A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees convened at 1:48 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2015, in Room 326 of Stewart Center on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana.

All committee members were present: JoAnn Brouillette, chair; Vanessa Castagna; John Hardin; Cameron Mann; and Professor Kirk Alter (ex-officio). All other trustees were present: Sonny Beck, Michael Berghoff, Michael Klipsch, Gary Lehman, Thomas Spurgeon, and Don Thompson.

Also in attendance were: Mitch Daniels, President; Deba Dutta, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity; Bill Sullivan, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer; Jim Almond, Senior Vice President and Assistant Treasurer; Steve Schultz, Legal Counsel; and Janice Indrutz, Executive Assistant to the Board and Corporate Secretary.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of its meeting held July 16, 2015.

II. APPROVAL OF REVISED PROMOTION AND TENURE CRITERIA FOR THE WEST LAFAYETTE CAMPUS

Trustee Brouillette began discussion of the revised promotion and tenure criteria document being considered for the West Lafayette campus. She remarked that, understandably, there had been a lot of interest in this subject and that the Board took its responsibility for promotion and tenure very seriously. She reviewed the steps that had been taken in the long process to revise the criteria. She said the process had provided great value and resulted in the document being considered for approval. She expressed her belief that the final document brought clarity to the language that the Board had proposed and said it reflected the priorities and values of the Board. On behalf of the Board, Trustee Brouillette thanked the faculty, the University Senate, and Provost Dutta for their respective roles in the revision process. Trustee Brouillette then reviewed the three elements of the criteria that the Board had initially identified as priorities.

Trustee Castagna reiterated the seriousness of the Trustees’ charge. She said that the faculty is the university’s most important asset and the final criteria document was about the future and ensuring continued excellence in a competitive landscape.
Trustee Hardin expressed his gratitude for the final revisions, which he believed improved the document, and said it had been a great learning opportunity for the Board. He thanked Professor Alter for giving the Board a healthy perspective and said Professor Alter’s professional experience made him uniquely qualified to provide his insights. Trustee Brouillette said faculty input had been heard and was valued, and she expressed her appreciation to Professor Alter for their working relationship, which she said would make everyone better and stronger.

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the final document for the revised promotion and tenure criteria for the West Lafayette campus. Supporting documents were filed with the minutes.

III. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS

As recommended by Provost Dutta, and upon proper motions each duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the following appointments for the West Lafayette campus: Dr. Audeen W. Fentiman, Crowley Family Professor in Engineering Education; Dr. Rodrigo Salgado, Charles Pankow Professor in Civil Engineering; Dr. Kenneth H. Sandhage, Reilly Professor of Materials Engineering; and Dr. Herman O. Sintim, Drug Discovery Professor of Chemistry.

Dr. Fentiman expressed her gratitude to Dr. David Radcliffe, head of the School of Engineering Education, Dr. Ahmed Hassanein, head of the School of Nuclear Engineering, and Dr. Leah Jamieson, John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering, for the opportunities they had given her to learn, grow, and contribute since she joined Purdue in 2006. Dr. Fentiman also recognized Geoffrey Crowley, a Purdue alumnus who she said was a leader in the airline industry, and said she was honored to hold the professorship named for him and eager to take advantage of the opportunities it held to influence the future of engineering education. Trustee Thompson remarked that Dr. Fentiman was very humble for a woman who had worked in the nuclear field since the 1970’s and said she brought such prestige to Purdue University. Chairman Berghoff spoke about Dr. Fentiman’s service as Purdue system coordinator and the positive feedback he had received from the regional campuses.

Dr. Salgado thanked his faculty colleagues, including Dr. Rao Govindaraju, Bowen Head of Civil Engineering, and Dean Jamieson, for selecting him for the professorship. He discussed alumnus Charles Pankow’s career and accolades and said it was a great honor to hold the professorship named for Mr. Pankow. Dr. Salgado remarked that his research had been very productive by being part of a major research university and that the environment of intellectual stimulation at Purdue was unmatched.

Dr. Sandhage thanked Dr. David Bahr, head of the School of Materials Engineering, Dean Jamieson, Provost Dutta, and the Trustees. He said being the Reilly Professor was a great honor and a thrill because he was an alumnus and his work aligned with the aim of the Reilly professorship, which was dedication to promoting excellence in engineering education. Dr. Sandhage said he was excited about working with both undergraduate and
graduate students, and he discussed how he challenged his students in the laboratory, including projects such as harnessing solar power.

Dr. Sintim thanked the search committee for providing him the opportunity to interview at Purdue, as well as the members of the Department of Chemistry for having faith to hire him. He said that ever since he was a graduate student, he saw Purdue as one of the top places in the world to conduct organic chemistry research and that it was an honor to be considered a colleague among faculty members he had admired. He concluded by saying he looked forward to being part of the Purdue family and moving Purdue’s program to the next level.

All supporting documents were filed with the minutes.

IV. APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION TECHNOLOGY

Provost Dutta requested approval to change the name of the Department of Aviation Technology in the Purdue Polytechnic Institute on the West Lafayette campus to the School of Aviation and Transportation Technology. He explained that the name change would appropriately recognize the evolution of the program and ensure that Purdue is a leader in aviation technology and transportation for the next generation. Provost Dutta said this was a unique opportunity for Purdue to set itself apart as a leader by being the only Big Ten institution with such a named school, and he referred to the three top institutions in the field whose programs competed with Purdue, saying they were already ahead in this respect. Furthermore, the name change would increase the level of regard within the aviation industry and with research funding agencies.

