

**Minutes of a Regularly Scheduled Meeting  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Board of Regents**

**February 15, 2023  
1:30 p.m.**

**Music Room  
Berry Hill Mansion  
Frankfort, Kentucky**

**I. Call to Order**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents convened on February 15, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in the Music Room, Berry Hill Mansion, Frankfort, Kentucky. Chair Eaves called the meeting to order. The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

**Present**

Mr. Mike Eaves  
Ms. Laura Babbage  
Mr. Juan Castro  
Mr. Jeremiah Duerson  
Mr. Alan Long  
Dr. Jason Marion  
Ms. Paige Murphy  
Mr. Edwin Orange  
Ms. Lynn Taylor Tye  
Mr. Ashley Ward

**II. Annual Election of Chair**

A motion was made by Regent Long to nominate Mike Eaves as board chair. The motion was seconded by Regent Babbage. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**III. Information Items**

**A. University Reports**

**1. Matt Roan, J.D., Construction Update, Alumni Coliseum Project**

Matt Roan, Vice President & Director of Athletics presented an update on the Alumni Coliseum Construction Project Phase 1, which included schematics, entrance, floor plans, sports medicine facility, and spaces for student-athletes and coaches. As currently envisioned, Phase 2 would involve the moving of administrative offices and the Bratzke Student Athlete Academic Center back to the arena. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

## **2. Mr. Barry Poynter, Financial Update**

Mr. Barry Poynter, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented a brief financial update as of January 31, 2023. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

## **3. Dr. Sara Zeigler, Academic Affairs Update**

Dr. Sara Zeigler, Provost, and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs presented the academic affairs update beginning with the announcement of the Giles Gallery Grand Re-opening with a free public reception scheduled for March 31, 2023, from 5-8 pm. In addition, Dr. Zeigler highlighted the College of STEM and two new degree programs launching in Fall 2023, a B.S. in Manufacturing Engineering, and a B.S. in Management Information Systems. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

## **4. Mr. Mike Eaves, Committee Reports**

Chair Eaves indicated there were no committee reports.

## **B. Additional Reports to the Board**

### **1. Written Reports**

#### **i. Dr. Richard Crosby, Faculty Senate Chair**

Dr. Crosby submitted a written report to the Board, which was included in the agenda.

#### **ii. Dr. Caelin Scott, Chair of Staff Council**

Dr. Scott submitted a written report to the Board, which was included in the agenda.

#### **iii. Ms. Paige Murphy, Student Government Association President**

Ms. Murphy submitted a written report to the Board, which was included in the agenda.

## **2. Dr. David T. McFaddin, President**

President David McFaddin delivered the following report:

### **Mechanical Engineering Program Launch**

Yesterday, we proudly launched the newest academic offering in the ECU course offering. I was joined by ECU faculty, Governor Andy Beshear, members of the General Assembly, membership of the Kentucky Association of Manufacturers (KAM), and Leadership Madison County as Kentucky celebrated Manufacturing Day at the Capitol.

Elevating Eastern Kentucky University's Brand is a component of our Strategic Plan. Here are a few important details about ECU's Manufacturing Engineering Program to be aware of:

1. ECU is the only Manufacturing Engineering program in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
2. ECU is one of 24 Manufacturing Engineering programs in the nation.
3. The first cohort goal is 30 students in Fall 2023.
4. ECU leads as the University for Manufacturing Education with our unique blend of programs including Manufacturing Engineering, Engineering Technology Management, and Global Supply Chain Management.

### **Option 9 Flexibility Awarded to ECU**

Yesterday we proudly announced that Eastern Kentucky University (ECU) became the first public university in Kentucky to offer an Option 9 alternative route to teacher certification following recent approval by the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB). In partnership with multiple educational cooperatives, ECU Option 9 increases the aspiring educator pipeline and addresses teacher shortages in the Commonwealth.

ECU Option 9 students will pursue their bachelor's degree and initial certification in elementary education while employed in a participating school district. Students will complete coursework online and work with students and in classrooms to complete field experience and student teaching requirements. Local districts and schools will help ensure student success by providing necessary mentoring and support throughout the program.

### **Performance Funding**

We are now entering the second official lookback period for the Performance Funding Formula that was adopted in Kentucky back in 2017. Through a collaborative effort with the other public

four-year institutions, we were able to secure a funding floor in the 2020 lookback period. Priorities for ECU entering the 2023 working group include the following:

1. Sector differentiation Research institutions and Regional Comprehensives separated into separate sectors **(preferred)**
2. Removal of factor weights between Research institutions and Regional Comprehensives **(alternative)**
3. Adjust model to reward efficiency in operational components versus sheer volume

The formal recommendations of the working group will be due to the Executive Branch and Legislature in late fall of 2023. I will be sure to keep you apprised of any formal recommendations or changes that arise during the process.

