

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
FULL BOARD MINUTES
August 14, 2020

Videoconference

Roll Call:

Present Full Board Members:

Regents Jester (Chair), Coleman, Doggett, Gallardo, Hyde, McDavid, Shepard, Wilson, Wu, and Tyson (Non-Voting)

Present Administrators:

Dr. Carine M. Feyten, Chancellor and President; Ms. Katherine Antwi Green, General Counsel, Secretary to the Board, and Associate Vice President of Compliance; Dr. Carolyn Kapinus, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant, Vice President for Student Life; Dr. Kimberly Russell, Vice President for University Advancement; Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration

I. Call to Order:

With a quorum being present, Regent **Jester**, Chair of the Board of Regents, called the meeting to order at **2:57 p.m.**

Regent **Jester** reminded everyone that the meeting is being streamed live and asked that everyone speak loudly and clearly as they make comments during the meeting.

Regent Jester further indicated that procedural changes are necessary to ensure that the minutes of the meeting are recorded as accurately as possible. She asked the members to state their name before asking a question or making a comment. She further asked that when making or seconding a motion the members are to state their name before doing so. She stated that as happened in the committee meetings, all board votes will be conducted via roll call rather than by a collective voice designation of the board.

Regent Jester asked the members to refrain from talking over fellow board members or at the same time as other board members where possible. She asked that all agenda item presenters mute their microphones and turn off their cameras while they are not presenting, and asked all attendees to continue to keep their cameras turned off and their microphones muted during the meeting.

Regent Jester conducted a roll call to note the presence of Regents Jester, Coleman, Doggett, Gallardo, Hyde, Shepard, Wilson, Wu, and Tyson.

II. Consider Approval of the Minutes of the Full Board Meeting of May 15, 2020

Motion to Approve Minutes: Regent Wu, motioned and Regent Doggett, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 8-0-0.

The minutes of the Board of Regents Meeting of **May 15, 2020**, were approved as submitted.

III. Consent Agenda

Regent Jester indicated that the Board would take up the items A through L on the Consent Agenda from the Finance and Audit Committee and the Academic Affairs Committee. She asked if any regent would like to pull an item for separate discussion.

Motion to approve A through L on the Consent Agenda as presented in their respective Committees:

Regent Doggett, motioned and Regent Wilson, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of **8-0-0**.

- Item A. Approval of Emeritus/Emerita Faculty**
- Item B. Approval of Faculty Promotion and Tenure**
- Item C. Approval for Distance Delivery of Existing Master of Arts in Sociology Degree**
- Item D. Approval for Distance Delivery of the Master of Education Degree in Teaching, Leadership, and Collaboration**
- Item E. Approval for Distance Delivery of Existing Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate**
- Item F. Approval of Enrollment and Advancement Advisory Services Contracts with Ruffalo Noel Levitz and Delegate Contract Authority to the Chancellor and President of Texas Woman's University**
- Item G. Approval of the Texas Woman's University Investment Policy and the Endowment Investment and Distribution Policy**
- Item H. Approval of Tuition and Fee Waivers for the Tuition Assistance Program at Texas Woman's University**
- Item I. Approval of Budget Increase for the Design and Construction of the New Fieldhouse on the Denton Campus and Delegate Contract Authority to the Chancellor and President of Texas Woman's University**
- Item J. Approval of the Design and Construction of a Campus-Wide Camera and Security System and Delegate Contract Authority to the Chancellor and President of Texas Woman's University**
- Item K. Approval of Texas Woman's University Grants Report Awarded from April 1, 2020 through July 9, 2020**
- Item L. Approval of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021**

IV. Full Board Agenda:

Motion to Take up Agenda Items: Regent Doggett, motioned and Regent Wu, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 8-0-0.

Item A. Report on Promotion and Tenure Highlights

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus presented a report on promotion and tenure highlights to the Board. Dr. Kapinus

said that 28 faculty members were approved for promotion and tenure at the May 2020 meeting. She indicated she would highlight one faculty member from each college for the Board.

From the College of Arts and Sciences Dr. Kapinus highlighted Dr. Gretchen Busl, who was promoted to Associate Professor of English, Speech and Foreign Languages. Dr. Busl was also granted tenure.

From the College of Business Dr. Kapinus highlighted Dr. Jennifer Flanagan who was promoted to Associate Professor of Management. Dr. Flanagan was also granted tenure.

From the College of Health Sciences Dr. Kapinus highlighted Dr. Kevin Becker who was promoted to Associate Professor of Kinesiology. Dr. Becker was also granted tenure.

From the College of Nursing Dr. Kapinus highlighted Dr. Wyona Freysteinson who was promoted to Professor of Nursing.

