

Western Illinois University  
Board of Trustees  
Academic and Student Services Committee

June 2, 2006

Committee Members Present: Trustee Donald W. “Bill” Griffin (Chair), Trustee Robert J. Cook, Trustee Carolyn J. Ehlert, Trustee Christopher M. Thomas, Vice President for Student Services W. Garry Johnson and Provost and Academic Vice President Joseph C. Rallo

Committee Member Absent: Trustee George J. Guzzardo

Also Present: Trustee William L. Epperly, President Alvin Goldfarb (*Ex-Officio*), Trustee J. Michael Houston (*Ex-Officio*), Trustee Steven L. Nelson, Legal Counsel Bruce J. Biagini and Administrative Assistant to the Board Kerry L. Yadgar

Guest Speakers: Ellyn Bartges (Assistant Equal Opportunity Officer), Cathy Couza (Affirmative Action Director), Al Harris (Assoc. Vice President for Student Services), Joe Rives (Asst. to President for Planning and Budget), Pat Sartore (Director, Beu Health Center), James Stevenson (HCH Administration, Inc.)

Trustee Bill Griffin, Committee Chair, called the meeting of the Academic and Student Services Committee to order at 10:15 A.M. in Conference Rooms A, B & C, WIU – Quad Cities. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of March 10, 2006 Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the March 10, 2006 Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting were approved as presented.

**Tenure Recommendations for 2006-2007**

## **Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006**

Provost Joe Rallo welcomed everyone to the Quad Cities' campus. It's kind of a "Goldilocks Day" being neither too hot nor too cold—but just perfect. In terms of agenda items, the tenure recommendation before the Board followed the approved tenure process. At Western it is probably the most inclusive that I've seen on six campuses. It is very open and transparent. There are a variety of levels of review, and the process meets University requirements as well as departmental criteria. You will see different ranks on the list we have submitted to you for review because we have a number of new chairs and deans who have come in with tenure from other institutions. He responded to questions from trustees.

In response to a question from Trustee Cook about who comes in with tenure, Provost Rallo said it is normal if you have earned tenure at your previous institution to submit your documents to the department for review. We have an expedited process that we put in place, a shortened review process, for heads of departments who come in to the institution. We worked that out in conjunction with Dr. Karen Harris, campus UPI representative, and that was put in place last year. There is a review by the department with the opportunity for faculty to provide comment.

Trustee Nelson stated he is very pleased to see that of those being recommended for tenure most, if not all of them, have their Doctorate degrees. It is nice to see and a great selling point for the institution in that we have faculty who have Doctorate degrees.

Provost Rallo replied that individuals now must have their terminal degree to compete for a tenure line. It is reflective of the institution. Thank you for noticing that.

The members of the Academic and Student Services Committee agreed to support passage when presented to the full Board for action.

### **New Degree Program – B.S. in Telecommunications Management**

Provost Rallo indicated that one of the things he has been working on in the Academic Affairs area is balancing the degree portfolio that we have so that we have evenness in our offerings for students. We have new degree programs that are building in areas that are emerging so that we can assure students of meaningful employment after they graduate. We also are trying to maximize the use of existing resources and faculty so that we don't always have to put in new resources every time we have a new degree opportunity.

This proposal before the Board for a B.S. in Telecommunications Management builds on existing strengths, meets emerging needs and at the same time we can reallocate existing faculty and some new hires to this program. We do not have new resources requested for this program.

Trustee Ehlert asked if Provost Rallo could present background on how this new program was established. She noted she had attended the recent conference WIU hosted in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education who has set a goal for higher education of further aligning and integrating with constituencies—in this case it would be business or others who use telecommunications. What steps have been taken to assure that what we are teaching in this new major is up-to-date and relevant to the constituencies that will be served? Also, how are we going to continue to measure that success? It seems that going into a four-year program in

### **New Degree Program – B.S. in Telecommunications Management (Continued)**

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telecommunications the world will have changed in four years. How are we going to be sure that the course content is always relevant and current? Boeing Corporation made a presentation at the conference. They hire engineers and look for the best and the brightest for their business. They hire one out of every 200 applicants they interview—and that one always will have had an important internship. Have you planned into the program important internship opportunities for these students?

