

**WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, April 9, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Karen Lee called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University to order at 3:01 p.m., Thursday, April 9, 2015 in the Board of Trustees Conference Room, Old Main 340, at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington.

Board of Trustees

Karen Lee, Chair
Sue Sharpe, Vice Chair
Dick Thompson, Secretary
Betti Fujikado
Chase Franklin
Carly Roberts
Ralph Munro
Earl Overstreet

Western Washington University

Bruce Shepard, President
Brent Carbajal, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Eileen Coughlin, Senior VP, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services
Richard Van Den Hul, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs
Stephanie Bowers, Vice President for University Advancement
Steve Swan, Vice President for University Relations and Community Development
Annika Wolters, Associated Students President
Spencer Anthony-Cahill, Faculty Senate President
Lisa Wochos, Assistant Attorney General
Paul Cocke, Director, University Communications
Barbara Sandoval, Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Elissa Hicks, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees

2. RECOGNITION OF FORMER TRUSTEE PEGGY ZORO

Chair Lee and several of the Trustees said a few words about former Trustee Peggy Zoro and all of her hard work and leadership for the Board over the past eleven years. They recognized her grace in leadership, great mentoring skills, and her knowledge of how to utilize her own strengths and of those around her to make the Board better.

Chair Lee asked Trustee Fujikado to read Resolution No. 2015-01, *Thanking Trustee Peggy Zoro*.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

THANKING TRUSTEE

Peggy Zoro

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2003, Governor Gary Locke appointed **PEGGY ZORO** of Bellingham, Washington to serve a term on the Western Washington University Board of Trustees through September 30, 2008 and Governor Christine Gregoire reappointed her for a second term on November 20, 2008 through September 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO brought to her appointment over 32 years of experience in resource development and financial planning, senior executive level experience with Whidbey Island Bank and Key Bank, Executive Director of the Northwest Economic Council and principle of her own consulting firm, and by recently serving as interim Executive Director for the Whatcom Center for Early learning; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO brought to her appointment as a trustee an extensive background in community affairs by serving as past president of the Western Washington University Foundation Board of Directors, past President of St. Luke's Foundation and past Chair of the Bellingham/Whatcom County Economic Development Council; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO brought to her appointment as a trustee numerous awards and honors for her community service which include Business Person of the Year and her induction into the Northwest Women's Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO earned her bachelor's degree from Grove City College and a master's of education degree in Guidance and Psychology from the University of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO as a resident of Bellingham and having served two terms as trustee on the Board, and as Chair of the Board of Trustees for 2012-2014, contributed her time to the stewardship of the University above and beyond the usual expectations for board service at considerable personal sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO contributed to the increased stature and the future potential of Western Washington University through her participation in numerous activities and decisions affecting the University, including her work on the Viking Development Entity Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, PEGGY ZORO has exemplified what community services means as an engaged citizen, public servant and trustee with incredible grace, kindness, wisdom and compassion and concern for the best interests of all in the Western community; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University that **PEGGY ZORO** be and is hereby honored for outstanding service and dedication to the University and is extended the gratitude and best wishes of the entire University community.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University at its regular meeting on April 9, 2015.

MOTION 04-01-2015: Trustee Fujikado moved that the Board of Trustees, approve Resolution 2015-01, Thanking Trustee Peggy Zoro.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. WESTERN CARES – VETERANS AT WESTERN

President Shepard shared a short story about the veteran's climate when he first arrived at Western and how campus has strived to make changes for the better. Eileen Coughlin, Senior VP and Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services introduced David Brunnemer, Registrar, Director of Disability Resource Service and Ann Beck, Assistant Director of Veterans Services. Beck introduced the panelists of current and former veteran students, Kari McArdle, Jesse Atkins, Matthew Swisher and Chris Brown. Beck described what the Veterans Services office provides for students which includes giving campus veterans a starting resource for all things related to their service and military benefits. Veterans bring a different skills set than a traditional student including strong sense of leadership, a greater cultivation of skills, a greater sense of community and service to the campus and greater Bellingham area, said Beck. These non-traditional students are helpful to the Western community in that they increase diversity at Western with their values and different perspectives on life.

Beck then engaged the panelists with questions regarding their backgrounds, military service history, chosen fields of study, classroom experiences and asked them to comment on their successes, challenges and helpful resources on campus. Veterans responded by saying that their military service gave them a chance to grow personally and contributed to a sense of purpose in life. They all expressed gratitude for the chances that they have had to interact with other generational veterans and the opportunities to mentor other younger, more traditional students. Each of them found a way to serve people on campus in many different ways and found it mutually beneficial. A challenge all panelists experienced was the transition from a structured military life to a less structured educational climate, adding that more academic advisors to assist veterans and all students would be very beneficial.

When asked by Trustees if the veterans feel safe enough on campus to self-identify, the panelist said that it depends on the situation and that it is not really about feeling unsafe. Trustees asked about whether further sensitivity training is needed for anti-war/anti-military issues. Veterans responded that Western has a good base level of services for them and that the campus as a whole is very understanding and accommodating.

4. FAIRHAVEN COLLEGE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Brent Carbajal, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs said that all students on campus benefit from Fairhaven because of its cultural impact on Western's learning environment. Carbajal introduced Jack Herring, Dean, Fairhaven College and Lily Morgan, Fairhaven student who provided the Trustees with some background and curriculum of the college. Herring said that Fairhaven continues to carry out the vision of its creators as a place of passionate intellectual exploration unbound by many of the limiting conventions of departmentalized higher education. Students at Fairhaven learn in seminar classes, where professors care deeply about them as individuals, said Herring. Students at Fairhaven are part of an academic culture that enables them

to find their intrinsic motivation for learning, rather than focusing on the external motivators such as grades.

Lily Morgan, a current Fairhaven student, described her experience and the fact that she choose Fairhaven because she was able to build her own degree based on her unique interest, but yet still have the higher educational structure and accessible resources to get a broad education. She said she liked the traditional college feel, but yet individualized to her interests. Morgan says that she enjoys the critical thinking, discussion questions with a focus on social justice and positive change in communities that Fairhaven classes typically focus on. Herring says that this particular type of teaching style prepares students well for graduate school interactions and analyses. Dean Herring also said that Fairhaven has a reputation of being unstructured, but is structured in a way to help students get focused, stay motived and be successful.

Trustees engaged in conversations regarding Fairhaven's positive reputation throughout Washington and the nation and how to use that to Western's advantage. Trustees also asked about the struggle between the independence of Fairhaven versus a greater integration into Western as a whole. Herring said that there is more frequent cooperation than conflict, but wishes that there was more cooperation between the faculty, adding that students transition very well between the two different classroom styles.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY BE HELD TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL, REAL ESTATE AND LEGAL ISSUES AS AUTHORIZED IN RCW 42.30.110.

At 4:34 p.m. Chair Lee announced that the Board would convene in Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss a legal and personnel matter as authorized in RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g)&(i).

The Board returned to open meeting at 5:13 p.m. with no action to report and adjourned until Friday, April 10th at 8:00am.