

Interim Provost and Academic Vice President Kathy Neumann
Vice President for Student Services Ron Williams
Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter
Vice President for Quad Cities and Planning Joe Rives

PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Bill Thompson UPI Chapter president: Commented that there is no denying that Article 24 says that layoffs can occur if there is a demonstrable enrollment decline. There is a demonstrable enrollment decline. There is also no denying that the faculty and academic staff are not responsible for that decline. And it is also not deniable that the faculty and academic staff are paying the price for the administration/s failure to stop or even stem the enrollment decline these past 12 years. And it's also no denying that this board has failed to address that decline or to hold the administration accountable for that decline. The only people who are being held accountable for the decline in the sense of dollars and cents, since that's what we have been reduced to as a result of the enrollment decline, the only people being held accountable for that are the faculty and academic staff and any other employees that may be laid off. I would ask the board to hold itself and the administration accountable for the decline and demonstrate that accountability to the students, the staff, the community and the state.

*Jeff Laurent, Professor of Psychology: In Psychology we talk about processing situations and I encourage the board of trustees, at their July retreat, think about the negotiation process and how it divided the campus. Do not make the same mistake next time pitting people against each other. Also think about your role (BOT) in dividing the campus.

*Jon Biernbaum, Associate Vice President for Student Services: I've been to this podium before and I just want to reiterate that there are many people out there who understand that the administration and board have difficult decisions to make in unprecedented times in order to preserve the long term success of the university. You need to do what you need to do.

*Patrick McGinty, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociology: The board has heard it needs to do something to support its longevity. I am here to offer that same narrative with a different direction. I am asking you not to authorize layoffs because the media, faculty, and staff will consider what that means: You do not have confidence in the very people who offer the product and services for the students, you no longer have confidence in

peace since two years of no budgets, votes of no confidence, layoffs, potential strikes. More crisis on top of crisis is not going to inspire confidence in students that want to come here or who are thinking about coming here. I know there are concerns of not making payroll in 2019. I would implore you to wait. Let us all work together to rebuild trust and good will because I know you are not out to get me and I am certainly not out to get you. Wait to see what the enrollment numbers are and re-evaluate. Right now this does not have to happen, right now. Some peace would be great for everybody involved.

Resolution No. 18.6/15: Staff Reduction Authorization

Chair Early announced the resolution as presented.

A motion was made by Trustee Ehlert Fuller to approve. Trustee

Second, while we are grateful for a second year of funding, as the state incrementally works towards the restoration of fair and predictable funding for Illinois public higher education, a closer look at the data shows that FY18 Illinois Public Universities state appropriations were 10% less than the amount received in FY15. FY19's 2% increase in appropriated funding over FY18 for Illinois public universities represents a value 8% lower than what was received in FY15, and a 18% cumulative reduction for the past two fiscal years.

Third is the fact that the Illinois public universities did not receive retroactive funding for FY16 and FY17 after the statewide budget impasse was resolved. During the two years prior to the statewide budget impasse and using Western Illinois University as an example, the University received a combined \$104.1 million from the State during Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015. During the two years of the statewide budget impasse, the University received \$74.7 million. The University lost \$29.4 million in funding that was not

Providing further evidence of protecting the academic core and engaging in mission-driven spending, Western Illinois University maintained 66% of all institutional expenditures on academics and academic support during the period of delayed and reduced appropriations.

Employee and budget reductions could have been deeper had the University not maintained historic efficiency through conservative, mission-driven fiscal management. The University consistently places below the statewide average on instructional and administrative costs per credit hour. In FY16, Western's values were third and second lowest of the 12 Illinois public universities on these measures. Instructional costs were 11.7% below the statewide average. Administrative costs 18.4% were below the statewide average.

Between Fiscal Years 2016 and 2018, and as documented in quarterly statewide budget updates to the Board and university community, the University engaged in an eight point plan in addition to the aforementioned cost savings and containment measures.

1. We worked on creating a reinvestment pool by holding 25% of appropriated operating budgets across the University. Actual FY17 appropriated funds operating expenses were 20.7% of appropriated funds expenditures (and are budgeted at 22.5% for FY18). We continue to evaluate replacement hires with regard to priority need.
2. Academic Affairs implemented 10 new educational opportunities to draw students to the University, including a new degree in cybersecurity, 5 new online degree opportunities, and three hybrid programs serving working professionals.
3. Student Services continues to enhance and build upon recruitment initiatives. Soon Admissions will implement a new Customer Relationship Management software to further increase timely and customized communication with prospective students and we now honor and validate self-reported standardized test scores.
4. Across the University, we continue to work on institutional strategies to increase student retention. And preliminary fall 2018 year to date comparisons shows that we are experiencing increases in the percentages of eligible students re-enrolling at the University.
5. We continue to work on increasing revenue. Advancement and Public Services is preparing for the next comprehensive fundraising campaign, President Thomas is working closely with Springfield on the restoration of fair and predictable funding, and we are implementing goals and priorities of the President's Executive Institute.
6. The University continues with cost savings and containment measures discussed earlier in these remarks, in addition there was a furlough program for non-negotiated employees and salary concessions by negotiated groups.
7. The University continues to monitor and enhance efficiency as tracked by Cost Study data.
8. And we continue to take an all funds budgeting approach.

Even with these actions, state appropriations and university income fund revenue continues to decline. The University's Fiscal Year 2017 personnel services expenditures were 80% of all expenditures from appropriated funds. The University has taken measures to protect and minimize reductions in force to current employees since appropriated funds reductions started occurring 15 fiscal years ago.

Trustee William Gradle	Yes
Trustee Todd Lester	Yes
Trustee Yvonne Savala	Yes

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

NEXT MEETINGS

The Board retreat will be held July 12-13, 2018 on the QC campus; and the next Board meeting will be held September 27-28, 2018 on the Macomb campus.

ADJOURN ACTION

Chair Early called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 10:07 a.m. A motion was made by Trustee Savala and seconded by Trustee Ehlert Fuller. All were in favor and none opposed.

Cathy Early, Chair
Kerry McBride, Business Administrative Associate to the Board

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