

Submitted by: Jordan Dillon

Board Chair: Todd Asbury

Trustees in Attendance: John Beckett, Steve Bickford, Jeff Bloomer, Brandon Caldwell, Terri Cole, Gordon Grimes, Rod Hale, Ron Hall, Bob Houck, Allen, Jessee, Julie Johnson, David Kirk, David Larimer, Phylliss Marcom, Jack Reasor, John Rocovich, Craig Stout, Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, Mike Wade, Bill Winfrey, Lamont Woods

Non-Voting Members: Joshua Arnold, Wendy Beavers, Ruth Blankenship, Shellie Brown, Joshua Cline, Marshall Flowers, Chip Lambert, David Olive, Tonia Walker, Isaiah Rife- SGA

Trustees not in Attendance: Mike Harris, Chris Lawson, Tom Scott, Jerry Turley

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1. Chair Asbury welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order
 2. Opening Prayer from Chairman Asbury
 3. Chair Asbury welcomed new trustee, Allen Jessee to the board. Rev. Jessee come from a BGAV affiliated church, Highlands Fellowship.
 4. Mission Focus: Advancing the Mission with Technology

Chair Asbury stated: "As we do each Board meeting, we take time to focus on the institution's mission of being a Christ-centered learning community developing servant leaders to impact the world. Today, as part of our review of the mission, we will hear from Professor Wendy Beavers as to how technology is helping advance our mission.

Professor Wendy Beavers welcomed the Board of Trustees to campus and shared with them all of the new technology upgrades that the faculty have been training on and using this semester. This fall, BU distributed an iPad Air and writing pen to all students and faculty. Faculty have been hard at work transforming their classes to be compatible with the newly implemented classroom model, Canvas. Faculty have sat through many trainings and workshops to make the Apple initiative a success, and it has proven to be effective. The faculty and students have been happy with the usage of iPads, which will assist in furthering the mission of developing servant leaders.

Chair Asbury thanked Professor Beavers for joining the trustees and alluded to the energy and positivity he has seen on campus despite so many changes.

5. Dr. Olive shared the Go Further campaign video celebrating a new milestone for Bluefield with the change to university. He reiterated Chair Asbury's comment about energy on campus and how this centennial year has brought so much positivity to campus and it's exciting to see BU "Go Further". Dr. Olive shared briefly about the centennial entryway project and the projected timeline. He then, reviewed his presidents report that was

previously shared with the trustees via the Trustee Portal. He spoke specifically on enrollment numbers and why they are trending downward and the goals and objectives for change. The merger with the Harvey Peters Foundation and the new relationship with the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, and now the Appalachian School of Pharmacy will build a better future for BU. However, lower enrollment also means lower resources being generated and the repercussions such as frozen positions and budget revisions. Dr. Olive also shared the beginning work stages of the Anesthesiology Assistant Program that will launch at Auburn University and other new academic initiatives. He congratulated the Advancement team with their hard work for the centennial campaign. Dr. Olive also shared that recently, Dr. Don Caudill, donated \$50,000 in honor of his salvation anniversary and encouraged others to do the same. BU was recently gifted the Keene Carpet Building and Karsyn Center from the Keene Family and partner, Annette Beavers. The hope is to utilize this space for students and athletics. Dr. Olive concluded his summary with an update that SACSCOC has found BU in compliance and has removed the warning status. Dr. Brogdon and the CLT have already begun work on the decennial review that is due next fall.

6. Remarks from Faculty President, Shellie Brown. Dr. Brown shared that there is excitement among faculty with the name change, new initiatives with MTN, and technology upgrades. Dr. Brown applauded the faculty for quickly transitioning their classes to Canvas with Professor Beavers leading training sessions, Dr. Lemon providing video tutorials for registrar resources, and Chip Lambert and the IST team for working diligently to get the technology working efficiently. Dr. Brown referenced the faculty survey that was shared in her faculty report to the trustees- the survey results were a great way to see how faculty have grown and adapted – these transitions gave faculty a chance to review current course structures and modify to meet student needs.
7. Isaiah Rife, SGA President welcomed the board of trustees to campus and thanked them for the opportunity to listen to the students. Isaiah shared that campus has seen an uptick in student engagement and SGA has grown from 3 members to 20 members. They are really trying to hear and help students, so SGA has set office hours each evening in the student center from 7pm-8pm. SGA has recently sent a survey asking students to rate the student experience on a 5-point scale with different categories such as: facilities, housing, student activities, etc. Isaiah shared that the lowest rating was with facilities and dining services at a 3.9- however, with the new dining company, Pioneer, he sees that rating changing to a higher rating. Isaiah will be sharing the survey results with the student body and CLT. Isaiah concluded with inviting the trustees to attend Homecoming activities.
8. Chair Asbury called for a vote to approve the April 2021 Board of Trustee minutes. He also noted the Executive Committee meetings that took place after the spring meetings and the approvals made at those meetings.
 - With no questions or amendments. John Rocovich motioned for approval and Jack Reasor second motion.