From the College of Professional Education Dr. Kapinus highlighted Dr. Aaron Norton who was promoted to Associate Professor of Human Development, Family Studies, and Counseling. Dr. Norton was also granted tenure.

From the College of Nursing Dr. Kapinus also highlighted Dr. Damon Cottrell who was promoted to Associate Professor of Nursing, and is now serving as the Associate Dean of Nursing.

The following faculty members were approved for Emeritus/Emerita status as a result of the earlier vote to approve Consent Agenda Items A through L.

College of Nursing

Anlee Birch-Evans

Cathy Hueske

Rebecca Krepper

Peggy Mancuso

Susan Mellott

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Richard Jones

Cynthia Maguire

Department of Communication Sciences and Oral Health

Laura Moorer

Melissa Stockholm

Department of English, Speech, and Foreign Languages

Lou Thompson

Department of Literacy and Learning

Connie Briggs

Department of Multicultural Women's and Gender Studies

Mark Kessler

Department of Music

Nicki Cohen

Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences

Chandan Prasad

Parakat Vijayagopal

School of Health Promotion and Kinesiology

David Nichols

School of Physical Therapy

Toni Roddey

Regent Jester asked if there was any discussion and reminded the group to state their name before asking a question or making a comment.

Item B. Report on Texas Woman's University Student Survey on COVID-19

Dr. Carolyn Kapinus indicated that university leaders sought data to gain perspective on TWU's ongoing efforts to engage and respond to students' needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes understanding the students' experience and concerns regarding course delivery, academic services and student services.

Dr. Kapinus explained that TWU disseminated a survey designed by Hanover Research to continuing students to identify how COVID-19 has impacted student experience both at TWU and compared to other universities.

Mr. Christopher Johnson, TWU's Chief of Staff, informed the group that they had various sources for information, including individual stories, focus groups and survey instruments. He pointed out that there can be bias in data collection and that is why multiple information sources are used. Mr. Johnson said that TWU relied on direct communications with students including via email, campus-based forums, focus groups, and student surveys. Mr. Johnson indicated that student surveys included Residence Life surveys, the COVID-19 Hanover survey and other surveys.

Dr. Mark Hamner, Vice Provost for Institutional Research & Improvement, informed the Board that the Hanover survey was administered to Spring 2020 students, which make up approximately 90% of students returning in the fall. Dr. Hamner indicated that the survey was sent to approximately 12,000 students, 21% of whom responded. He indicated that the survey results confirmed that TWU students were very concerned with how COVID-19 impacts them.

Dr. Hamner went on to summarize the various components and the results of the survey, comparing TWU student response to the benchmark. He discussed the student sentiment regarding TWU's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the school-related issues they were facing as a result of COVID-19. Dr. Hamner indicated that overall, the results indicated that TWU students were more likely to stay enrolled for the 2020-2021 academic year than the benchmark.

Dr. Hamner then compared the survey results to the actual enrollment for the fall semester. Dr. Hamner said that continuing enrollment is actually exceeding expectations.

Regent Doggett asked if the Hanover survey will be run again. Dr. Kapinus clarified that the survey was administered in July 2020, indicating that the data was very recent.

Mr. Johnson summarized student financial barriers which seems to be a strong concern from TWU students. He indicated that there are various forms of aid to students from a variety of sources. He said that over 3,200 students received aid from CARES Act funds for a total of about \$3.9 million. He indicated \$400,000 of that funding is still being distributed as quickly as possible. Mr. Johnson described other sources of financial assistance to students, including loaner laptops and refunds of certain fees TWU made to students to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Kapinus explained that several universities used the Hanover survey. Dr. Hamner clarified that the benchmark was comprised of data from 4-year institutions and Dr. Feyten stressed that the survey was specifically related to COVID-19.

Regent Jester commented that it was good to see TWU's performance as compared to other similar institutions. Regent Jester then asked if there was any discussion from the group.

Item C. Report on Business Continuity Plans for Texas Woman's University

Mr. Jason Tomlinson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, said that Mr. Matt Moustakas, Executive Director for Risk Management, would be presenting a report to the Board regarding TWU's business continuity program. Mr. Moustakas informed the Board that TWU's business continuity planning involves emergency management, business continuity and risk financing, which is primarily insurance.

Mr. Moustakas indicated that TWU has an all hazards approach to emergency management, telling the Board that the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, or CEMP, is a plan for emergencies which is focused on the immediate needs of the university and supported by hazard-specific and function-specific annexes. Mr. Moustakas explained that the Emergency Operations Center, or EOC, plays a role in business continuity, but is not focused on it while the emergency is still evolving.

