popular, and the square footage is adequate, the renovation projects will extend the service life of the buildings for another 10-15 years.

He noted that operating college housing is about more than selling shelter. It is ultimately about creating a living environment supportive of a student's academic success and provides for a full college experience. To that end, Student Affairs is heavily involved in day-to-day operations and programming in the complex. Mr. Rozewski further noted, while high quality affordable student housing has always been critical to USI, it will play a more essential role as the University broadens its geographic reach, and it is well positioned in price and quality to do so.

Upon a recommendation of the Finance/Audit Committee, the following 2014-2015 housing rates were approved:

		<u>CURRENT RATE</u>	<u>PROPOSED RATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
<u>FALL OR SPRING SEMESTER</u>				
<u>McDONALD or O'DANIEL APARTMENT</u>				
Two Bedroom:	Two students per bedroom	\$2,015	\$2,070	7-01-14
	One student per bedroom	3,600	3,699	7-01-14
One Bedroom:	Two students	2,430	2,497	7-01-14
	One student	4,515	4,639	7-01-14

GOVERNORS, NEWMAN, O'BANNON, or RUSTON HALL

One and Two Bedroom:	Two students per bedroom	\$2,015	\$2,070	7-01-14
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SUMMER SESSIONS

Summer session rates are pro-rated to fall and spring semester rates.

C. APPROVAL OF 2014-2015 MEAL PLAN RATES

Mr. Dunn called on Vice President Rozewski to review the recommendation for 2014-2015 meal plan rates. Mr. Rozewski proposed an increase of \$69 per semester (\$4.31 per week) for the primary meal plan, an increase of 3.75 percent. Approximately 920 students purchase this plan, and 1,250 students buy smaller plans.

The increase will accommodate food cost increases in 2014-2015 and will allow for slight growth in content. Mr. Rozewski reported the University's profit in 2012-2013 was \$430,000 and the rent paid by food services provider Sodexo was \$318,000.

Students who live in the residence halls (Governors, Newman, O'Bannon, and Ruston) are required to purchase a resident meal plan. Three plans (Red, White, and Blue Eagle) offer different combinations of meals in The Loft and discretionary spending at other dining venues on campus. The proposed rate allows for normal increases in food and labor costs.

Upon a recommendation of the Finance/Audit Committee, the following meal plan rates for 2014-2015 were approved:

FALL OR SPRING SEMESTER

	<u>CURRENT RATE</u>	<u>PROPOSED RATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Red, White, or Blue Eagle Meal Plan	\$1,825	\$1,894	7-01-14

Students who live in apartments (McDonald or O'Daniel) are required to purchase \$50 in Munch Money for use in any dining venue on campus.

Approval of the proposed meal plan rates for 2014-2015 is recommended.

D. UPDATE ON CURRENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Mr. Ziemer called on Vice President Rozewski, who introduced director of Facilities Operations and Planning Steve Helfrich for a report on current construction projects. Exhibit II-A is a summary of the cost and funding sources for each project.

Mr. Helfrich reported eight construction and renovation projects have been completed in time for the fall semester. The Applied Engineering Center construction is complete and new equipment has been installed. The laboratories and classrooms are in use and the faculty has moved into the offices in the facility. The reconstruction of Bennett Lane, the third phase of the Loop Road Project, was complete and open for traffic as planned in mid-August. The project has improved traffic flow and the safety of pedestrians by adding a raised crosswalk and improved site lighting.

Renovations to the Mount Building in McDonald East Complex, the Wallace Building in O'Daniel South Complex, and the Baker Building are complete. Mr. Helfrich reported that since summer 2011, eight student apartment buildings have been completely renovated.

In mid-July, the Bookstore Renovation Project was completed and the new Campus Store opened. The renovation work in the Eagle's Nest dining area, immediately outside the Campus Store, is now complete.

Mr. Helfrich reported on the completed renovation of two computer laboratories on campus and the Simulation Laboratory in the Health Professions Center. One computer lab is in the Recreation and Fitness Center and the other, a mathematics lab, is in the Education Center.

The one project under construction is the Teaching Theatre Project. Mr. Helfrich reported approximately 90 percent of the structural steel is in place. When the steel is complete, the decking for the roof will be installed and the roof system installation will begin. The installation of the stone and brick exterior will begin soon, and Mr. Helfrich reported the goal is for the building to be water tight before winter so interior work can continue.

Other work on the Theatre Project includes setting air handling units, installing piping for the heating and cooling systems, setting the main electrical switchgear and transformer, and installation of the electrical feeder conduits and sprinkler pipe. Several concrete floor slabs and concrete risers and treads for the theatre seating have been poured and the rough-in of electrical and mechanical systems in the lower level is nearly complete.

Mr. Helfrich reported that he and other project team members recently visited the architectural metal fabricator who will provide the wall system in the theatre. They reviewed construction details and the lighting to be installed with the wall. Mr. Helfrich assured the Trustees the wall system will be an exciting and distinctive feature of the building.

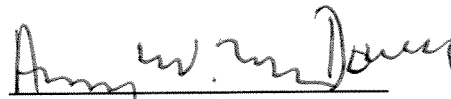
Mr. Helfrich concluded his report by referring the Trustees to a list of projects in design.

SECTION III – PERSONNEL MATTERS

There were no personnel matters for Board discussion or approval on September 5, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy W. MacDonell", written over a horizontal line.

Amy W. MacDonell
Secretary

**Possible Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements
Filed for 2013**

DATE	NAME/ TITLE	VENDOR/ CONTRACTOR	DESCRIPTION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST
07-09-13	Brenden Davidson Trustee	None	N/A
08-11-13	Kindra Strupp Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications	None	N/A

**Summary
Construction Projects
September 5, 2013**

Projects Recently Completed

Applied Engineering Center Construction

Project Cost \$ 3,300,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve

Campus Loop Road Construction - Phase III

Project Cost \$ 760,000

Funding Sources:

Transportation Reserve \$ 271,000

Federal Direct Appropriation FY 2009 \$ 489,000

Student Housing Apartment Buildings Renovation - 2013

Project Cost \$ 1,300,000

Funding Source: Housing Reserve

University Center Bookstore Renovation - Phase II

Project Cost \$ 725,000

Funding Source: Bookstore Reserve

University Center Eagles Nest Renovation

Project Cost \$ 250,000

Funding Source: University Center Reserve

Liberal Arts Center Room 2031 and Recreation and Fitness Center

Computer Lab Construction

Project Cost \$ 225,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve

Health Professions Center - Simulation Laboratory Renovation

Project Cost \$ 180,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve

Education Center - Mathematics Laboratory Construction

Project Cost \$ 245,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve

Projects Under Construction

Teaching Theatre Construction

Project Cost \$ 17,250,000

Funding Sources:

Bond Issue (Repaid with Student Fees)	\$ 13,000,000
Special Projects Reserve	\$ 2,250,000
USI Foundation	\$ 2,000,000

Projects in Design

Conference Center

Project Cost \$ 5,000,000

Funding Source: Private Gifts

Visitor's Center

Project Cost \$ 2,000,000

Funding Source: Private Gifts

Theatre Support Building

Project Cost \$ 1,500,000

Funding Sources:

Teaching Theatre Project	\$ 750,000
Special Projects Reserve	\$ 750,000

Technology Center Air Handling Unit Replacement

Project Cost \$ 250,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve

Science Center - Lower Level Renovation

Project Cost \$ 750,000

Funding Source: General Repair and Rehabilitation Appropriation

Atheneum (New Harmony) - Exterior Metal Painting

Project Cost \$ 250,000

Funding Source: Special Projects Reserve