Provost Rallo stated that one of the goals given to the faculty, the chairs and the deans is to really look at their strengths so that we don't have to create from the ground level. There were strengths present in this department. The next thing they did was to go out to the constituency groups and they identified several—Deere, State Farm, Discover, Principal Financial—the types of employers who are both integral to designing a degree program and also who would hire the students we graduate. They surveyed all of current existing Computer Science Department alumni to ask: what was good at WIU; what have you seen in the outside world and what do we need to do to improve our program. The faculty also visited other institutions in the state with a similar degree. They went to both Roosevelt University and ISU to talk with colleagues and make sure that we are engaged in the types of activities that we should include. They also conducted a market analysis at the national level, which is included today in the supporting materials, to look at the emerging types of jobs.

They have done their homework and have asked the right questions. Change always occurs and that is where we rely on the faculty to be professionally active so they understand the changes that are occurring and that they interact at the professional level. Many of our faculty do consulting at the corporate level and do understand what is going on and the needs of the constituencies. It is a balance—sometimes employers want very specific skills and at the university we want to have more of a general overview. That is the balancing act, but overall we are comfortable that we have a good foothold. We can always do better, of course, and need to make certain that we adapt to change.

With respect to the internships, I am a firm believer in internships. The new dean of the College of Business and Technology has a very strong technology engineering background, an area where internships are integral. I would like to see internships built in to the program as an expectation. Some institutions require that you do an internship as part of your education. Sometimes it is easier when you are located in an urban area. Increasingly we expect to see that built in to the curriculum.

In response to a question if the new degree program would be offered in the Quad Cities, Provost Rallo noted not at this time. We will need to review the number of students interested—it is a matter of critical mass. However, a number of the internship opportunities will probably be in this area. Once we get the program on track, we will revisit that.

The members of the Academic and Student Services Committee agreed to support passage when presented to the full Board for action.

### **Naming of New Residence Hall**

Vice President Garry Johnson stated that a number of years ago the Board had approved the construction of a new residence hall on campus on the site of two previously razed residence halls—Bennett and Hursh Halls. The goal was to develop a new proto-type of what we hoped

### **Naming of New Residence Hall (Continued)**

## Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006

would be other new residence halls on campus. The first new residence hall was built and that building has been called “New Hall” for lack of a better name.

Students and others have asked about naming this new residence hall. I’ve worked with Inter-Hall Council, the student governance group in the residence halls, and asked them to come forward with suggestions for names they felt would represent our campus and its history.

They submitted a recommendation of three names and those were submitted to the campus Naming Committee. The Committee approved using the name of Caroline Grote for our new residence hall.

The first Grote Hall was located east of Sherman Hall and had been vacated for a number of years and was unsafe and an eyesore to campus when I first came in 1970. A decision was finally made to tear it down. Vice President Johnson provided the following background information on Caroline Grote and the first residence hall that was named for her.

### Caroline Grote

- Caroline was hired in 1906 under President Alfred Bayliss to teach “Country School Education”
- Created Country School Training Program – a special 1 year program for would-be-rural school teachers without a high school diploma.
- Was main teacher in algebra, civics, history, geography, etc.
- Graduated from Western in Class of 1911 (at that time, she had already been teaching at Western)
- Dean of Women
- 1932 – received Ph.D at age of 69
- Retired May 1935 after 29 years at WIU
- Died in 1941 after a long illness
- 6 years later the “dormitory” she managed for so long was re-named Grote Hall
- A concerned, but overly protective woman who rigidly enforced the Monroe Hall rules and often lectured her young charges on proper behavior with men
- In short, she embodied the school’s intention to act *in loco parentis* (in the place of a parent), shaping the moral lives of students, especially young women
- In the 1920’s, as the Dean of Women, Caroline Grote, sponsored a new organization - the Sociology Club
  - An all-female group
  - A branch of the Illinois State League of Women Voters
  - Club focused on informing women about social and political issues...it was a sign of changing times.