Mr. Moustakas said that TWU has a university-wide Continuity of Operations Plan, or COOP, which is focused on ensuring "essential functions" continue or are restarted within specified time frames, and which is reviewed and approved by the State Office of Risk Management at least every two years. Individual departmental plans indicate how they will perform their normal functions if they lose access to their

building, have a power outage, or suffer staff shortages.

The essential functions of the university are prioritized from levels 1 to level 6 and plans indicate specific requirements and dependencies for each essential function and supporting activity. Mr. Moustakas continued to describe the CEMP and COOP, their details and their interaction. Continuity operations involve establishing alternate facilities as necessary, personnel needed and essential records access.

Mr. Moustakas detailed reconstitution which is how a return to normal business is accomplished over time. He described some of the detail about how the pandemic response compares to a typical business continuity response.

Mr. Moustakas then summarized risk financing, including certain provisions of various insurance policies maintained by TWU, including policy limits, retention and various details regarding the policies.

Regent Jester asked if there were any questions or if there was any discussion from the group.

Regent Hyde said he asked for additional detail as a result of the October 2019 windstorms, which damaged many schools, business and residential properties in Dallas. He asked if there could be challenges obtaining contractors in the event of significant damage to TWU in any given area. He indicated it was beneficial to ensure TWU would be as ready as possible.

Mr. Tomlinson stated that TWU has some advantages in being a state entity. He indicated that many vendors and contractors are pre-vetted which can reduce the time to start work. He agreed that it can take time to get approvals to begin construction work but that TWU has broad access to useful tools, including access to storm programs. Mr. Moustakas added that TWU evaluates its insurance every year and seeks the most comprehensive and competitive coverages available.

Regent Jester asked if there was any further discussion. She then thanked Mr. Tomlinson and Mr. Moustakas for all of the information which she felt was very well put together.

Item D. Recommend Approval for the Future Renaming of Bralley Building

Dr. Carine Feyten explained to the board that TWU has a policy around the naming of buildings. She said that in this case the Board of Regents has authority over then naming of the building. She informed the Board that there is a recommendation to change the name on the Bralley Building.

Mr. Christopher Johnson, Chief of Staff, explained some details regarding Denton's history as well as the history of Texas Women's University. Dr. Feyten explained that she put together a committee a few years ago to discuss ways for the school to remember its history but in a positive way. She indicated that the committee made recent recommendation to change the name of the Bralley Building. She indicated that she discussed the topic with groups on campus and had many productive conversations. The building may not necessarily have longevity on campus so she indicated that a utilitarian name would be a good idea. She said the proposal is to call it the Support Annex. She further explained that the units in that building right now are IT, procurement and other types of support services.

Regent Jester commended Dr. Feyten for addressing this, saying that she was grateful TWU began to address this long ago.

Regent Jester asked if there was any discussion from the group.

Regent Gallardo expressed concerns about removing parts of TWU's history from which it is important to learn. Chancellor Feyten indicated that the committee does have a future recommendation intended to address the concerns expressed by Regent Gallardo, which she indicated would be presented to the Board in the future.

Regent Jester acknowledged that many have mixed feelings about topics such as this one but that this has been a difficult part of Denton's history and it affects TWU as well as the surrounding community.

Regent Wu said she applauded the foresight of looking into this topic and in such a thorough manner. She agreed with changing the building name to something utilitarian.

Regent Hyde agreed with Regent Wu and added that the school needs to reflect progress and a better way of looking at things.

Regent Coleman said it was better to name buildings not after a person but instead a general name. Regent Doggett added it was important for people to feel good about the TWU community, and to focus on the future. She said it is good that the committee has gotten out in front of an issue that may make people feel as though TWU is not sensitive to their issues.

Regent Doggett agreed that there can be mixed feelings about changing historical aspects; however, the school should be aware of sentiment in the community. She stressed that TWU is a fantastic school and it's important that the community doesn't feel TWU is not sensitive to their issues. She said that the committee has done something about this important issue.

Dr. Feyten informed the Board there will be a future presentation related to an experiential learning opportunity recommended by the committee.

Regent Jester asked if there was other discussion and said she appreciated everyone's sincere input.

Motion to Approve the Renaming of Bralley Building to the Support Annex: Regent Doggett, motioned and Regent Wu, seconded.

Regent Gallardo asked to clarify what exactly the motion was. Regent Jester clarified that the motion was to approve the renaming of the Bralley Building to the Support Annex.

A vote was then taken, and the motion passed with a vote of 8-0-0.

