

7-7-1999

## 1999 - Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes

Board of Trustees, Central Washington University

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Approved October 15, 1999

**SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
July 7, 1999**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Central Washington University began at 11:10 a.m. July 7, 1999, in Barge 412 on the Ellensburg campus of Central Washington University.

**Present in Ellensburg**

Ms. Gwen Chaplin, Chair  
Mr. Frederic L. "Fritz" Glover

**Connected by telephone**

Ms. Leslie Jones, Vice Chair  
Mr. Ken Martin  
Mr. Jay Reich  
Mr. Mike Sells  
Ms. Judy Yu

**Others Present**

Dr. Linda Beath, Chair, Faculty Senate  
Mr. Rich Corona, Associate Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs  
Ms. Teresa Kulik, Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Ms. Judy B. Miller, Secretary to the Board  
Dr. Ivory V. Nelson, President

**Executive Session**

At 11:10 a.m. the Board entered an executive session for 20 minutes in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 (g) to evaluate an applicant for public employment and review the performance of a public employee.

*Meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.*

**Amend President Ivory V. Nelson's Contract**

The Board of Trustees accepted a July 1, 1999 letter from Dr. Ivory Nelson in which he resigned as president of Central Washington University effective August 31, 1999. Dr. Nelson has accepted the presidency of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

**Motion 99-47:** Mr. Glover moved, seconded by Mr. Sells, that the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of Dr. Ivory V. Nelson as president effective August 31, 1999. Dr. Nelson's last day on campus will be August 13, 1999. He will take earned annual leave for the last two weeks of August. Motion carried.

**Appointment of an Interim President**

A small committee of the Board consisting of Trustees Chaplin, Glover, Jones, and Martin recommended that Dr. James A. (Dolph) Norton be appointed interim president effective September 1, 1999 for approximately 11 months. Mr. Glover reviewed Dr. Norton qualifications and past experience as an interim president. Dr. Norton will provide crucial support for the university during a time of transition. Mr. Reich asked why an off-campus person was chosen as interim president and requested clarification of the role of an interim president.

Several factors were considered before an outside person was recommended as interim president. The vice presidents will be concerned with many important divisional issues on the Ellensburg campus and at

the University Centers this year as well as meeting demands of the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Rather than interfere with critical divisional work, an experienced interim president was recommended who is removed from the presidential search process. Also important was selecting a person who could provide stability for the university during a long transition period. Dr. Norton was acquainted with the university, as he was one of two individuals hired by the Board of Trustees to evaluate Dr. Nelson and the Board in 1997. The Board is not asking Dr. Norton to make sweeping changes but rather to hold our ground until a new president is named. The Board sought a person with credibility and the temperament and experience to help the university move forward. Dr. Norton will stay until the new president arrives. A contract has yet to be consummated.

Ms. Chaplin reviewed insights she received from various members of the university community with whom she discussed the issue of an interim president. Linda Beath shared information from the faculty senate chair at Adelphi University, Dr. Norton's last assignment. Adelphi's situation was difficult as the board of trustees and the president were removed. Dr. Norton was generally perceived as bringing stability to campus, maintaining a courageous relationship with the board of trustees, advocating for faculty, and listening. Dr. Norton will arrive around August 20. Dr. Dauwalder will be in charge from August 13 until August 20.

**Motion 99-48:** Mr. Glover moved, seconded by Ms. Jones, that Dr. James A. (Dolph) Norton be appointed Interim President of Central Washington University effective September 1, 1999. Dr. Norton will serve approximately 11 months or until a new president is installed. Final employment details will be negotiated by the Board chair with conditions of employment (salary, benefits, housing, motor pool vehicle, etc.) to approximate those of President Nelson. Motion carried.

*Mr. French was connected by telephone at 11:50 a.m.*

#### **Board Meeting Date Change**

The first meetings of the 1999-00 academic year were changed to October 14 and 15, 1999. The following list reflects the current proposed meeting dates through August 2000.

October 14, 1999 (*campus retreat*)  
October 15, 1999  
November 12, 1999  
December 10, 1999  
February 11, 2000  
April 14, 2000 (*CWU Lynnwood Center*)  
May 12, 2000  
June 9, 2000  
August 3-4, 2000 (*Board Retreat*)

**Motion 99-49:** Mr. Sells moved, seconded by Mr. Reich, that the Board accept the meeting schedule for 1999-00 as revised. Motion carried.

#### **Acceptance of the Science Facility**

Rich Corona, Associate Vice President for Business Affairs, stated that completion of the Science Facility culminates ten years of effort to construct a new building to house Biological Sciences, Chemistry, and Science Education Departments. Spaces in Dean Hall where the departments were formerly housed were inadequate and the equipment outdated.

**Motion 99-50:** Mr. Sells moved, seconded by Mr. Glover, that the Board of Trustees accepts as complete Science Facility Phase I (Contract #4022) as performed by Ellis-Don Construction Inc., Mercer Island, Washington, for the amount of \$59,406,500 not including Washington State Sales Tax. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting**

The Board of Trustees will next meet in retreat session July 29 and 30, 1999 at Sleeping Lady Resort in Leavenworth, Washington. Mr. Reich stated that during the retreat the Board would receive a report from the Presidential Search Committee regarding a proposed search budget. The search committee has met twice and approved a preliminary budget at the last meeting. Minutes of the meetings are available on the web site. The next meeting is July 23.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

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Judy B. Miller, Secretary to the  
Board of Trustees  
Central Washington University

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Gwen Chaplin, Chair  
Board of Trustees  
Central Washington University