



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2014

Individuals in Attendance

Trustees: Theresa Alder, Doug Barton, Regan Bolli, Scott Bushnell, Brent Davis, Dan Jorgensen, Leslie Keisel, Michael McLean, Jeff Olson, Zach Parker

College Personnel: Gary Carlston, Janet Carlston, Marvin Dodge, Steve Hood, Marci Larsen (recording secretary), Craig Mathie

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Alder called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Because this was the first board meeting for President Carlston and Dr. Hood, introductions were made. Chair Alder thanked the group for their attendance and complimented the new administrative team. She noted the college is in good hands.

Approval of Minutes

In the November 15, 2013, minutes, one correction was requested – Brent Davis was referred to as Regent Davis, not Trustee Davis in the *Investment Report* portion of the minutes. With that correction made, Trustee McLean made a motion to approve the motion. Trustee Bushnell seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Investment Report

Vice President Dodge reviewed the 2013 September, October, and November investment reports. He said the economy is still lagging and noted the Development Office is working to raise funds for scholarships. Hearing no questions, Trustee Bolli made a motion to accept and approve the reports as presented. Trustee McLean seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Strategic Planning Update

Vice President Dodge referred the Trustees to the update document provided and reviewed recent happenings. He reminded the group of the history of this process, noting the periodic updates given to the board, and outlined the next step of the process. He explained the program prioritization process and said each program will be asked to complete a questionnaire (example provided). He noted the goal is to help employees tie their future to the strategic plan and look at ways the college can improve overall. Vice President Dodge said employees will be asked to look for efficiencies and suggest creative proposals. He stressed this is not a process of “budget cannibalism” as some on campus have proclaimed. Vice President Dodge concluded his presentation by giving the timeline of implementation, saying the goal is 2015, and then asked for questions.

Trustee Bolli asked about class and workload, and Vice President Dodge defined the credit-hour-equivalent (CHE) practice currently in place at the college. He said President Wyatt had begun researching the workload issue prior to his departure and added that he and Dr. Hood are still working on it. He said the administration is gathering information now and hope to roll out the first attempt to make it equitable in the fall. Vice President Dodge said members of the Board of Regents are also looking at this issue on a statewide level. Trustee Bushnell asked for clarification on intent and asked if the goal is get full time faculty back in the classroom and shift maintenance/technology responsibilities back to those departments. Vice President Dodge said that was one desired outcome, along with realizing other efficiencies.

Trustee Olson asked if all departments would complete the questionnaire or only those in academics. Vice President Dodge said if departments are a line item in the budget, they will be asked to complete the prioritization questionnaire. He then explained the scoring process, and Trustee Olson asked about the programs that fall in the bottom quintile. Vice President Dodge said there may be efficiencies there and added he did not expect major program closures. He again said the purpose is to help employees review how they can be better and be more relevant to the college’s long-term vision. He said the self-analysis will be helpful and – as mentioned before – is critical to the success of the strategic plan.

President Carlston commented on this process and said he agreed that the strategic plan needed to be tied to resources in order to be successful. He expressed his commitment to the process and said he will gage the employees’ emotions and feelings and pace progress accordingly. He said he recognizes the risk that comes with a prioritization process and assured the Trustees he will do what he can to keep the college moving forward while making sure employees are comfortable with the plan. President Carlston complimented Vice President Dodge and Co-Chair Melanie Jenkins for their work with the Strategic Planning Task Force. He also commended committee members for their commitment to the process. Chair Alder added her thanks and commendations as well.

Legislative Update

Vice President Dodge referred to the legislative summary handout and briefly reviewed the issues pertinent to higher education. He said the passage of the Rural Superintendents' Proposal for concurrent enrollment looked likely, and he said the college would continue to petition for planning money for the new science building. When asked about the Sevier Valley Center proposal, he explained the square-footage-per-student ratio challenge the college has and agreed to send the most recent square footage report compiled by the Commissioner's Office to the trustees.

President's Vehicle Allowance

President Carlston referred the trustees to Tab XYZ and reviewed Regent Policy R205, *Presidential Appointment, Term of Office, and Compensation and Benefits*. Specifically, he asked the board to consider approving a vehicle allowance rather than a designated state vehicle for use for him, as provided by statute. He noted this is what has happened at the college with at least the last two presidents. Hearing no objections, Trustee Bolli made a motion to approve the request. Trustee Davis seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Commencement Items

President Carlston said he hasn't attended a Snow College commencement ceremony for nearly twenty years, and he asked the board to consider two items in regards to the 2014 ceremony. First, he noted last year President Monson of the LDS Church was invited to kick-off the 125th Anniversary celebration. He was unable to attend but his office gave some notion of him doing it at the end of the 125th year. Trustee Parker said students discussed it and most were supportive of the invitation. He said the student leadership team wanted President Monson or an apostle to be the commencement speaker. If that wasn't possible, President Parker said they thought Bob Trythall, a retiring, beloved faculty member, would be a great choice. President Carlston said Spencer Cox could be on the list too. With the trustees' support, President Carlston said he would extend invitations and report back to the board. The other item of discussion was prayers during the ceremony. President Carlston said every opinion counts and added he wanted to do what the students want. Trustee Jorgensen expressed his preference for having prayers during the ceremony, and Chair Alder expressed concern for the length of the program last year because each "expression of choice" morphed into a speech. Trustee Parker said students have discussed this a great deal and their consensus is not to exclude any group if prayers are said. Due to the limited amount of time, this discussion was postponed.

Report from the Alumni Association

Trustee Olson reported on a survey recently sent to alumni and shared copies of the results with the group. He said most responders said they would prefer attending sporting or cultural events on campus, and Trustee Olson said that would be the focus of the Alumni Association for the near future. He invited trustees to attend the basketball games on Alumni Day and also asked for suggestions for the association. Trustee Jorgensen wondered how more alumni could learn of events, and a short conversation about utilizing technology ensued. Trustee Olson also said they are going to try to do more advance notice of events so hopefully more alums will be able to plan to attend. He also reported on the goal to raise \$125,000 during this 125th year, noting nearly \$32,000 has been raised at this point. Chair Alder thanked Trustee Olson for his leadership and efforts to reconnect alumni with the college.

Report from Student Body President

President Zach Parker said he had been working on various job descriptions for student leaders and said the students would likely slightly modify the student constitution and change the focus of some of the student leaders. He also said the Student Body Advocates (SBAs) had met with and had dinner with the Carlstons. He thanked them again for their kind hospitality and interest in students' success.

Report from the President

President Carlston expressed appreciation to the college's leadership team, specifically Vice Presidents Marvin Dodge, Steve Hood, and Craig Mathie. He also thanked his assistant, Marci Larsen, and President Zach Parker for his work with the students. After commending the work of President Wyatt, President Carlston said he hopes to continue to build upon the vision he had for the college. He said he wants to focus on students and specifically mentioned those "on the margin" who could benefit from a little extra attention. He reported on successful get-to-know-you meetings with college leaders, local mayors, legislators, and others. To conclude, appreciation was expressed to the trustees for their service, and having sat in their seat, President Carlston said it is a great opportunity to interact with Snow College however possible. Chair Alder again commended President and Mrs. Carlston and thanked them for accepting this responsibility to lead the college.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned, and trustees ate lunch before attending the legislative kick-off meeting hosted by the Commissioner's Office.