



**WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 & 9, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Meyer called the regular meeting of the Western Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 3:12pm in the Interdisciplinary Science Building, Room 310.

**Board of Trustees:**

John Meyer, Chair  
Faith Pettis, Vice Chair  
Ash Awad, Trustee  
Chase Franklin, Trustee  
Keara Ryan, Trustee  
Sue Sharpe, Trustee  
Mo West, Trustee  
Chris Witherspoon, Trustee

**Western Washington University:**

Sabah Randhawa, President  
Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs  
Jacqueline Hughes, Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director of the Office of Equity  
Dinna Gibbs, Vice President for University Relations & Marketing  
Becca Kenna-Schenk, Chief of Staff  
Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President  
Melynda Huskey, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services  
Rebecca Hansen-Zeller, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Paqui Paredes Méndez, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Jane Wong, Associate Professor of Creative Writing in English  
Neal Tognazzini, Professor of Philosophy

**2. SHOWCASING THE HUMANITIES AT WWU**

Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, introduced Paqui Paredes, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, who shared information about Humanities at Western Washington University. Jane Wong led the Board on an exploration of communication and poetry exercises that she uses to build community in her classroom. Neil Tognazzini led the Board in critical thinking exercises used in his Philosophy courses.

The Board of trustees adjourned for the day at 5:11pm.

### **3. CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair John Meyer called the Regular Meeting of the Western Washington University Board of Trustees to order at 8:01am in the Old Main Board Room.

#### **Board of Trustees:**

John Meyer, Chair  
Faith Pettis, Vice Chair  
Ash Awad, Trustee  
Chase Franklin, Trustee – on Zoom  
Keara Ryan, Trustee  
Sue Sharpe, Trustee  
Mo West, Trustee – on Zoom  
Chris Witherspoon, Trustee

#### **Western Washington University:**

Sabah Randhawa, President  
Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs  
Jacqueline Hughes, Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director of the Office of Equity  
Dinna Gibbs, Vice President for University Relations & Marketing  
Becca Kenna-Schenk, Chief of Staff  
Brad Johnson, provost and Executive Vice President  
Melynda Huskey, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services  
Rebecca Hansen-Zeller, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Robert Clark, manager of Digital Video Services  
Lysa Rivera, Faculty Senate President  
Shelli Soto, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management  
Faye Gallant, Executive Director of Budget & Financial Planning  
Sargun Handa, Associated Students President

- a. Board of Trustees Meeting, October 13 & 14, 2022

MOTION 12-01-2022                      Trustee Faith Pettis moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the president, approve the minutes from October 13 & 14, 2022.

Trustee Chris Witherspoon seconded. The motion passed 7-0, with Trustee Ash Awad abstaining.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

As per Amended RCW 28B.35.110, the Board of Trustees provided time for public comment. Nobody signed up for public comment.

## 5. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Meyer congratulated the WWU Women's Soccer Team on being NCAA Division II Champions. He also shared that Rebecca Hansen-Zeller, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, is settling into her new role. He reported on a session that he and Trustee Mo West attended with the Association of Governing Boards featuring US Assistant Secretary of Education for Postsecondary Education Dr. Nasser Paydar. He commented on yesterday's engaging session featuring the Humanities and the reception with the Alumni Association and Foundation Board. The Board is looking ahead to a work session in Seattle on January 24 and to being in Olympia for Regents & Trustees Day on February 2, 2023.

## 6. RESOLUTION WELCOMING TRUSTEE ASH AWAD

Chair Meyer passed the gavel to Vice Chair Pettis. Chair Meyer welcomed Ash Awad to the Board of Trustees and read RESOLUTION 2022-10.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-10  
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTERN WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY WELCOMING TRUSTEE ASH AWAD

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2022, Governor Jay Inslee appointed ASH AWAD of Woodinville, Washington to serve on the Western Washington University Board of Trustees for a term ending on September 30, 2028; and

WHEREAS, ASH AWAD brings to his appointment as a trustee a distinguished career in the energy efficiency, construction and engineering industry and currently serves as President and Chief Market Officer at McKinstry, a Seattle-based company that builds, operates, and maintains facility systems for buildings; and

WHEREAS, ASH AWAD has a demonstrated commitment to education and sustainability and currently serves on the boards of the Smart Buildings Center, Washington STEM, Climate Solutions, and the Washington Round Table.

WHEREAS, ASH AWAD is committed to advocacy for higher education and supports the University of Washington's Mechanical Engineering department; and

WHEREAS, ASH AWAD has declared his commitment to serve as a member of the Western Washington University Board of Trustees;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University officially extends a warm welcome to ASH AWAD as he begins his term on the Board.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University at its meeting on December 9, 2022.