### During those times

- If a student was doing “F” work in class, he/she had to confer with the appropriate dean or be dropped from the course
- In case of any absence or tardiness, students had to see the dean for an excuse or an admit slip
- Weekly assembly on Tuesday mornings was mandatory and most students disliked it

### **Naming of New Residence Hall (Continued)**

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- Weekly assembly was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the main building (Sherman Hall)
- Every student had an assigned seat and roll was taken

### **The Hall**

- The “Woman’s Building” completed 1913 (Monroe Hall)
- Officially named Monroe Hall, in honor of former President James Monroe
- Female students began moving in on December 8, 1913
- Prior to that, that area of the campus lawn was used by several Presidents for golfing and other activities—the green was destroyed when Monroe Hall was built in 1947 – Monroe Hall renamed after former Dean of Women, Caroline Grote
- 2 years later, a new wing was added, providing 38 dual-occupancy rooms—the new wing was dedicated in April 1950
- Closed in December 1972 (addition closed in Spring 1973)
  - Decline in overall enrollment
  - Very tight budget
  - Fire safety concerns

Students attempted to gather signatures on a petition to protest the decision to close Grote Hall and presented President Bernhard with alternatives for saving money and even held demonstrations with signs posted on the building saying, “Let it Be!”

- In 1991 Grote Hall was finally demolished after sitting empty for 18 years

The Inter-Hall Council students and I feel it is an appropriate and fitting name for our newest residence hall to represent what was a significant part of our history in terms of Grote Hall which was the first residence hall on campus. We can in this way help maintain the history of Western Illinois University. There are certainly a lot of alumni who lived in Grote Hall who will see this as a fitting way to remember Caroline Grote and her great contributions to the University.

The members of the Academic and Student Services Committee agreed to support passage when presented to the full Board for action.

### **Report on Academic Curricular and Administrative Changes**

Provost Rallo stated that the Board requires annually that we provide a summary of the changes that have been approved over the past year. These changes have been consistent with our academic planning process, have gone through the appropriate shared governance and administrative approval, and move us toward the goal of being as responsive as possible to students as well as to faculty needs.

### **Annual Listing of Academic Program Changes**

Again, this is the same basic requirement in terms of an annual informational report on the changes made to academic programs over the last year. This is an annual requirement of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. It ties the various codes that identify our programs and it captures what we are doing. There were no questions regarding the report.

### **Affirmative Action Annual Update**

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Director of Affirmative Action Cathy Couza and Assistant Equal Opportunity Officer Ellyn Bartges presented an overview of affirmative action activities during this past year.

Western Illinois University's comprehensive Affirmative Action/ADA Compliance program includes workforce diversity initiatives, non-discrimination compliance oversight and support, outreach programming and training, and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. Support for these efforts is affirmed in the University's strategic plan, *Higher Values in Higher Education*. These efforts also support two goals outlined in the plan: 1) to attract, recruit, retain and develop an excellent faculty representative of the diverse and global society; and, 2) to develop strategies to increase the recruitment and retention of staff and administration from traditionally underrepresented groups.

We continue to see progress in our workforce diversity initiatives. Significant emphasis has been placed on recruitment efforts for faculty and staff vacancies. During the past year, the Affirmative Action Office provided over \$17,000 in resource support to departments for advertising, interviewing and salary offer assistance. A new recruitment initiative, the Visiting Scholars Program, was implemented, and the first scholar visited campus through coordinated efforts with the Department of Psychology, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Affirmative Action Office. Additionally, the Dual Career Recruitment and Retention Program provided opportunities to attract two employees from underrepresented groups.

This past year, the Affirmative Action Office provided support and coordination for 165 faculty and administrative searches. That compares to 85 searches for FY2005.

Ellyn Bartges reviewed for trustees new ways the University is reaching out to garner more diverse applicant pools, including posting jobs to web sites. The web sites are linked back to the WIU web page so applicants can view the job opening and also learn about the institution. Ms. Bartges also reviewed printed ad placement of job openings. She noted we place full-page print ads for all tenure track positions with web links that go back to the University's web page. We try to get as much diversity in our advertising as possible.

These are things we have not been able to do in the past without the financial support for advertising. As a result of this new effort, our applicant pools have increased significantly. A review of applicant pools for FY2006 shows that over 4,500 individuals applied for faculty and administrative positions during the past year. That compares to 3,400 in FY2005, an increase of 32 percent. Females comprised 50 percent of applicants for administrative vacancies, and 21 percent for faculty and other instructional positions. Applicants from underrepresented groups made up nine percent of administrative applicants pools, and 22 percent of faculty and other instructional applicant pools.

