



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Academic Affairs Committee

April 25, 2024

Minutes

Loughman Living Room, Scanlon Hall

A live stream of the meeting for public viewing also took place on YouTube.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Committee Chair Dr. Robert Martin, Vice Chair Dr. Gloria Williams, Secretary William Reichelt, and Trustees Daniel Currier, George Gilmer, Madeline Landrau and Board Chair Ali Salehi, ex-officio member.

Also present were Westfield State University President Dr. Linda Thompson, Provost Dr. David Caruso, and Dean of the School of Health, Natural Sciences and Human Services, Dr. Ziblim Abukari and Dean of the School of Business, Mathematics, Computing & Sustainability, Dr. Rebecca Morris.

Committee Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 10:40 am and a roll call was taken of the committee members participating as listed above. It was announced that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

MOTION made by Trustee Currier seconded by Trustee Gilmore to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024, meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Trustee Williams	Yes
Trustee Reichelt	Yes
Trustee Currier	Yes
Trustee Gilmer	Yes
Trustee Martin	Yes

There being no discussion, **ROLL CALL VOTE** passed motion unanimously.

Academic Affairs College/Deans Reorganization

Provost Caruso referred to the Two College Organizational Structure that will be implemented on July 1, 2024. The Senior Leadership will consist of two Interim Deans with support staff. This was vetted with faculty via chair meetings. The Provost received positive feedback. During the Pandemic the University had a four-college structure which made it difficult to manage effectively and was quite costly to the university.

Faculty Evaluation Systems Summary

Explanation given by Provost Caruso regarding the process. By the time the faculty get to tenure, they have had several evaluations from their peers, department chair, dean of the college and from the Provost. Part of the evaluation includes attending a class of the faculty member. The university

also has a Tenure Committee that conducts an evaluation and brings to the Provost their decision which is then given to the President to be presented to the Board of Trustees. Similarly, this is done for the Promotion of Faculty as well.

MOTION made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Gloria Williams,
The granting of promotion to the rank of Associate Professor, effective September 1, 2024, to:
Dr. Charles DiStefano Political Science
Dr. Ashley Evanoski-Cole Chemical & Physical Science
Dr. Mao-Lun Weng Biology

The granting of promotion the rank of Professor, effective September 1, 2024:
Dr. Peter Coutsouridis Music
Dr. Sinuk Kang Communications
Dr. Joan Kuhnly Nursing
Dr. Liem Nguyen Accounting & Finance
Dr. Marcia Scanlon Nursing
Dr. Robin White Biology

The granting of promotion the rank of Senior Librarian effective September 1, 2024, to:
Ms. Rebecca Brody Library

There being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative:
Williams, Reichelt, Currier, Gilmer, Landrau and Martin.

MOTION made by Trustee Martin, seconded by Trustee Currier,
The granting of tenure, effective September 1, 2024, to:
Dr. Amanda Salacinski Sports Medicine and Human Performance
Dr. Lauren DiCarlo Environmental Science

The granting of tenure with automatic promotion, effective September 1, 2024, to:
Dr. Roderico Acevedo Chemical & Physical Science
Dr. Maureen Dimock Clark Social Work

There being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously with Trustees voting in the affirmative:
Williams, Reichelt, Currier, Gilmer, Landrau and Martin.

Key Performance Indicators

The Provost referred to the attachment labeled Key Performance Indicators within Strategic Planning Priorities. Three areas to start with are Campus Culture, Value for our Students and Financial Stability. This was considered a great start with collecting data. There were many suggestions made for the various committees. Benchmark timeline from the Cabinet feasibly can be brought to the Board by the fall 2024 in draft form.

There being no further business, **MOTION** made by Trustee Currier, seconded by Trustee Williams to adjourn. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Attachments presented at this meeting:

- a. Draft Minutes of February 8, 2024
- b. Two College Organizational Structure
- c. Faculty Evaluation Systems Summary
- d. Promotion Candidate Summaries
- e. Promotion Personnel Action
- f. Motion for Faculty Promotion
- g. Tenure Candidate Summaries
- h. Tenure Personnel Action
- i. Motion for Tenure Promotion
- j. Key Performance Indicators

Secretary's Certificate

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the Westfield State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee meeting held on April 25, 2024.

William Reichelt, Secretary

Date