

Board of Governors

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Boyd Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Charlie Cole, Chair – via Google meet; Mr. Shannon Remines, Mr. Anthony Tolley - absent; Mr. Tim McKenzie; Mr. Jack Sheffler; Ms. Cathy Deeb, Mr. Bill Cole, Mrs. Rebecca Peterson – absent; Mr. Mike Hastings - absent, Mr. Gabriel Nesmith, Mr. Randy Price – via Google meet

Guests: Interim President Darrin Martin; Mr. Brent Benjamin, EVP; Mr. Ronnie Hypes, CFO; Sarita Rhonemus, Interim Provost; Mrs. Julie Orr, Faculty President; Mr. Sudhakar Jamkhandi; Mrs. Rita LaBarr; Mrs. Sandra Wynn; Mr. Bill Bennett; Ms. Amanda Matoushek

Guests via Google Meet: Mrs. Vanessa Godfrey; Ms. Amy Bennett; Ms. Tabitha Young, Mr. Paul Rutherford; Dr. Albertus Barnes; Ms. Terene Stiltner; Ms. Cheryl Winter; Mr. Jerry Wood, Mrs. Sherri Williams; Mrs. Angie Wassum; Mrs. Michelle Taylor; Mr. Joel Vance; Mr. Rodney Montague

General Order:

Vice Chair Remines welcomed all in attendance, congratulated the basketball teams on their wonderful showing during the CIAA tournament. Mr. Remines also mentioned the high turnout for the press announcement of our new football coach, Davon Morgan.

Vice Chair Remines determined that a quorum was established, then he called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in the Boyd Conference Room. He welcomed attendees at the meeting.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Vice Chair Remines received confirmation that Board members had reviewed minutes of the Board's meeting held on Regular Meeting held on January 4, 2024/Special Meeting held on February 8, 2024. Hearing no other requests to correct or revise the minutes, the minutes of the January and February meeting minutes were accepted by assent of the Board.

Board Committee Reports: Vice Chair Remines confirmed that Board members had reviewed reports of the most recent committee meetings. The following committee reports were submitted – Special Athletics – 1/18 and 2/15; Student Life – 2/15; Housing – 2/22; Development – 2/22; Academic Affairs – 2/22 and Executive – 2/22. Hearing no other requests to correct or revise the committee reports, the committee reports listed above were accepted by assent of the Board.

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Interim President's Report: Interim President Martin

- **CIAA Tournament Update:**
 - Men's and Women's Basketball did very well
 - Recruiting
 - Jonathan Childress/Tim McKenzie
 - 29 Accepted applications/ 184 referrals
 - Mario Clark – BSU Alumni – Operates College Bound in Baltimore attended, he is going to send students our way
 - Two MOU's being sent for review
 - Very positive experience and BSU received accolades from all the other schools that attended
- **Football Coach Announcement:**
 - Davon Morgan accepted the head football coach position
 - Press conference was a huge success
 - Great turnout
 - Positive press
- **Student Freedom Initiative:**
 - Housing opportunity for BSU, City and general area
- **BU Nursing:**
 - BU stopped their seated nursing program
 - Current students may transfer to BSU to continue
- **Heritage Village:**
 - Letter sent to City
 - Work should begin soon
- **HLC Report Update:**
 - Meeting on 3/8 to prep for hearing on the 12th
 - Final report was sent to HLC for their review
 - Team flies out on the 11th
 - Hearing is on the 12th in Chicago
 - Update to campus will be held on Friday, 3/22

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Standing Reports:

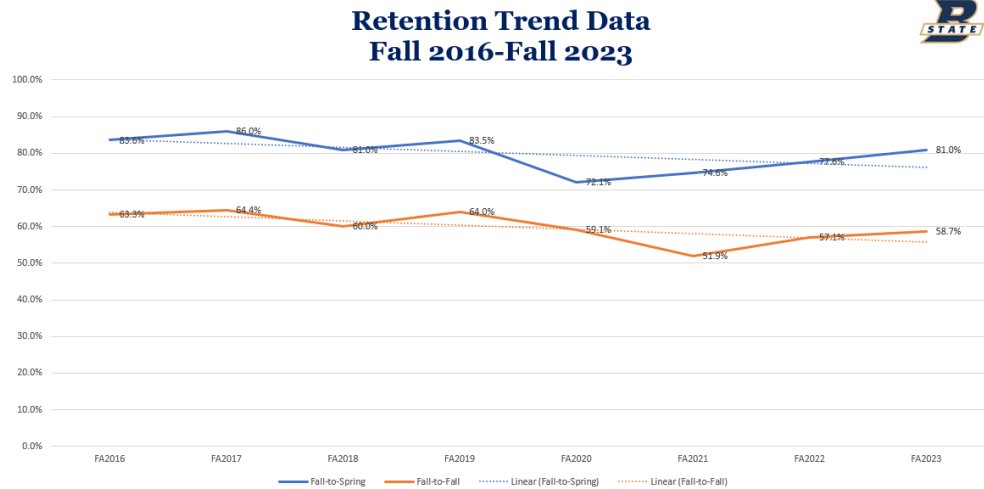
- **Academic Affairs:** Dr. Sarita Rhonemus, Interim Provost
 - BU Meeting
 - Informational session only
 - 10 possible nursing students to transfer
 - Dual credit students possible
 - HLC Update
 - Meeting on March 12th
 - Charlie Cole, Dr. Martin, Dr. Rhonemus, Carolyn Long, Julie Orr and Michelle Taylor attending
 - HLC Response Report
 1. Hiring Processes, Faculty Senate/Faculty Assembly, Staff Council, Use of Post-Tenure Review Process, and Contract Renewal Process, Other Concerns with Post-Tenure Review
 2. Lack of Faculty Input into Decision-Making Processes, Influence of the President, Oversight of Academics
 3. Changes of Program Length, Time of Offering, and Instructor, Distance Education, Online Certificate Programs
 4. Program Review
 5. Assessment
 6. Shared Governance, Academic Requirements
 7. Hiring Practices
 8. Faculty Oversight of Academic Requirements
 - Registration Numbers
 - Spring 2024 – 3/6/2024

Overall Total	Spring 2023	Spring 2024	Difference
Continuing	893	877	-16
Graduate	19	24	+5
New	16	11	-5
New Transfer	19	25	+6
Provisional (Dual Credit)	185	152	-33
Readmit	33	336	+3
Special Teacher Cert	48	30	-18
Transient	2	3	+1
Total	1,215	1,158	-57

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- **Academic Affairs continued**
 - Retention



- Accountability
 - Memo to Faculty – 2/9/2024
 - Course Schedule Development Deadlines
 - Request for Course Content and Cross-Listed Course Deadline
 - Changes to Course Mode of Delivery and/or Program Length
 - Final Exam Implementation
- Proposed Policy on Faculty Credentials
 - Purpose
 - Scope
 - Policy Statement
 - Minimum Qualifications
 - Credential Verification
 - Exceptions and Waivers
 - Vice Chair Remines brought forth the matter to vote on placing Faculty Credentials for a 30-day comment period. Mr. Bill Cole motioned the acceptance, Mr. Sheffler seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
 - Comment period will begin 3/18 and comments will be reviewed during the April 25th Board of Governors meeting