Ms. Couza reported our Learner and Trainee programs provide great opportunities in the civil service hiring area to increase diversity. These programs are allowed by the State Universities Civil Service System (SUCSS) in cases where the exam does not create a diverse pool of applicants. Interest in Trainee and Learner programs remains high, with 186 and 143 active applicants in the Trainee and Learner pools, respectively. In FY2006 seven learners and six trainees were hired. Of these 13 placements, five are African-American/Black, and one is Asian/Pacific Islander. This year's placements also included one semi-professional position (Webmaster) and one managerial position (Night Supervisor of University Union).

### Affirmative Action Annual Update (Continued)

## **Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006**

In addition we have instituted mandatory sexual harassment training this past year. We are happy to report that we have had 2,400 employees complete the test—629 faculty, 1,146 civil service, and 634 students and student employees, including graduate students.

We have seen a decrease in the number of sexual harassment complaints filed this year—18 formal complaints filed this year compared to 24 filed last year. This is good news.

One other initiative that has just begun with regards to web accessibility is that the IBHE has instituted a protocol where institutions are now required to ensure that their web sites are fully accessible and everything links from the front page. We have a coordinating committee working on that and have set a time line to make our site fully accessible in accordance with the Illinois Web Accessibility Standards (IWAS).

Ms. Couza also reviewed two reports, the Agency Workforce Report and the Utilization Analysis of Western Illinois University Non-Instruction Employees. She responded to questions from trustees.

### **Student Health Insurance Program Report**

Vice President Johnson, Director of Beu Health Center Pat Sartore and our third party administrator for our student health insurance program James Stevenson, President of HCH Administration, Inc. provided an update on the performance of the self-funded insurance program.

Ms. Sartore reviewed the claims experience information since the program was started and student insurance budget comparisons for FY2002-FY2005. She also reviewed the FY2006 estimated figures along with the projections for FY2007.

We had excess funds last year of \$1.1 million and this year it looks like we will be coming in with approximately \$800,000 in excess. We plan to put that into our reserve account. It has been recommended by HCH that we need to maintain a reserve fund equal to what we anticipate a potential outlay of funding for one year of claims would be. For us, that could be up to \$3 million. That is where we are headed with our reserve fund. And, that is also consistent with what the Board of Trustees has asked us to do. We anticipated it might take us five years to get to that point. We are happy to say that we are getting there faster than we had anticipated. That is always good news. On the other hand, we never know from one year to the next about what our claims experience will be—that is one of the facts of the insurance market and there is nothing we can do to change that fact.

This year we have had some significantly high claims based on illnesses of our students. We had two students who maxed out. The max is \$250,000 in claims for the lifetime of the policy. And, unfortunately, one of the students is actually deceased at this point. Those are the kinds of serious claims that we see even in our student population. We know those are possibilities in the future. But we still feel the self-insurance is certainly allowing our students to be insured well and their coverage has worked for them very well. Our stop loss coverage has not had to kick in.

### **Student Health Insurance Program Report (Continued)**

## Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006

The stop loss is another thing that we want to look at closely. Is there a point within our program that the stop loss can actually be discontinued? We want to give this a three year time frame before we make that decision. We now have two years claims experience and we have not utilized it. We are hoping that continues and we can bring that recommendation to you in the future.

Mr. Stevenson explained the stop loss coverage to trustees. The stop loss coverage is protection insurance that is purchased to guard against catastrophic claims. The protection is set at \$150,000. The plan has the responsibility for the first \$150,000 and after that the insurance company takes over. When we look at the mix of your population and some of the benefits that you enjoy given that they may have other insurance, etc. it is not likely that you are going to get a lot of stop loss claims. We felt it was prudent in the first three or four years to make sure we were covered so that in case we did have a few large claims it would not hurt the plan. The contract period for the stop loss is August 1 through July 31.

Ms. Sartore stated that, in the case of the two students who maxed out, the \$250,000 in total claims did not fall within one year's time—it happened over four years they were students. The stop loss coverage did not kick in because neither had \$150,000 in claims within the one-year time frame. The \$250,000 max is for the lifetime of the policy. But they did not exceed the \$150,000 in any given year.

If we had students who had significant claims in one year, the most that any student could cost the plan is \$150,000.

In response to a question from trustees, Ms. Sartore indicated the student did have uncovered medical charges. This was a student who ended up on chemotherapy and with significant hospitalizations.

