MINUTES
Board of Regent’s Regular Meeting
February 16, 2016

The Board of Regents for Western Oklahoma State College met Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Regents’ Room (HLC 108) at Western Oklahoma State College for a regular meeting. Regents present were Chairperson Dana Darby, Vice Chairperson Cindy Clayton, Secretary Brent Howard and members Gilmer J. Capps, Lindsey Treadwell, and Mark Dodson. Regent Scott Northrip was absent.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Announcement of Quorum of the Board. Announcement of Filing the Meeting Notice and of Posting the Agenda in Accordance with the Open Meeting Law. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Darby. Roll call was conducted by Ms. Briar Jenkins, who noted that a quorum was present and stated that the meeting notice had been filed with the Secretary of State and posted at the main entrance in compliance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

2. Introduction of Guests: The following guests were present: Mr. Chad Wiginton, Vice President for Student Support Services; Mr. Chase Castillo, Student Senate President; Ms. Tricia Latham, Vice President for Business Affairs; Ms. Lisa Greenlee, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ms. Katie Brewer, Assistant Director of Admissions and Registrar; Ms. Melissa Smith, Coordinator of Online Education; Ms. Jacque Bellamy, Faculty Senate President; Ms. Lora Lea Pickering, Director of Development and Alumni Relations; Mr. Dustin Balderas, Alumni Association Board President; Mr. Larry Duffy, Executive Secretary for the Foundation; Ms. Judith Meyer, Director of Public Information; and Ms. Briar Jenkins, Administrative Secretary to the President.

3. Recognition of Gilmer J. Capps by the Board of Regents. Chairperson Darby presented a board plaque honoring his 21 years of distinguished service on behalf of the board of regents.

4. Recognition of Gilmer J. Capps by the WOSC Student Senate. Student Senate President Mr. Chase Castillo presented an award and thanked Regent Capps for his years of distinguished service on behalf of Western students. Capps served three seven-year term which ends in March.

5. Recognition of Gilmer J. Capps by the WOSC Alumni Association. Ms. Lora Lea Pickering, Director of Development and Alumni Relations and Mr. Dustin Balderas, Alumni Association Board President presented Regent Capps with a lifetime membership to the WOSC Alumni Association and Mr. Larry Duffy, Executive Secretary for the Foundation gave remarks regarding contributions made to the college by Regent Capps and his family.

6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Revised Faculty Senate Constitution. Ms. Jacque Bellamy presented a revised faculty senate constitution to reflect changes aimed at clarifying the document and included edits to the preamble, procedures regarding placement of individuals on
senate committees, and the election of senators. Regent Dodson moved that the board approve the revised constitution as presented. Regent Howard seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Clayton, yes; Howard, yes; Dodson, yes; Treadwell, yes; Capps, yes; Darby, yes. Motion was carried unanimously.

7. **Faculty Senate.** Ms. Jacque Bellamy reported on enhanced student recruitment efforts and the start of a new project; the drafting of an Academic Freedom policy. The senate expects to complete the document within the course of its impending meetings.

8. **Staff Senate.** Ms. Melissa Smith, Chair reported on the new personnel office payroll conversion, the transition from Lincoln Life to MetLife insurance for employees, a successful fundraiser that brought the Harlem Ambassadors to the college for a sold out community event, and she highlighted Western’s Homecoming activities held February 13. She also reported on the Testing Center’s impending transition from the COMPASS student placement test to the ACCUPLACER assessment tool, and the activities of the task force specially appointed to address the state budget failure and Western’s response to mandated spending cuts in FY16.

9. **Report on Second Chance Pell.** Mr. Chad Wiginton, Vice President for Student Support Services reported on an experimental site initiative released by the US Department of Education. Second Chance Pell would allow for incarcerated individuals enrolling in a college program to receive federal student aid if they are eligible for release within five years. This program would serve current Western student groups in need of tuition support.

10. **Report on Pell for Dual Enrollment Students.** Mr. Chad Wiginton, Vice President for Student Support Services reported on a second experimental site initiative released by the US Department of Education on Pell for Dual Enrollment which would allow concurrent high school students who qualify to receive federal student aid. Applications have been submitted and the results of those applications are pending. This program would serve current Western student groups in need of tuition support.