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- **Financial & Administrative Affair:** Ronnie Hypes, CFO
 - Budget Overview
 - Budget constraints are still be reviewed
 - Cuts and revenue raises
 - Funding formula will be revisited for BSU
 - Not set to work in the university's favor so it will be restructured for us
 - Financial Aid
 - FASA changes are going to be tough
 - Department of Education has offered to aid HBSU's during the new roll out
 - Program Review
 - New requirement by the state and finance is working with the Interim Provost to provide financial numbers, revenue and expense numbers for the programs
 - Tuition Fee
 - Fee changes – 15-hour import fee changes
 - Differed Maintenance
 - Money in and bids out
 - Build out for Phase 1 for Allied Health beginning
 - Bids are being solicited
- **Safety and Security:** Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Safety and security committee meeting weekly
 - Members: Brent Benjamin, Chuck McGonagle, Ronnie Hypes, John Spencer, Ansel Ponder, Jim Nelson, Paul Rutherford, Tony Palmer
 - BSU/Campus Alert and other systems
 - Tom Gallemore, formerly at VTech
 - BSU Alert, Emergency Speaker system, quick reference guide, building monitor, evacuation plan, campus and MEC cameras
 - Public Safety Agreement with city being reviewed
 - Prepare and launch a Cleary Act compliant process
 - FBI, Homeland Security, State Police and City/County Law Enforcement
 - Active Shooter Training
 - Bomb Drills
 - Fire Drills and Safety
 - Bluefield Fire Department visiting each building on campus and MEC
 - Parking Permits (Hang Tag) being implemented on campus

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- **Safety and Security continued:** Brent Benjamin, EVP
 - Drugs
 - Periodic dog walk throughs are occurring
 - Campus Carry
 - Working with other General Counsel's so our plans are the same

Faculty Representative Update: Jack Sheffler, Faculty Representative

- Faculty in favor of bringing Saunders Staff housing keeping on board as full-time employees
- Faculty would like to rescind the Emeritus status that was provided to R. Capehart

Staff Representative Update: Tim McKenzie, Staff Representative

- Constitution and bylaws being reviewed
 - Should finalize at meeting on the 21st
 - Holiday schedule will be finalized during the 21st meeting
 - Selection of two staff members to sit on the Presidential Search Committee finalized

Student Representative Update: Gabriel Nesmith, Student Representative

- Funded two more student organizations for SGA
- Omega Psi Phi went to their 93rd conference in Atlanta
- Alpha Kappa Alphas conference few weeks ago
- American Student Nurses Association was funded

Special Orders: None

Unfinished Business:

- **Presidential Search Update:** Mrs. Cathy Deeb
 - Members all named and contacted
 - Meeting will be scheduled soon to review the process

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New Business:

- Immunization Policy
 - Vice Chair Remines brought forth the matter to vote on placing Immunization policy out for a 30-day comment period. Mr. Sheffler motioned the acceptance, Mr. Nesmith seconded. A majority of the members present and voting having voted in the affirmative. All were in favor. The motion carried.
 - Comment period will begin 3/18 and comments will be reviewed during the April 25th Board of Governors meeting
- Record Retention
 - Informational only and no vote is required
- Academic Objectives
 - Faculty and Administration need time to review this policy in depth
 - It was rushed through and both parties need time to review
 - Executive Memorandum was executed concerning the postponement of the Applicability of Academic Objectives Policy AC-201
 - This will allow the policy to be reviewed over the next 12 months

Announcements: None:

Comments:

Board Members: None

Public Comments: None

Executive Session:

- Mr. Sheffler made a motion to move into executive session – Mr. Nesmith seconded the motion, board of governors meeting moved into executive session at 5:07 PM.
- Mr. Benjamin and Mr. Hypes were asked to remain.
- Mr. Remines made a motion to exit executive session at 5:28 PM – Mr. Bill Cole motioned and Mr. Sheffler seconded.

Actions Emanating from Executive Session

Action

There were no matters emanating from Executive Session. Mr. Benjamin reported that matters discussed in Executive Session involved litigation and personnel employment, real estate opportunities, legal contracts, and financial contracts.

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Adjournment:

Vice Chair Remines made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bill Cole. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM

The next regularly scheduled BSU Board of Governors meeting will take place on Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Moricle, Board Liaison