MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TRUSTEES OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MAY 15, 2014

A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees convened in Room 326 of Stewart Center, Purdue University West Lafayette, Indiana, at 1:04 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2014.

All committee members were present: JoAnn Brouillette, chair; Vanessa Castagna; John Hardin; Kelsey Quin; and David Williams (ex-officio). Other trustees present were Sonny Beck, Michael Berghoff, Gary Lehman, Thomas Spurgeon, Don Thompson, and Bruce White. Also in attendance were: Mitch Daniels, President; 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, and Assistant Treasurer; Steve Schultz, Legal Counsel; and Janice Indrutz, Executive Assistant to the Board and Corporate Secretary.

I. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT

As recommended by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to request full Board approval to appoint Dr. Wayne E. Wright as the Barbara I. Cook Chair of Literacy and Language. This appointment is dedicated to Dr. Cook’s spirit of expanding educational opportunities for underrepresented groups and Dr. Wright was identified as the ideal candidate. Dr. Wright was in attendance and remarked that the appointment represented Purdue’s commitment to the diversity of its students and he felt a great sense of responsibility to carry on Dr. Cook’s legacy. The supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

II. APPROVAL TO EXTEND IPFW MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

As recommended by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of Amendment No. 1 to the IPFW Management Agreement, which extends the agreement until June 30, 2015. Indiana University has agreed to the extension, and Dr. Vicky Carwein, IPFW chancellor, was in attendance and, in response to a question from the Committee, expressed her view that this was a reasonable action to take. Trustee Hardin remarked that the value of an IU or Purdue degree in northeast Indiana is strong and he hoped it would continue. He also thanked Chancellor Carwein for her leadership. Supporting documents will be filed with the minutes.

III. RECOGNITION OF CHANCELLOR CARWEIN

Chairman Spurgeon announced that Indiana University’s School of Nursing would be celebrating its 100-year anniversary in June 2014, and he congratulated Chancellor Carwein, who was to be recognized as one of the School’s top 100 Alumni Legacy Leaders.
IV. APPROVAL OF POSTHUMOUS DEGREE

As recommended by Provost Sands, and upon proper motion duly seconded, the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval to award a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree to Hannah M. Densel, who would have been a candidate for the degree in May 2014 with the completion of her spring registration. The supporting document will be filed with the minutes.

V. PRESENTATION: COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. Jay Akridge, Glenn W. Sample Dean of the College of Agriculture, made a presentation to the Committee titled College of Agriculture: People, Purpose, Impact. He discussed the six areas that define research activity in the College, as well as the five themes that guide the work of the College. He also spoke about industry partnerships and commercialization activity, and he demonstrated a PICS (Purdue Improved Crop Storage) bag. He discussed the successful use of the bags in West Africa, plans to expand their use, and the focus on sustainable supply chains in the absence of philanthropic support for the PICS bags. Dean Akridge then discussed how the campus master plan will affect the College of Agriculture’s space needs and shared that the College launched a new, well-received recruiting campaign in Fall 2013. Dean Akridge pointed out that Purdue offers the only four-year agriculture program in the state, with enrollment at 2,704 in Fall 2013, the highest since 1982. He illustrated retention and graduation rates and spoke about the College’s study abroad program, and he also drew attention to the Issues 360 Certificate Program, which the College is excited about growing, and illustrated grant activity sponsors. Dean Akridge said the eight Purdue agricultural centers across the state are an important part of how the College serves the state of Indiana, as is Purdue’s extension program, which has an office in each of the 92 counties. He spoke about Extension activities that do not flow through the county system, including apps for devices such as smartphones, and he was pleased to share that the extension website had been visited over 70 million times in the previous twelve months. He also provided data on the number of women and minority tenure-track faculty and the number of underrepresented minority students in the College, all of which are growing in numbers. Dean Akridge concluded his presentation by announcing a $1.7 million gift from Beck’s Hybrids to fund two critical facility projects and said the College of Agriculture is committed to being the national model for what it means to be a land-grant College of Agriculture.

In response to questions from Trustees Hardin and Berghoff, Dean Akridge discussed the Purdue Pathways program and the structure of the extension offices. Trustee Berghoff remarked that the College of Agriculture is a large part of Purdue’s identity and asked what Dean Akridge believed was needed to elevate the College to a higher status. Dean Akridge responded that facilities issues will need to be addressed, and continued state support is critical.

A copy of Dean Akridge’s presentation will be filed with the minutes.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

By consent, the meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.