Minutes approved.

9. Chair Asbury and Rod Hale, Committee on Trustees Chair, recognized the following trustees who are rotating off the board:

- Chris Lawson
- Mike Harris
- Gordon Grimes

Mike and Chris were unable to attend BOT meetings due to other commitments but will be sent their trustee gift. Gordon was presented a gavel for his time as Chair of the Board.

10. Rev. Rod Hale, Committee on Trustees Chair, shared with the board that the Committee has nominated the following for executive positions:

- Todd Asbury- Board Chair- 2nd Term
- Jack Reasor- Vice Chair- 1st term
- Craig Stout- Secretary- 2nd Term

He also shared that Allen Jesse, Senior Head Pastor of Highlands Fellowship, participated in orientation with the committee Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, to start his board term. Rev. Hale spoke about recruitment and the need for more strong, diverse, and BGAV affiliated board members- this is indicated in the Articles. He encouraged trustees to bring nominees to the committee in advance to the Spring 2022 meeting. Rev. Hale noted 3 items to remind trustees to their responsibility.

- Trustees are a governing body recognized and has the legal right of the institution per Article 1, such as;
 - To review the mission of the university
 - To review the education and academic progress
 - Approval of selection of offices
- Calling to Bluefield University
 - To uphold the name and location
- Review current trends in higher education
 - Trusteeship Magazine

Rev. Hale called for a vote on the Executive position nominees:

Board approved: Abstain- Todd, Craig, and Jack

Rev. Hale shared the nominees from the committee for a 2nd term on the board

- Terri Cole
- David Kirk

Rev. Hale called for a board vote:

Board Approved

Rev. Hale reminded trustees that conflict of interest and confidentiality forms need to be completed and submitted to Jordan Dillon as soon as possible.

11. Lamont Woods shared the Enrollment Management report and discussion that occurred in the committee meeting. Lamont shared that pandemic effects and marketing changes has led to a drop in enrollment numbers, but initiatives were shared on how to grow. He spoke about the discount rate and the effects it has on enrollment when not tracked or monitored properly. He applauded Ruth Blankenship for her insight and that we are now tracking discount rate in house and in real time. - working with other departments to understand discount rate and working together to bring this percentage down. Lamont expressed his excitement with growth in Christian Leadership on campus and recruiting students who fit the mission and academic standards.

12. Mr. Steve Bickford presented a summary of the Operations and Technology report.

- Name change of committee from Facilities to Operations and Technology
- Updates on facilities with new director, Christian Hershey
 - Students have noticed changes on campus
 - Christian is working on deferred maintenance plan to be completed asap
 - Development updates to South campus and focusing facilities priorities on student needs
 - Shared Gov. Forum and Student Dev. Committee both shared that Residential Space and South campus are top priorities
 - Gifted Keene Building to campus
 - Donated by the Keene Family and Annette Beavers
 - To be used as extra space and athletic area for students
 - Entryway project update
 - Timeline, project material delays, etc.
 - Website and Tech Issues
 - August 2021- website hack- Chip and team quickly responded and have installed new fire walls for extra protection
 - October 2021- community power outage causing internet outage and issues to wifi- IST has restored most of campus in a 2-day time frame.

13. Mr. Bill Winfrey met with Faculty and Curriculum and shared updates and summarized the committee report. He highlighted the following:

- Additional degree programs in the pipeline including the Anesthesia Assistant program with VCOM that will be taught at Auburn University in Alabama.
- Healthcare programs are moving forward, and he is excited to watch those grow at BU
- He applauded faculty for their hard work with changes to curriculum and new technology- and also keeping a positive attitude toward student engagement

- Work has begun for the decennial review with the College Leadership Team and Dr. Lewis Brogdon. This will be submitted next fall.