Vice President Johnson said our current reserve is \$1.1 million and we anticipate adding an additional \$800,000 this year. The goal, as Pat stated, is to get to \$3 million in another year or so.

Ms. Sartore added that we will be taking out of the excess funds this year the amount for the medical records software. We should be able to put at least \$500,000 into reserves this year. We need to keep some money available if we have expenditures before our income starts coming in later in August. We won't receive any additional funds until our students come back in August.

Vice President Johnson agreed that we do not add the money to reserves until the students come back in August and at that point our excess is put into reserves. We do have a cash flow problem at this time of the year due to the timing of the program.

In response to another question, Ms. Sartore reported that approximately 70 percent of our students participate in the health insurance plan.

Trustee Thomas said that some students have asked about dental coverage. Ms. Sartore noted that we are exploring dental coverage and there is a program in the community that is looking at dental coverage overall. We are trying to work a program in where they can bring someone into the community that will allow us to set up a program to meet the needs of students as well as some of the unmet needs within the community. We know there is a need but it will take some time to explore.

### **Student Health Insurance Program Report (Continued)**



## **Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006**

Vice President Johnson said that they are recommending again this year no additional cost to students for health insurance coverage. We feel like we can go another year without raising rates—the third year in a row we have offered the program at the same price. That was one of the reasons we got into the self-insurance coverage, to control the cost of health care coverage for our students and provide an outstanding program. We feel like we have met our goal. He thanked HCH for their great partnership and all the work they have done. We are asking them to do some additional work about other possibilities related to health care for students.

Trustee Houston said that ultimately it is the University that carries the liability. I personally am not real anxious to expand what we are providing. We are providing our current program as a service. There is a liability that goes along with having this plan and as we talk in terms of expanding to dental or anything else, you are adding to that liability and I think we need to have discussions as to whether this is something we would want to explore or not.

Vice President Johnson said that he is asking permission to move forward to at least explore it and then bring information forward. We can always say no. I am concerned about the liability as well. We need to make certain that if we add additional benefits that those benefits make sense, provide additional support for our students and are not going to put us at any greater risk. We have been asked to explore these issues and it seems to be a reasonable request. We will ask HCH to take a look and give us their professional opinion.

Ms. Sartore added that in order to look at where we are going and how well we are getting there, to make changes within the first five years of the program is probably a difficult thing to do. We asked for three years of no changes to the program to make sure we could compare what we are doing and how well. One of the things we need to be very concerned about is the increase in medical costs. As we all know that is part of today's health care service. How long can we maintain the present cost of the policy? I would say that we are at the edge of that right now. Medical costs continue to raise 12-15 percent a year. How long are we not going to be affected adversely by that? We may be able to stay where we are now, but we know in the near future that is not going to be the reality of the program.

Vice President Johnson said that it may be next year based on what we see. By that time we will have another year of really good solid data and have a sense of where we will be and what we need to do relative to projected costs and whether or not we need to look at an increase. If we can go two or three years without increasing the cost of what is a high-quality program, we can certainly be proud of what we are doing on behalf of our students.

Trustee Houston asked if we are spending money out of next year, FY2007, to cover FY2006 bills. The operation should be paying for itself within the fiscal year. I am questioning why we are having a cash flow problem.

Mr. Stevenson replied that we are not doing that.

Vice President Johnson said that our health insurance year is different than our fiscal year. We operate from August 1 through January 31 and then February 1 through July 31.

### **Student Health Insurance Program Report (Continued)**

## Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006

Ms. Sartore added that when we were talking about the cash flow, we were actually saying that we don't want to put too much money in reserve because we know we have bills that will still have to be paid. We will put a minimal amount into reserves until we know exactly what our expenditures will be at the end of July. That is what we were meaning about our cash flow. It is not that we are not paying our bills out of this year's money. We certainly are doing that. We just don't want to put it away not knowing what our expenditures are for sure. We want to close the books first.

Vice President Johnson said that our reason for setting up our plan the way we have is so our students will have coverage for 12 months. Those two time segments allow coverage for students until they can get coverage arranged at another school or in another plan within the work world.

Ms. Sartore said that "cash flow" was probably the wrong terminology.

