A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of The Trustees of Purdue University convened in Room 326 of Stewart Center, Purdue University West Lafayette, Indiana at 1:10 p.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2014.

All committee members were present: JoAnn Brouillette, chair; Vanessa Castagna; John Hardin; and Kelsey Quin. Other trustees present were Michael Berghoff and Thomas Spurgeon. Also in attendance were: Tim Sands, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Al Diaz, Executive Vice President for Business and Finance, Treasurer; Jim Almond, Senior Vice President for Business Services, Assistant Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary; and Steve Schultz, Legal Counsel.

I. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS

As recommended by Provost Sands, and upon proper motions each duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to request full Board approval of the following appointments: Dr. James M. Caruthers as the Gerald and Sarah Skidmore Professor of Chemical Engineering; Dr. Joerg Appenzeller as the Barry M. and Patricia L. Epstein Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering; and Dr. John J. McConnell as the Burton Morgan Chair in Private Enterprise.

Dr. Appenzeller remarked that he came to Purdue because of the teamwork in its engineering community, which provided him a great opportunity to thrive. He spoke briefly about his work with transistor devices and gave credit to the students with whom he has worked. Dr. Caruthers and Dr. McConnell were not in attendance because they already held appointments that were simply being redesignated.

As recommended by Chancellor Thomas Keon, and upon proper motions each duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to request full Board approval of the following appointments at Purdue University Calumet: Dr. Kuan-Chou Chen as the Thomas M. McDermott, Sr. Professor in Economic Development and Dr. Cyril Pat Obi as the White Lodging Professor of Finance.

Dr. Chen spoke about the career path that led him to Purdue. He thanked the leadership of Purdue University Calumet, specifically Dr. Jane Mutchler, Dean of the College of Business, and Chancellor Keon, as well as his family.

Dr. Obi said that words were inadequate to express the depth of his appreciation. Purdue has changed his life in profound ways and given him the opportunity to give back. He thanked
White Lodging Services, Chancellor Keon, and Dean Mutchler and said good things are happening at Purdue University Calumet.

Trustee Hardin addressed the new named professors and remarked that what the faculty model for those who will follow and lead is incredibly important. All supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

II. APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

As requested by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval to change the name of the Department of Physics to the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Provost Sands cited the reasons for doing so and said the name change would also be consistent with the university’s emphasis on the STEM disciplines and bring Purdue in line with practices at major research universities. Supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

III. APPROVAL TO CREATE THE SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

As requested by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval to reorganize the 15 interdisciplinary programs in the College of Liberal Arts to form the School of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. No additional resources, space, or personnel will be required, and the new School will assume the budget of the existing interdisciplinary programs. Supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

IV. APPROVAL OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREE

As recommended by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously, and with heavy hearts, to recommend full Board approval of a posthumous Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree for Andrew F. Boldt, who would have been a candidate for graduation in May 2014. Trustee Brouillette tearfully remarked that Andrew was clearly a very good student who impacted the Purdue community in a very positive way in his very short life and the thoughts and prayers of the entire Purdue family were with Andrew’s family. Provost Sands thanked Dean Jamieson for expediting this request. Supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

V. CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREES, SPRING 2014

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the following resolution as read by Provost Sands:

WHEREAS, the nominations for the doctorate degree honoris causa from Purdue University have been reviewed by the appropriate school and university committees and have received the approval of the Provost and the President of Purdue University; and

WHEREAS, these nominations represent individuals with outstanding experience, background, and talents; and
WHEREAS, these nominees represent excellence in their fields and provide an inspiration for all Purdue graduates;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE TRUSTEES OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY:

1. That the Trustees provide their approval of this outstanding group of individuals to receive the doctorate degree *honoris causa* from Purdue University; and

2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Board of Trustees as part of the permanent record of the University.

Trustee Brouillette commented that the Committee and the entire Board reviewed the resumes of all the honorary doctorate candidates, and she said the names of the candidates would not be announced until commencement. All supporting materials will be filed with the minutes.

VI. APPROVAL TO AMEND BYLAWS TO ADD EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval to add the chair of the University Senate to the Academic Affairs Committee as a non-voting, ex-officio member, with his or her term on the Committee to coincide with his or her one-year term as chair of the University Senate. Trustee Hardin remarked that he appreciated the process that led to this action and looks forward to the council of Professor Williams and those who follow him. Professor Williams commented on the university history made by this action, and he thanked Legal Counsel Schultz for working with him through the seven-month process. Trustee Brouillette said that the University Senate has always been a valued voice, which has now been formalized.

VII. PRESENTATION: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Dr. Irwin “Bud” Weiser, Justin S. Morrill Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, made a presentation to the Committee titled *College of Liberal Arts: At the Heart of the Matter*. He reviewed the mission of the College of Liberal Arts and its structure, discussed student enrollment, and spoke about the spirit being cultivated in the College through its curriculum, faculty, and student recruitment. He also spoke about how the College of Liberal Arts is contributing to the Purdue Moves initiatives through ‘Building Sustainable Communities’ research. This research includes the Purdue Peace Project, which Dean Weiser cited as “an amazing example of engaged scholarship and research.” Dean Weiser shared that the College of Liberal Arts is collaborating with the College of Technology on the Purdue Polytechnic Institute, and he discussed study abroad programs and summer programming. He also referenced a report by the Association of American Colleges and Universities which discussed the earnings of liberal arts graduates, and he remarked about the successes of the Liberal Arts faculty. Dean Weiser ended his presentation with an invitation to the Board to attend an ‘Intersection of Liberal Arts and STEM’ event on April 10, 2014. Chairman Spurgeon congratulated Dean Weiser on his accomplishments. Dr. Leah Jamieson, Dean of the College of Engineering, was in attendance and remarked that Dean Weiser has been a most collaborative colleague.
VIII. APPROVAL TO NAME THE SCHOOL OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval to name the School of Civil Engineering the Lyles School of Civil Engineering in recognition of a very generous $15,000,000 gift from the Lyles Family of Fresno, California. Four generations of the Lyles Family are Purdue alumni, and Dean Jamieson remarked that this gift is a “spectacular show of support and partnership.” She also referred to the School of Civil Engineering as having a “Triple Crown” – a named headship (Bowen Engineering Head of Civil Engineering), a named building (Delon and Elizabeth Hampton Hall of Civil Engineering), and now the named Lyles School of Civil Engineering. She said all three are testament to the loyalty the school has fostered.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

By consent, the meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.