14. Finance Chair, Jack Reasor briefly overviewed the finance report stating that enrollment numbers play a large part in the financial status of the institution. He thanked Ruth Blankenship for providing a lengthy and detailed report on budget and spending. John Hash from Brown Edwards joined the Finance Committee meeting and shared projections and numbers related to the audit. Mr. Reasor had 4 resolutions to present to the board.

1. Revised 2021-2022 Budget

- **Board Approved**

2. 2021 Financial Statement and Audit with Brown Edwards

- Presented a clean audit
- Discount rate revision
- CFI score
- 24% return on endowment

Board Approved

3. 2022 Healthcare Premium Benefit Plan

- Ruth budgeted 4%- allowing the University to pay rather than the employee pay for the premium increase

Board Approved

4. Tuition, and Room and Board

- Recommending a 2% increase for both Tuition and Room and Board
- Comparable to other schools

Board Approved

Mr. Reasor also stated that within the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Trustees is to have an Investment Sub- Committee. Those members are the following:

- Ruth Blankenship
- Josh Cline
- Brandon Caldwell- Trustee
- Bob Houck- Trustee
- Lamont Woods- trustee

15. Mrs. Julie Johnson presented the Institutional Advancement report. With budget cuts, the position of Alumni Director has remained vacant. IA staff has been working extra hard and sharing work duties to compensate for the position loss. IA has also implemented a new technology system, Blackbaud, to help streamline efforts. The annual fund has seen a financial impact due to changes at the VCF. The BC Fund has also seen a decrease due to covid effects. Josh Cline and the Centennial Committee have been working hard on the centennial campaign and have exceeded the goal of \$18

million. This is now in the public phase, to allow others to give through the spring before announcing a recently received \$1 Million gift to the campaign. Julie shared that the Board of Trustees were 1 shy of 100% giving. She emphasized how important it is for the BOT to give to the university and to use their resources to expand outside the circle.

16. The Student Development Committee report was shared by Craig Stout in the absence of Committee Chair, Chris Lawson. Craig was interested to hear from SGA members on the student attitude on campus and to hear feedback from the survey sent out. He highlighted some of the survey results and shared some information received during the meeting:

- Highest score in student engagement
- Increase in faculty and student relationships
- Increase in quality of students on campus
- Decrease by 60% in disciplinary sanctions
- Continued use of mental health counseling center
- Increase in worship arts and student ministry
- 60% Covid Vaccinated on campus
 - Current covid update: 6 positives; 15 in isolation
- Athletics adding more women's sports
 - Golf
 - Lacrosse
 - Wrestling

Rev. Stout invited VP Tonia Walker to speak more on athletics. VP Walker shared that the Athletics Strategic Plan is on track and referenced the 4 Principles athletics is working toward. Mrs. Walker shared that she is thankful athletics has not had to forfeit any games as of yet due to covid concerns. The overall athletics GPA has dropped to a 2.97, but Coaches and Dr. Martin from the ACE Center have been working hard with students to get that back above a 3.0.

Rev. Stout presented to the board the resolution on Free Speech, Expression, and Protest that was approved by the SD committee. He asked Dr. Arnold and VP Walker to give insight. Both Dr. Arnold and VP Walker shared that this resolution would serve more of a guidance around protesting and free speech. Students are to adhere to the policy when representing the university. VP Walker shared with the board that the SAAC assisted in the creation of the policy and also has created a statement that is read before every home game about racial injustice.

Rev. Stout did mention that non-voting parties in the SD committee voted against the resolution. With no further questions/ discussion Rev. Hale called for a vote from the full board.

1 opposed.

Resolution approved.

Chair Asbury shared Hebrews 12:1 with the board and BU staff members and encouraged everyone to keep moving forward because BU has a bright future. He excused BU members from the meeting.

17. Chair Asbury called the Executive Session to order.

18. Closing Prayer

19. Adjourn

DATES TO REMEMBER: Winter Commencement – Saturday, December 11, 2021
 Executive Committee Meeting – Friday, April 8, 2022
 Spring Board Meeting – Friday, April 22, 2022
 Spring Commencement – Saturday, May 7, 2022
 Centennial Gala – Saturday, May 7, 2022
 MABS Spring Commencement – Saturday, May 14, 2022