MOTION 12-02-2022                      Trustee Meyer moved that the Board of Trustees approve Resolution 2022-10 to Welcoming Trustee Ash Awad

The motion passed.

## **7. UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Randhawa reported on a number of exciting things at Western Washington University including the Women's Soccer Team's NCAA Title and honors earned by our Performing Arts opera program, which placed 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally. He also reported on a recent \$5 million gift to support the Geology Department. He noted that the new Professional Staff Organization compensation structure is being rolled out.

## **8. FACULTY SENATE REPORT**

Lysa Rivera reported that Faculty are navigating the new course evaluation process. There is a task force working on refining new questions for the pilot year. She also noted that student accommodation requests have risen in number since covid and Faculty are working with the Disability Access Center. She also reported on updates to the Faculty Handbook.

## **9. ASSOCIATED STUDENTS REPORT**

Sargun Handa reported that the Associated Students have hired a VP of Diversity, CFPA Student Senator and a Vice Chair and now has a full Board. Students will be in Olympia in January for lobby day. They are also working on their Mission, Vision and Values statements. Sargun Handa noted that diversifying curriculum, self-operated dining and support for students impacted by hate and bias incidents is ongoing.

## **10. BOARD FINANCE, AUDIT, AND ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Sue Sharpe is Chair of the Finance, Audit and Enterprise Risk Management Committee. She reported that the committee would like to issue an RFP/RFI for the financial statement audit for 2023-24. The committee also discussed the Heating Conversion Project, the Professional Staff Organization compensation plan and the Internal Audit Plan for next year.

The committee had an exit conference with representatives from the State Auditor's Office for the 21-22 financial statement audit and received the best possible opinion. FARM Committee Chair Sharpe requested the FARM committee members for consensus to accept the 21-22 financial statement audit. Trustee Pettis made a motion to accept the audit and Trustee Franklin seconded.

## **11. BOARD ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Mo West, Chair of the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee, reported that the committee focused on the Campus Climate Survey and Structural Equity Team Report at their last meeting.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **12. CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EQUITY FIRST QUARTER REFLECTIONS**

Jacqueline Hughes, Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director, Office of Equity, reported on her work in the first few months as the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer. She shared feedback she heard in the campus listening session and stated a need for a larger sense of belonging among the people she has met with. She noted that there is a lot of great work being done across the colleges but that work needs to be put together into a comprehensive, holistic, action-oriented framework.

### **13. PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FIRST QUARTER REFLECTIONS**

Provost Brad Johnson introduced a framework he is implementing for strategic budget and schedule planning. The new process is a culture change in Academic Affairs and requires more engagement with the planning process. He also shared information on the current searches for new Deans and noted that the turnover of the entire Council of Deans provides a huge opportunity to shape new leadership in Academic Affairs. Brad Johnson also shared that he is revamping the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs position. He is committed to broad, open communication and is excited to be in his new role.

Chair Meyer announced a break at 10:08am. The Board reconvened at 10:24am.

### **14. WWU BIAS RESPONSE AND EMERGENCY ASSESSMENT**

Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, gave a summary of the recent student email hack incident and noted that multifactor email access will be rolled out for all users soon. Jacqueline Hughes, Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director, Office of Equity, outlined the role of the Bias Response Team. Melynda Huskey, Vice President, Enrollment and Student Services, shared the role of the Student Care and Concern Team. They also shared how the Threat Assessment Team and the Student Conduct Process work.

### **15. 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OUTLOOK**

Becca Kenna-Schenk, Executive Director, Government Relations, shared that the upcoming January-April session sets the stage for the 23-25 Biennium Budget. She outlined the list of requests that WWU submitted and shared that the revenue forecast is positive. She also reported on the House College & Workforce Development Committee's visit to WWU and a recent meeting of Government Relations officers with the Council of Presidents.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**16. PRESIDENT'S CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Melissa Nelson, Assistant Attorney General, presented the Board of Trustees an amendment to the president's employment contract. The Board of Trustees conduct an annual performance review of the president.

MOTION 12-03-2022

Trustee Sue Sharpe moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon recommendation of the Board Chair, approves a 4% increase in the President's salary, effective January 1, 2023.

Trustee Chris Witherspoon seconded. The motion passed 7-0, with Trustee Kera Rya abstaining.

**17. APPROVAL OF FALL QUARTER DEGREES**

Brad Johnson, Provost and Executive Vice President, requested approval of fall quarter degrees.