Item E. Report on Office of Governmental and Legislative Affairs

Mr. Kevin Crusier, Director of Governmental Relations and Legislative Affairs, presented information to the Board regarding the state's projected shortfall and various ways portions of the shortfall could be recouped. He also commented on the difficulty of staying abreast of the current status of governmental affairs with the Covid situation, but highlighted that all involved had worked hard on maintaining communication.

Mr. Crusier indicated that 38% of the TWU budget comes from the state, however there was sentiment that now is not the time to be cutting back on higher education.

Regent Doggett asked about updates from Washington D.C. Mr. Crusier indicated that congress was working on a possible third round of stimulus, and indicated that state aid would definitely be beneficial

to TWU.

Regent Jester asked if there was any other discussion, then told Mr. Crusier that the Board always appreciated his insight.

Item F. Report on the Office of the Chancellor and President

Dr. Carine Feyten then addressed the board, describing the importance of three mottos she lives by: embrace not retreat, solidifying our fluidity, and one size does not fit all. She said that for every student that is concerned about coming back to campus, another student says they need to come back. Dr. Feyten then said the situation calls for imagination, creativity and innovation. She then described the African philosophy of Ubuntu, which she summarized meant, “I am because you are.” She explained that we are all interdependent with everything all around us, and she felt it was very relevant to today.

Regent Shepard then said that she loved the book “The Women with Silver Wings” and thanked Dr. Feyten for making sure the board got copies of that book.

Regent Jester said Dr. Feyten’s mottos were good and following them has been the way the institution has kept on track – being fluid and pivoting when needed. She thanked Dr. Feyten for the report.

Regent Jester asked if there was any discussion from the group.

V. Recess Full Board Meeting into Executive Closed Session

Regent **Jester** then announced that the Board would recess into Executive Closed Session for the purposes of Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code and Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters Relating to Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of Officers or Employees pursuant to §551.074 of the Texas Government Code. Regent Jester stated that the Board will discuss the Chancellor’s evaluation and the Chancellor’s goals for the Academic Year 2020-2021.

The meeting adjourned at **4:36 p.m.**

VI. Reconvene to Open Session and Take Any Possible Action Regarding Matters Discussed in Executive Closed Session

At the conclusion of the Executive Closed Session, Regent **Jester** reconvened the meeting of the Full Board into open session, a quorum being present at **6:05 p.m.**

Upon reconvening, Regent Jester said she would like to make some remarks about Dr. Feyten. She indicated that the Board was very pleased with Chancellor Feyten’s performance, especially given the stressors she faces. She said that Dr. Feyten is one of the finest leaders and that the Board has complete confidence in her.

Regent Jester indicated that the Board was impressed by Dr. Feyten’s accomplishments in her role and thanked her for striving for excellence every day.

Regent Wilson said she wanted to commend Dr. Feyten on her ability to be agile in her leadership. She thanked Dr. Feyten for doing a remarkable job.

The Board further discussed strengths of Dr. Feyten, and Regent Tyson also stressed that Dr. Feyten had helped her and she looked forward to working further with Dr. Feyten.

Regent Jester thanked Dr. Feyten for listening to the Board's evaluation and said it was a privilege.

Regent Jester said that the Board would now consider approval of Dr. Feyten's 2020-2021 goals.

Motion to Approve Chancellor and President's Goals for Academic Year 2020-2021: Regent Wilson, motioned and Regent Gallardo, seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 8-0-0.

Regent Jester then asked Dr. Feyten to share some information about her goals for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Dr. Feyten informed the board that evaluation of key performance indicators – or KPIs – is important to determine how the school is performing according to the strategic plan. She indicated they would continue to be her focus. She then said the school would have three broader focal areas of our energy for this year, which would be diversity and inclusion, growth in terms of academic programs and enrollment, as well as the growth and expansion of the campus and its structures), and preparation for the comprehensive campaign for the campus.

Regent Jester thanked Dr. Feyten for her remarks.

VII. Future Business

Regent Jester said the Board would now hear any comments or requests from the Board Membership concerning issues or subjects they would like to discuss at a future Board Meeting or about which they would like further information from the administration.

Regent Jester informed the group that the Texas Open Meetings Act requires that the public is given advance notice of the subjects the Board considers in an open meeting or a closed session. She explained that the board could not have any substantive discussion about any future business request during this meeting.

Regent Jester asked if there were any comments or requests from any regents regarding a request for future issues or subjects to discuss.

VIII. Regents' Remarks

Regent Jester then asked if there were any other remarks by any other regent.

IX. Adjourn

With no further business coming before the Board of Regents, Regent **Jester** adjourned the committee meeting at **6:18 p.m.**