11. **Consent Docket.** Regent Dodson moved that the Board approve the consent docket as outlined under Tab R, Attachments 1-2 and Tab S, Attachment 1-4. Regent Clayton seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Howard, yes; Capps, yes; Dodson, yes; Treadwell, yes; Clayton, yes; Darby, yes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

12. **Report Regarding WOSC Foundation Inc., Bond Debt Early Redemption.** Ms. Tricia Latham, Vice President for Business Affairs reported on the early pay off of the 2008 WOSC Foundation Inc., Bond for the Western Residence Hall. The bond is due to be fully redeemed June 1, 2019, but allows for optional redemption as of June 1, 2014. There are enough reserve funds to exercise redemption as of June 1, 2016. The principle balance on the bond is $560,000 and the accrued interest on June 1, 2016, will be $11,898.75. Early pay off will save the college $615,000 in lease payments to the WOSC Foundation and $37,827.50 in interest payments to bondholders.

8. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Emeriti Benefits Policy.** Ms. Tricia Latham, Vice President for Business Affairs presented the Emeriti Benefits Policy as outlined in Tab U, Attachments 1-2. This policy would formalize current practices regarding emeriti benefits i.e. tuition waivers, free access to the Wellness Center, Learning Resources Center, athletic events and college musicals. Capps moved that the Board approve policy as presented. Regent Treadwell
seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Howard, yes; Clayton, yes; Capps, yes; Treadwell, yes; Dodson, yes; Darby, yes. The motion was adopted unanimously.

9. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding MPC and Business Office Remodel.** Ms. Tricia Latham, Vice President for Business Affairs presented a request for approval of funding for remodeling projects on the Business Office Complex and Multipurpose Center. Preliminary estimates for the remodeling projects have come in at approximately $175,000 over original estimates. Latham asked to utilize the $175,000 available for construction projects along with an additional $50,000 of potential contingency and furnishings budget from Section 13 capital funds carry over from FY15. Latham proposed to contract with Joe D. Hall Contractors for construction management services. The contract will allow for bids for separate components of the construction. Total construction estimate is $495,442. Regent Clayton moved that the Board approve the request as presented. Regent Dodson seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Howard, yes; Dodson, yes; Capps, yes; Treadwell, yes; Clayton, yes, Darby, yes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

10. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Advertisement of Bids.** Ms. Tricia Latham, Vice President for Business Affairs requested to advertise for bids on 35 acres of irrigated land located on the west side of the campus with access to irrigation water. Bid advertisements will be for a three-year lease of 35 of the 40 acres of irrigated land on Western’s property. Regent Dodson moved that the Board approve the new policy as presented. Regent Capps seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Clayton, yes; Howard, yes; Capps, yes; Treadwell, yes; Dodson, yes; Darby, yes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

12. **President’s Report and Recommendations.** President Birdine reported on the following:

   A. **OSRHE Memo.** President Birdine reported news of a memo received from Chancellor Glen Johnson informing institutions of higher education that Oklahoma state appropriations for FY17 will be 15.9% less than FY16.

   B. **Miss Oklahoma Certificate.** Western received a certificate by the Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Pageant Board of Directors for its past year of support for contestants.

   C. **Gunkel Gratitude.** President Birdine received a thank you card from past regent Renee Walker Gunkel thanking the Board for flowers sent to her family after the passing of her father and WOSC alumnus, Nolan Walker.

   D. **OSU Extension Office.** President Birdine reported that a communication sent by the OSU Extension Office terminating its land lease with Western will be presented to the board at another meeting.

   E. **Higher Ed Day.** Birdine asked Mr. Chad Wiginton, Vice President for Student Support Services to report on his experience with the Western students at Higher Ed Day at the state capitol.

13. **Proposed Executive Session Pursuant to Section 307 (B)(1) of the Open meeting Act.** At 8:48 p.m. Regent Dodson moved that the Board go into Executive Session. Regent Clayton seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Capps, yes; Howard, yes; Clayton, yes; Treadwell, yes; Dodson, yes; Darby, yes. Motion was adopted unanimously.
14. **Open session and Possible Action Regarding Matters discussed in Executive Session.** At 9:21 p.m. Regent Clayton moved that the Board return to Open Session. Regent Dodson seconded the motion and the following votes were recorded: Treadwell, yes; Dodson, yes; Howard, yes; Capps, yes; Clayton, yes; Darby, yes. The motion was adopted unanimously.

15. **Discussion of Personnel Matters.** Regent Capps moved to accept the personnel recommendations as outlined in Tab XYZ, Attachments 1-3 which include the employment of Ms. Karla Moore, Director of Assessment; and the resignation of Mr. Justin Carpenter, Upward Bound Academic Coordinator. Regent Treadwell seconded the motion, and the following votes were recorded: Clayton, yes; Dodson, yes; Treadwell, yes; Capps, yes; Howard, yes; Darby, yes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

16. **Adjournment.** At 9:22 p.m.

**NOTE:** The meeting was held in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. The agenda was posted 24 hours in advance in the display case across from A-1 at Western Oklahoma State College.