To view our complete performance funding recommendation please click the link below.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/197PDqKZyySuTZ3F7x0qigrN0LvZkKQiF/view?usp=sharing>

## **Enrollment Update**

There is a lot to be excited about as we look at our enrollment numbers. Here are a few important enrollment snapshots:

- 2023 Spring Semester enrollment was a 1.79% increase in enrollment from Spring 2022.
- A predictor for Fall enrollment is in our applicant numbers. We currently are up 7.4% in applicants and up 37.24% in applicants admitted from a year ago.

## **2023 Spring Commencement**

I want to share details on the 2023 Spring Commencement. Commencement ceremonies will take place at 9 am and 6 pm on Friday, May 12, 2023.

These are exciting times at ECU, and I am pleased to be on this journey with each of you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

### **3. Mr. Mike Eaves, Chair of the Board Report**

Chair Eaves indicated he did not have a report.

## **IV. Action Items**

### **A. Approval of Consent Agenda**

Chair Eaves presented to the full board the following items on the Consent Agenda for approval. A motion was made by Regent Ward to approve the following items (i-v) of the consent

agenda. The motion was seconded by Regent Long. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- i. Approval of the Minutes for the Full Board Meeting on December 1, 2022 (as amended)
- ii. Approval of the Minutes for the Special Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance and Evaluation on December 1, 2022
- iii. Approval of the Personnel Actions
- v. Approval of Degree Candidates for Spring 2023

## **B. Review and Approval of Six-Year Plan Update**

A motion was made by Regent Long to approve the six-year plan update. The motion was seconded by Regent Castro. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **C. Real Property Acquisition**

Colleen Chaney, Chief of Staff, and Chief Communications Officer addressed the board regarding a strategic growth opportunity for EKU/WEKU to transmit programming to the unserved public radio area of Maysville/Mason County with a permit awarded by the FCC. Estimated annual operating fees (including tower lease and electricity/internet) is \$15,000 - \$20,000, with all costs paid for by listener donations. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

A motion was made by Regent Babbage to approve the real property acquisition. The motion was seconded by Regent Orange. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **D. Board Self-Evaluation Discussion**

Chair Eaves explained that the board had performed their self-evaluation and opened the floor for board comments, observations, or actions regarding the summary prepared by Regent Marion, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance and Evaluation.

Regent Marion expressed that there was a lot of interest from the board members to learn more about trends in higher education with today's students. He indicated that there was some interest in digging a little deeper into the budget, employee benefits, personnel, and insurance. He expressed that overall, the board wants to be more engaged in learning about big-picture issues affecting the university.

Regent Babbage brought forth the question of should the board be evaluated by someone other than themselves. Regent Marion responded by indicating that some university boards around the country will pay an external consultant to monitor boards and board progresses,

however, that consulting can be rather pricey. To some degree, the board is evaluated by the Governor and the people of the Commonwealth. He did express, however, that he would be open to ideas or suggestions if they would want to use a third party. He indicated that around the country university boards do a self-assessment or pay an outside consultant agency to evaluate their boards.

## **V. Executive Session**

No Executive Session was needed.

## **VI. New Business**

Chair Eaves gave the floor to President McFaddin regarding three existing properties owned by the university, 316 University Drive (Coy House), 111 Cardinal Lane (Kennamer House), and 113 Cardinal Lane (Kenny Adams House). As the university has seen the evolution of its role in supporting those structures for the purpose of renting and other university needs, he indicated that those three properties have outlived their usefulness to the university, and he is looking for the board's approval to surplus and demolish those three structures. The President indicated that the property would remain under the ownership of the university, serving as a buffer to the rest of campus, and could be used to serve in new opportunities in the future.

A motion was made by Regent Long to accept the recommendation to surplus and demolish those three structures. The motion was seconded by Regent Babbage. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chair Eaves brought forth a document that proposed revisions to the Student Government Association Constitution. He requested that Regent Murphy, President of the SGA, prepare a summary of those said revisions, which have also been reviewed by University Counsel, and the President. He confirmed with Regent Murphy that the SGA ratified this constitution the evening prior (February 14<sup>th</sup>), a copy of which is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

Regent Ward commented that he had talked with Regent Murphy prior to the board meeting, and it is his understanding that this constitution is more in line with the other state universities and how they run their student governments. He expressed that he does think that it is significant that the colleges themselves will have a particular representative to be the voice for their college. Regent Murphy indicated that this constitution will not take effect until May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023.

A motion was made by Regent Babbage to accept the revised SGA constitution. The motion was seconded by Regent Marion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Before adjourning, President McFaddin took a moment to recognize Dr. Richard Crosby, outgoing Chair of the Faculty Senate who is retiring this summer after thirty-eight years with the university. He expressed that his partnership in that role has been outstanding, and he offered his appreciation for Dr. Crosby's impeccable service to his students and to the institution.

### **VII. Regent Comments**

There were no additional comments from the board.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Eaves adjourned the meeting at 2:53 pm.

  
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Jeremiah Duerson, Board Secretary

5/24/23  
Date