MINUTES MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS

Student Services Committee November 3, 2005

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The Board of Regents, Midwestern State University, met in regular session in the Board Room, Hardin Administration Building, Wichita Falls, Texas, at 4:28 p.m., Thursday, November 3, 2005. Student Services Committee members in attendance were Ms. Patricia Haywood, Chairperson, Mr. Stephen Gustafson; Mr. Munir Lalani, and Mr. Ben Wible. Other regents attending the meeting were Mr. John Bridgman, Mr. Mac Cannedy, Jr., Ms. Pamela Gough, Mr. Don Ross Malone, and Mr. David Stephens.

Administrative staff members present included Dr. Jesse W. Rogers, President; Dr. Friederike Wiedemann, Provost; Mr. Juan Sandoval, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Dr. Howard Farrell, Vice President for University Advancement and Student Affairs; Dr. Bob Clark, Associate Provost; and Mr. Keith Lamb, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs. Other university personnel attending the meeting included Mr. David Spencer, Internal Auditor; Dr. David Tucker, Chairperson of the MSU Faculty Senate; Mr. Buck Shaw, Director of Physical Plant; Ms. Dianne Weakley, Director of Personnel; Ms. Kristal Amador, Director of the Annual Fund; Ms. Cindy Ashlock, Assistant to the President; and Ms. Debbie Barrow, Executive Assistant to the President. Mr. Will Morefield, Student Government Association President, and Mr. Jason York, Student Government Association Observer, also attended the meeting.

Chairperson Haywood called the meeting to order at 4:28 p.m.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

06-32. The minutes of the Student Services Committee meeting August 4, 2005 were approved as presented.

Student Government Report

06-33. Mr. Will Morefield, SGA President, presented information to the Board with regard to various student activities. He reported that prior to being elected SGA President he served as President of the MSU Interfraternity Council. He reported that the IFC increased recruitment numbers by 150% from the previous year. He thanked the administration for their support of the Greek system. He added that student participation and involvement had not only increased within the Greek system but also in the student body overall.

Mr. Morefield commented that the most important issue on campus during the fall semester was the mascot name change. He noted that there was a great deal of confusion within the university community but through the Public Information, Student Affairs, and Student Government offices sending out letters and news releases, the issue was really clarified to the students. He added that another important issue was the student regent selection process. He noted that while the number of applicants was not what was hoped for, it was definitely an important issue that was discussed on campus. Mr. Morefield reported that Homecoming went very well; he commended the Student Activities Office for their efforts. Mr. Morefield presented information concerning a student endowment fund that was established at West Texas A&M University (see <u>Attachment 1</u>). He noted that SGA felt this was something that MSU should consider as it could create more scholarship opportunities for the students.

Mr. Gustafson asked how many applicants were received for the Student Regent position. Mr. Morefield responded that four applications were received. He added that the original deadline for the applications to be received was September 30. The Student Senate voted to extend the application deadline to hopefully encourage additional applications. Mr. Gustafson asked how the position was advertised. Mr. Morefield stated that he sent a mass e-mail to all student e-mail addresses and the position was publicized in *The Wichitan*. Mr. Lamb added that his office sent a letter to each student and put posters up around campus. He stated that the number of applications received at MSU is not out of the norm for what other colleges have reported. He added that the SGA office gave out 20 applications and four were completed and returned.

Housing and Resident Life Report

06-34. Mr. Lamb reported that in April 2000 the State Fire Marshall visited MSU. At that time, three residence halls (Pierce, Killingsworth and Marchman) had issues that needed to be addressed. During the last four years the university has spent over \$8 million renovating Pierce Hall and Killingsworth Hall to bring them up to code. He stated that the time had come to make a decision as to what to do with Marchman Hall. The State Fire Marshall recently visited the campus and discussed Marchman with the administration. Mr. Lamb indicated that the administration believes that given the size of Marchman (31 beds), the age of the facility, and the issues of maintaining the facility, it is best to close the facility at the end of this fall semester. He added that there should be adequate space on campus to house the 31 current occupants of Marchman. Dr. Farrell added that the administration did not feel it was appropriate to put additional money into this facility at this time.

Ms. Haywood asked what would be done with the existing facility. Dr. Farrell responded that Dr. Rogers had asked him and Keith to review the facility and recommend possible uses. He added that it was possible that a recommendation might be forthcoming to the Board in February concerning this facility.

Mr. Gustafson asked how long the building had been used as a residence hall. Dr. Rogers responded that it was renovated in the late 1980's. Dr. Farrell stated that the rooms are very small and the facility does not fit with what the university is trying to do with residence life. Mr. Lamb added that it takes an inordinate amount of time and effort by the maintenance staff to keep the facility in good working order.

Mr. Bridgman asked if the Fire Marshall would allow the university to keep the facility open for the remainder of the academic year. Mr. Lamb responded that after visiting with him this fall all parties agreed it was time to close. Mr. Lalani asked if he recommended closure at this time or did we determine it should be closed after our conversation with him. Mr. Lamb stated that it had been on the university's radar for awhile. Dr. Rogers asked Mr. Sandoval about his conversation with the Fire Marshall. Mr. Sandoval indicated that Dr. Rogers would get a full report in the next two to three weeks. He added that the Fire Marshall's Office recommended that the university seriously consider totally renovating or mothballing the facility a couple of years ago. The time has come to take this action.

Mr. Lalani recommended approval of closing Marchman Hall to residents effective at the close of the fall 2005 semester. Mr. Gustafson seconded the motion and it was approved.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Annual Report

06-35. This report was presented in the agenda document as a point of information only.

Adjournment

The Student Services Committee discussion concluded at 4:44 p.m.

Reviewed for submission:

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Patricia A. Haywood, Chairperson Midwestern State University Board of Regents Student Services Committee

ATTACHMENT:

1. West Texas A&M Student Endowment Fund Information

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WT student endowment beginning to pay off

By Karen D. Smith karen.d.smith@amarillo.com

A program begun at West Texas A&M University in 1998 and since copied at other Texas colleges - is paying off, literally, with interest.

Less than a decade after it was established, the WT Student Body Endowment Fund has topped \$1 million, with the interest it earns providing an estimated \$40,000 a year for scholarships and internships, said Dr. Don Albrecht, vice president for student services.

"The students voted on this without any guarantee that any of those paying in for the first four years would ever see a dime of it," Albrecht said. "The plan was to wait for four years for enough money to generate interest to award something."

But students began seeing benefits by 1999 because Amarillo Area Foundation and Bank of America bought into the plan with a gift of \$30,000 each year for four years. The gift money was distributed while the student fee money piled up and accumulated interest that remained untouched during that period, he said.

"It put us four years ahead," Albrecht said.

As called for in the plan, the student fee gradually rose to the current \$1 per semester hour.

"It's a great feeling to know that our efforts back then are helping current students now," J.B. Horton, who was student body president when the fund was created, said in a written statement from WT.

idea didn't stop at the campus bounds.

Horton and members of the A&M System Chancellor's Student Advisory Board enlisted the help of state Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, who sponsored a bill giving other universities and colleges a chance to create endowments, if students voted to approve the fees, Albrecht said.

Tarleton State University at Stephenville and Angelo State University at San Angelo are among those who have created their own funds, he said.

WT's \$1 million endowment should produce about \$40,000 in scholarship funding each year, Albrecht said.

Students who qualify for a scholarship from the fund - usually \$700 a year - typically are those who have not been able to secure other financial assistance, WT information said.

They can qualify through leadership and campus involvement, financial need, scholastic achievement or internships.