

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

**February 19, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

via Video Teleconference

I. Call to Order

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Eastern Kentucky University Board of Regents convened on February 19, 2025, at 9:08 a.m. via video teleconference. Chair Eaves called the meeting to order. The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

Present

Mr. Mike Eaves
Mr. Jeremiah Duerson
Mr. William Lampert
Mr. Alan Long
Dr. Jason Marion
Mr. Edwin Orange
Mr. Ashley Ward
Mr. Garth Bustle
Ms. Lori Cooksey
Ms. Teresa Hail

Absent

Ms. Laura Babbage

II. Annual Election of Chair

A motion was made by Regent Bustle to nominate Mike Eaves as board chair for another 1-year term. The motion was seconded by Regent Orange. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

III. Information Items

A. Committee Assignments

Chair Eaves directed the attention of the board to the committee assignments, a copy of which is included in the agenda; he communicated that members would receive notice of upcoming committee meeting dates shortly.

B. University Reports

1. Brian Mullins, Financial Update

Brian Mullins, Interim Vice President for Finance / Chief Financial Officer, presented a financial update as of December 30, 2024. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

2. Dr. Tanlee Wasson, Student Success and Enrollment Update

Dr. Tanlee Wasson, Senior Vice President for Student Success, Engagement, and Opportunity, offered a presentation that included, amongst other topics: an official announcement that ECU is the largest regional comprehensive university in the Commonwealth; Spring 2025 enrollment trends; 24-25 enrollment trends by program; retention trends and strategies; and Fall 2025 projections. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

3. Dr. Bryan Makenen and Dr. John Williamson, Construction Update

Dr. Bryan Makenen, Chief Campus Operations Officer, addressed the board on current projects, including: Burnam Hall renovations, Clay Hall renovations, Alumni Coliseum renovations, Flight School terminal building construction, and Model Laboratory School construction. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

4. Mary Beth Neiser, Development Update

Ms. Mary Beth Neiser, Vice President of University Development and Alumni Engagement, offered a presentation that included, amongst other topics: the three-year comparison for fundraising efforts as of December 31, 2024 and preview for Giving Day 2025. The presentation is incorporated herein and will be included with the official copy of the minutes.

[The Chair adjourned for a recess at 10:13 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:20 a.m.]

5. Committee Reports

The board discussed upcoming committee meeting dates for the Executive Committee, the Finance and Administration Committee, and the Audit and Compliance Committee.

C. Additional Reports to the Board

1. Written Reports

i. Dr. Sara Zeigler, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Zeigler submitted a written report to the board, which was included in the agenda.

ii. Dr. Lisa Kay, Chair of Faculty Senate

Dr. Kay submitted a written report to the board, which was included in the agenda.

iii. Dr. Caelin Scott, Chair of Staff Council

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

iv. Mr. William Lampert, Student Government Association President

Mr. Lampert 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:

We're already a quarter of the way through the semester, and spring break will be here before we know it! While ECU has shown off its namesake as the Campus Beautiful with a few heavy snows this winter, springtime on campus will certainly be a welcome sight. With the spring semester well underway, we are hard at work advocating for the proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine, showcasing the achievements of our campus community and pressing forward with campus renovations and planning.

Eastern Kentucky Flooding Response

The flooding in Eastern Kentucky has once again ravaged our service region. Since the flooding began, our ECU student success teams have been reaching out to over 3,000 on and off campus students from the counties hardest hit with devastation. In addition, we are also reaching out to high school counselors and high school students in the region to see how we can assist them. ECU Teams at the Richmond and Manchester campuses are

providing relief assistance identifying needed supplies, connecting students to critical emergency resources, and providing educational materials and support during this difficult time.

We are currently working on a variety of events surrounding the flooding where our ECU family may participate. Those include creating care packages and outreach events in the region for students wanting to give back. If an individual wants to assist our students in need, I recommend supporting the ECU SAFE Fund. ECU's SAFE fund provides immediate assistance to ECU students unable to meet essential expenses due to an unexpected emergency or crisis situation.

2025 Legislative Session and Colonels at the Capitol

The 2025 General Assembly began on January 7th to complete the 30 day session. There are 19 new legislators who are getting settled in, new committee chairs have been named and several ECU alums have joined the legislature – Senator Matt Nunn (17th Senate District) and Senator Scott Madon (29th Senate District). We look forward to building relationships with the new legislators and highlighting ECU's successes and needs.

ECU's proposed Osteopathic Medical Program bill, House Bill 56, was introduced on January 7th by Speaker Pro Tem David Meade and we anticipate House Postsecondary Education Committee action in February. HB 56 currently has 33 cosponsors from across the Commonwealth. In addition, Senate Bill 119, was introduced on February 7th by ECU Alumni Senator Brandon Storm. The bill currently has nine cosponsors.

ECU faculty and staff traveled to Frankfort for Colonels at the Capitol. The day was highly successful with many discussions regarding support for the ECU-COM (College of Osteopathic Medicine) project. ECU continues advocating and tracking multiple bills that could impact the University. We will keep faculty, staff, students and alumni informed as the session moves forward.

ECU Students Impacting Frankfort

We were very excited to welcome 10 talented ECU legislative interns to Frankfort on February 4th. We are so grateful to Dr. Lynnette Noblitt and Dr. Steve Barracca and others across campus who have identified and recruited excellent students who will work with key legislators throughout the session. Our Colonels at the Capitol Internship Program has been extremely successful, with numerous legislators proactively requesting to be matched with ECU students. In addition, we have several ECU students and graduates who are currently working in the House Speaker's Office.