### General Comments by Vice Presidents

Provost Rallo said that we have had a great hiring season at the senior academic level. Since the last time we met, we have hired Tom Erekson, Dean of the College of Business and Technology (COBT), who joined us from Brigham Young University. The new Dean of University Libraries is Phyllis Self, who is coming to us from Virginia Commonwealth University. Several chairs have been hired. We were able to hire John Elfrink as Chair of the Department of Accountancy from Central Missouri State University. The new Law Enforcement and Justice Administration (LEJA) Chair is Darrell Ross from East Carolina University. The new Chair for the Department of Theatre and Dance is Jeannie Woods from Winthrop in South Carolina. In the Department of Chemistry we hired Rose McConnell from the University of Arkansas. Also, Richard Hardy as Chair of Political Science from the University of Missouri, Bill Knox from Northern Michigan University is the new Honors College Director, and, finally, Reinhard Lindner is the new chair in the Department of Educational and Interdisciplinary Studies.

It is going to be an exciting time and we are looking forward to them all joining Western and to working with each and every one of them.

We have selected a new book for the First Year Experience program, and will make certain all the Board members get a copy, *Class Matters*. It is written by a correspondent from the *New York Times* and it's theme as quoted: "social force remains a powerful force in American life." It is a fascinating series of vignettes of people and their lives. It is well done and also can reach out to 17-18 year olds as they transition to the University.

The major new initiative mentioned last time is a move toward looking at a nursing program. Last week we hosted on campus the media event out of the Governor's Office which brought Dr. Eric Whitaker, Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, a number of local representatives, including Senator John Sullivan, to speak about the new legislation that has been passed to recruit, train and retain nurses in Illinois as well as assisting institutions both financially and in other ways to provide nursing education.

### General Comments by Vice Presidents (Continued)

## **Academic and Student Services Committee Meeting – June 2, 2006**

As you know, we have been working on this for well over a year. We have the feasibility study coming back next month and will meet with our partners, Carl Sandburg College, Spoon River College, Graham Hospital and McDonough District Hospital, to move forward and make a recommendation to the faculty to start the curriculum process for a nursing program. We think it is going to be very exciting and the type of thing that is a great out reach to the community and region.

Last, I am distributing to you the calendar that has been approved by the President. This is an informational item for the Board. Nothing has changed but the dates for the next two years.

Trustee Cook said that in terms of the nursing program, it is not just the finances that are involved, it also takes approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. How optimistic are you that they will approve the program?

Provost Rallo said that we started last December when we made the recommendation to the President. I talked to IBHE at that time and they know we are in the process of doing this. The consultants out of Graham Hospital are completing the feasibility study that is required by the various accrediting agencies. We are very optimistic. In spite of what is coming out of the Governor's Office, this has been a program that has been talked about for 20 or more years. There is a huge need, it fits in well with our mission and allows us to keep students who come to campus for the pre-nursing program who then transfer away. We have already received three phone calls just in the last couple of days—one from the Rushville School Superintendent asking when his daughter can enroll. We have to be conservative because we do not have the authority to grant the degree yet, but we are very optimistic.

Trustee Cook stated this would include both students who start at Western for the first two years as well as transfer students from the community colleges involved. Is that correct?

Provost Rallo stated, yes, this is a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and we are looking at students from Carl Sandburg and Spoon River to name two. Students would do two and a half years there and transfer to us for two years. Graham Hospital currently has a three-year program, so those students would do three years at Graham and come to us for a year. The students who come to us for the pre-nursing would simply stay with us for four years.

Trustee Cook said that he can remember this thing going on for over 20 years. First the need was discussed and discussed and then for various reasons IBHE would still not approve the program at Western. I am hoping it goes through.

Trustee Epperly stated that there has been a lot of previous Board discussion about the issue of the Lincoln's Birthday holiday we now celebrate or changing our holiday to President's Day. I would like to see this discussed by the Board down the road. The calendar is already set for this year, but I was not privy to any of these discussions as was the case for most of the newer Board members. It is my understanding that the faculty has expressed this desire as well as the student body in both the Quad Cities and Macomb. I would like to see us discuss the possibility in some detail.

Trustee Cook said that it could not be implemented until three years because this calendar is already set.

### **General Comments by Vice Presidents (Continued)**

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Provost Rallo said the Board of Trustees *Regulations* specifically state the holidays and Lincoln's Birthday is one of the stated holidays. It would require a *Regulations* change to make that happen.