MOTION 12-04-2022

Trustee Keara Ryan moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, on recommendation of the faculty and subject to the completion of any unmet requirements, approves awarding undergraduate and graduate degrees to the candidates listed in the files of the Registrar and Graduate Dean, for Fall Quarter 2022, effective December 10, 2022.

Trustee Faith Pettis seconded and the motion passed 8-0.

**18. APPROVAL TO REPEAL SECTIONS 115, 116, 118 AND 119 AND AMEND SECTION 117 IN CHAPTER 516-38 WAC**

Melynda Huskey, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services and Sara Wilson, Executive Director, Student Success Initiatives, requested approval to repeal sections 115, 116, 118, and 119 and amend section 117 in Chapter 516-38 WAC under Western Washington University's title in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

MOTION 12-05-2022

Trustee Mo West that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon recommendation of the President, approve the amendment to WAC 516-38-117 and approve the repeal of sections 115, 116, 118, and 119 in Chapter 516-38 WAC as filed in the *Washington State Register*, WSR 22-18-021.

Trustee Ash Awad seconded. The motion passed 8-0.

## 19. APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

Joyce Lopes, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs and Avinash Rahurkar, Associate Vice President, Facilities Development & Operations requested approval of a construction contract for the Science, Math and Technology Education (SMATE) building Envelope Remediation, PW779. It was noted procurement of material is projected to start in January 2023 and on-site construction is projected to start in June 2023.

### a. Construction Contract for Science Lecture Building Envelope Remediation, PW779

MOTION 12-06-2022

Trustee Witherspoon moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, award a contract to Tiger Construction, Ltd., Everson, WA, in the amount of \$1,166,600 (plus associated sales tax) for the construction contract to replace roofing materials and a curtain wall framed window at the Science, Math & Technology Education (SMATE) building.

Trustee Keara Ryan seconded. The motion passed 8-0.

### b. Construction Contract for Birnam Wood Siding and Bridges Phase 1, PW778A

Fabrication of material is projected to start in January 2023 and on-site construction is projected to start in March 2023.

MOTION 12-07-2022

Trustee Mo West moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon the recommendation of the President, award a contract to CDK Construction, Duvall, WA, in the amount of \$3,094,000 (plus associated sales tax) for the construction contract to perform the following work at Birnam Wood: i) replace the siding and bridges and add insulation at Stacks 3 and 4, and ii) replace the siding, doors, and windows and add insulation at the Community Building.

Trustee Sue Sharpe seconded. The motion passed 8-0.

### c. Construction Contract Amendment, Fire Protection for Electrical Engineering & Computer Science Project, PW758

This amendment will allow the Fire Protection contractor to start bidder/design in preconstruction so that coordination can occur with the mass timber fabricator.

MOTION 12-08-2022

Trustee Chase Franklin moved that the Board of Trustees of Western Washington University, upon

the recommendation of the President, award a contract to Mortenson, Seattle, WA, in the amount of \$552,599 (plus associated sales tax) for Amendment #5, Fire Protection, for Electrical Engineering & Computer Science Project, PW758.

Trustee Faith Pettis seconded. The motion passed 7-0, with Trustee Ash Awad abstaining.

**20. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR FY 2022 AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR WWU, HOUSING AND DINING, AND WADE KING STUDENT RECREATION CENTER**

Sue Sharpe, Board of Trustees Finance, Audit, and Enterprise Risk Management Committee (FARM) Chair, recommended on behalf of the (FARM) Committee recommended the reappointment of the State Auditor's Office to perform Financial Statement audit services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

MOTION 12-09-2022

Trustee Faith Pettis moved upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees FARM Committee, the appointment of the Washington State Auditor's Office to perform an audit of FY 2022 Financial Statements for Western Washington University, Housing and Dining, and the Wade King Student Recreation Center. This appointment is for a one-year term with an estimated total cost of \$85,000.

Trustee Ash Awad seconded. The motion passed 8-0.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**21. REPORTS**

- a. Quarterly Grants and Contracts
- b. Enrollment Management Summary
- c. University Advancement Report
- d. Capital Program Report
- e. University Relations and Marketing Report
- f. 2021-22 University Financial Report
- g. 2022 Housing and Dining System Financial Report
- h. 2022 Wade King Student Recreation Center Financial Report
- i. 2022 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (Clery Act)

The Board reviewed and accepted the written reports.



**22. TRUSTEE REMARKS**

Trustees noted that former WWU Lobbyist, Joe Timmons, won his race for WA State House of Representatives. They also noted that they are looking forward to Commencement tomorrow.

**23. DATES FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING: February 9 & 10, 2022**

**24. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:21am.