Humana and Anthem Donations Continue to Elevate Health Innovation Hub

ECU is well known for providing qualified healthcare professionals to help meet the workforce needs of communities throughout the state. Recognizing ECU's commitment to supporting students in their journey toward a healthcare career, Humana contributed \$75,000 to ECU, unlocking an incentive award from CPE and bringing the total funding to \$150,000. The partnership with Humana seeks to develop a program to build a more sustainable nursing workforce.

At the end of January, we also announced the expansion of the Anthem Rural Medicine Scholarship. Anthem committed \$100,000 to the scholarship endowment, increasing their total investment at ECU to nearly \$400,000 since the establishment of the partnership in 2021. This expansion not only enriches ECU's health science program, but also empowers students to provide care in underserved, rural communities. Including this year's three recipients, 16 ECU students have been awarded the Anthem Rural Medicine Scholarship.

President's Excellence Awards

The President's Excellence Awards nominations are open for faculty to nominate colleagues in the areas of leadership, engagement and hospitality, community and belonging, innovation, student support, and the emerging leader award. Each winner will receive an award and \$3,000; the finalists will each receive \$1,000. Nominations can be submitted through the President's Excellence Awards website no later than Friday, March 7, 2025.

Budget Planning

As we approach the budget planning process and the close out to the 2024-2025 budget year, I want to recognize the hard work of our faculty. As a campus we are answering the call to not only be prudent with our spending, but to also be mindful of the need to have appropriate savings. The work is evident in our numbers as we are tracking well financially for this budget year. Having said that, traditionally the bulk of our budget spending happens in the 4th quarter so we must be steadfast in our commitment.

Campus Planning

Our campus planning team, Lord Aeck Sargant, spent last week on campus reviewing our various academic buildings and student-facing facilities as part of the observation phase of their work. For the next few months, they will be working with various committees across campus. In February, a website will launch for campus to remain informed about the progress of the campus master plan work.

January ECU in the News

In the News:

- ECU looks to address lack of pediatricians in 48 Kentucky counties
- Kentucky horse racing icon dies
- Secrets Of Kentucky's Ghost Trail
- A bill that could ease access for climbers passes through the Wyoming House - ECU Study Mentioned
- Nighttime warrant ended with police killing a Kentucky man. Should they be served that late? - ECU Expert
- MLK Day History - ECU Expert
- Universities: Expanding missions would meet needs
- Miranda Rights - ECU used as resource
- Students encouraged to apply for Transportation scholarships
- Julie Morris Foundation Hosts Free Concert at ECU:

- Adapting Through Adversity: ECU Alum Sets Sights on 2026 Paralympic Winter Games
- ECU Graduates Soar in Aerospace Management
- Importance of sleep podcast - ECU Expert
- LA Wildfires - ECU expert
- CPE awards over 500K for healthcare summer bridge programs
- Psychological Effects of Cabin Fever - Dr. Dan Florell
- Periodical Cicadas To Emerge In 13 States In 2025 - ECU Expert
- Baptist Health Arena Tour
- Tax Cut, Anti-DEI, & more: 5 things to watch out for this legislative session - DO school mentioned
- Risk Management, Appliances with Christine Schelble - Podcast, ECU mention

December ECU in the News

In the News:

- Gas supply - Global Supply Chain Expert Dr. Kirby Easterling
- The Rhythm of Rest - Sleep Expert Dr. Chris Perry
- Option 9
- From Model to ECU
- WEKU NGWS grant
- ECU UAS program
- Mysterious drone sightings - Drone/Aviation Expert Dennis Sinnett
- Legislative committee work continues
- Children's gift giving - Psychology Expert Dr. Dan Florell
- Winter break for colleges in Kentucky
- Internet reactions - Psychology Expert Dr. Dan Florell
- Meteor Shower - ECU Expert
- Everyday Evidence: Occupation-Based Treatment in Orthopedic Settings - ECU Expert
- Father and daughter graduate together
- Managing Stress and Performance for Tactical Populations w/ Dr. Mike Lane, Anders Varner, Doug Larson, and Travis Mash
- WEKU Maysville Transmitter
- Dorm Renovations
- Tips for navigating your mental health during the holiday season - ECU Expert
- Colonel's Cupboard 10-year anniversary
- Athletic Development Expert - Dr. Mike Lane
- SNAP
- Education: Business Degrees Bring a Payoff
- Equipping Tomorrow's Leaders

Upcoming Events

- March 12, 2025 – Faculty Lunch and Learn
- March 17-21 – ECU Spring Break

- April 23, 2025 – Giving Day
- April 23, 2025 – 2025 President’s Excellence Awards
- May 15-16, 2025 – Commencement

As I’ve expressed throughout this academic year, it brings me great joy to serve as president of my alma mater, Eastern Kentucky University. The work we do together feels incredibly meaningful as we bring about positive change for our students, our region and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Thank you for your sharing in this journey as One Eastern, as we take bold steps forward in fulfilling our role as the School of Opportunity.

III. Action Items

A. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Regent Long to approve items iii. through viii. The motion was seconded by Regent Bustle. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made to approve items i. and ii., as amended, by Regent Bustle. The motion was seconded by Regent Ward. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Approval of Resolution in Support of ECU Proposed Osteopathic Medical Program

A motion was made by Regent Bustle. The motion was seconded by Regent Long. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. New Business

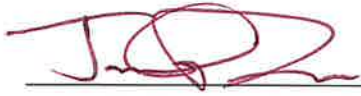
A motion was made by Regent Bustle to approve Policy 1.5.5, Annual Evaluation of the President and amend Policy 4.8.1, Annual Evaluation of Academic Administrators accordingly. The motion was seconded by Regent Cooksey. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. Executive Session

There was no need for an Executive Session.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Eaves called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Regent Hail. The motion was seconded by Regent Lampert. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.



Jeremiah Duerson, Board Secretary

5/14/2025

Date