President Goldfarb said that we cannot change the calendar on our own. It would require the Board to pass the change in the *Regulations* which would require a First Reading and a Second Reading. Clearly, next year's calendar is set in stone because our calendar must be published in a host of WIU publications.

Trustee Epperly said that we have plenty of time to bring it up during a future meeting.

Trustee Cook asked if a change could be implemented even though we have the calendar before us today.

Provost Rallo said that this year we have to get it in the catalog and there are lots of things built around the calendar.

Trustee Cook said he meant in 2009 or 2010.

President Goldfarb said it is in our best interest to advertise our calendar. If we had to make the change, we probably could. The key issue is that any change is going to require a change in Board *Regulations*. If the Provost made a recommendation to me, I cannot sign off on a change unless the Board changes its *Regulations*.

Trustee Epperly asked about the comparison of tuition and fees. At the last meeting the Board asked for a state-by-state account of what's happening in terms of tuition and fee increases.

Dr. Rives said that we have started to benchmark. Western was the first Illinois public university to set tuition and fees. The other Illinois public institutions are doing that in May and June. We will have that information for you at the September Board meeting.

Vice President Johnson reported that he has hired Eric Campbell as the new Director of Admissions. He comes to us from the Dominican University, and will begin about July 10. He replaces Karen Helmers who has been in the role since Dave Garcia left us. Karen agreed to come back and serve for one year. I want to thank her for her willingness to do that. She has done a wonderful job. Eric and his wife will be in Macomb this weekend and will do some house hunting.

On Monday I will name the new director of the Beu Health Center. Also, I am sad to announce that Dan Maxwell, Director of Student Activities for the past eight years, has taken a position at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). Dan has done a phenomenal job for us in our student activities area and he will be missed. He has made significant contributions. This is a great opportunity for him as they are building a brand new student union and he will be an integral part of that. I will probably name an interim director within the next few weeks.

We are moving forward with the rec center expansion, the multi-cultural center, and the sprinkling program. Planning for the football stadium renovation on the student side is also moving forward. Pat and some folks have been working with the McDonough County Health

### General Comments by Vice Presidents (Continued)

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staff on a plan for a pandemic—that seems to be the big issue right now. We are developing a plan to deal with issues should we have a pandemic on campus.

Also, I want to thank Pat Sartore for a wonderful career as Director of Beu Health Center. She has done a marvelous job and will be greatly missed. Thanks to her for her great leadership in terms of the self-insurance program and in terms of providing improved health care services to our students on campus. She is going to be greatly missed.

This has been a great year for athletics. This is the first year that athletics has been in the division of Student Services. We won four conference championships: Men's Soccer, Women's Basketball, Men's Golf and Men's Tennis. That is the most since the 1995-96 season. Tim VanAlstine and others in athletics have done an outstanding job. We have three coach of the year awards—Volleyball, Men's Golf and Men's Tennis. Ten of our 15 sports have finished within the three top positions in the conference. We have had more of our teams in post season play than ever before in the history of our athletic program. We did experience a very significant loss and that is the death of Joe Protsman who was our long-term associate director of athletics. He died after a battle with cancer. He was a great asset to the program and certainly a cornerstone for the athletic program.

Trustee Thomas thanked Vice President Johnson for allowing the students in Inter-Hall Council (IHC) to help pick out the new name for the residence hall. They were all excited about being a part of that.

Trustee Epperly asked about the timeline for the rec center and football stadium renovations.

Mr. Bill Brewer from the Physical Plant replied to the question. They are hoping to get started on the football stadium fairly soon. Once the season ends, we hope to start the work on the structure and the plan is to be completed by the next football season. It is too early to estimate about the multi-cultural center. We have an expiration date on money so we are trying to work as quickly as we can for 2008. In terms of the rec center we are finalizing negotiations with the architect to get started on that. We feel we can move quickly on that as it is not a complicated project. I don't have exact dates at this time.

Mr. Harris noted that the expiration of the dollars is approximately April/May 2008. Some of the funding will become an issue for us at that time. We have a three-year window before we have penalties and we are trying to avoid that.

Vice President Johnson said there is not a definite site picked out for the multi-cultural center. That is part of the task for the architects to look at. They will make suggestions.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Academic and Student Services Committee, a motion was made and duly processed to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 A.M.

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