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the name change. Supporting documents were filed with the minutes.

V. APPROVAL OF REVISED CRITERIA AND NOMINATION PROCESS FOR HONORARY DOCTORATE CANDIDATES

Provost Dutta requested approval of the revised criteria and nomination process for honorary doctorate candidates. He explained the process of how the previous criteria and process, set forth in 1988, was reviewed and revised at the request of the Committee in 2014. Provost Dutta reviewed the five specific criteria, which he said the new document outlined very clearly.

Trustee Brouillette thanked Trustee Castagna for her critical role in developing the language of the criteria. She also clarified that by adopting the criteria and approving the document, the Committee, and subsequently the Board, wished to express its present intention and expectation that the Board would only consider the recommendation of an honorary degree under the process if – as the general rule states – a case is made that at least two of the criteria are met. Trustee Castagna pointed out that of the five key criteria that were listed, two of them were about leadership and service to either Purdue or the
State of Indiana, which were fitting given that an honorary doctorate degree was the highest honor the university could bestow.

Upon proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the document outlining the revised criteria and nomination process for honorary doctorate candidates. Supporting documents were filed with the minutes.

VI. APPROVAL OF ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR PURDUE UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

Provost Dutta prefaced the discussion of the proposed academic organizational structure for Purdue University Northwest by informing the Committee that Purdue University Calumet and Purdue University North Central had done much work in this regard, and he said the faculty and leadership deserved much gratitude. Dr. Jim Dworkin, chancellor of Purdue University North Central, then reviewed the many steps that had been taken to arrive at the proposed structure.

Dr. Tom Keon, chancellor of Purdue University Calumet, then illustrated the unification timeline and said the faculty and leadership were asked to consider the mission and vision statements of Purdue University Northwest while working to propose the new academic structure. He illustrated the existing academic structures on both campuses, which included a total of 11 colleges, 1 school, and 29 departments, and further illustrated the proposed structure of 6 colleges, 3 schools, and 18 departments. Chancellor Keon emphasized that the proposed structure was entirely faculty driven.

Chancellor Keon recommended approval of the proposed academic structure because of the subsequent actions that would be needed in order to launch Purdue University Northwest on July 1, 2016.

In response to questions from Chairman Berghoff, Chancellors Dworkin and Keon agreed that the proposed structure was a good starting plan for the next three to five years. Chairman Berghoff discussed his recent visit to Purdue University Calumet during which he had an opportunity to speak with members of the Unification Committee, and he said there was much to celebrate given the many elements of, and the time period in which, the proposed structure was accomplished. Trustee Lehman reminded everyone that there was still much work to be done, such as accreditation of programs. Trustee Castagna remarked that during her visit to Purdue University Calumet the previous day, several student groups and members of the faculty with whom she met expressed unsolicited excitement about the unification despite the challenges. Trustee Hardin remarked that it had been amazing to see this real progress, and he moved approval of the proposed academic organizational structure for Purdue University Northwest.

Upon the proper motion duly seconded, the members of the Academic Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend full Board approval of the proposed academic structure. Supporting documents were filed with the minutes.
VII. PRESENTATION: KRANNERT SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Dr. David Hummels, dean of the Krannert School of Management, made a presentation to the members of the Committee and the Board to report on the progress of the School. He began with a history of the School’s leadership and a timeline of the efforts he had undertaken since being named interim dean in 2010 and dean in 2015. He then discussed the creation of several new programs, both undergraduate and graduate, and the growth in new types of learning. He explained how the School had made significant investments in advising, mentoring, and career guidance programs, and he discussed enrollment data, rising student demand, and the challenges presented by the demand.

Dean Hummels then discussed rankings and said rankings of business schools were very important because they drove admissions and job placement. He provided current rankings numbers and illustrated a steady decline, which he said was of most concern because rankings translated into the ability to attract strong students and place students. He further outlined and discussed the four key influences on rankings, which were resources, student quality and placement, research leadership, and faculty recruiting and retention.

Dean Hummels was pleased to share that the School had seen a significant improvement in the undergraduate program, which he attributed to the Direct Admit Program, but he also recognized that the master’s program had slipped due to intensified competition for students. He said a series of strategic steps were being taken to address the latter, as well as recruiting and retaining faculty. Dean Hummels also spoke about creating research centers within the School to serve as anchors for engagement across campus and with corporate sponsors. He said companies were reaching out to Krannert for assistance with significant research needs and that faculty had risen to the challenge of raising research funding. Dean Hummels concluded his report by saying that both the School’s faculty and research efforts had been rejuvenated.

In response to questions from Trustee Thompson, Dean Hummels discussed the future of the Business Opportunity Program and the decline in master’s program enrollment. Chairman Berghoff said that he would like Dean Hummels to spend more time with the Board at its meeting in December 2015 because the Board members would like to know more about why the demand exceeded the School’s capacity to supply. Trustee Lehman provided his insights and observed that the School also needed to reconsider whether its strategy was aligned with the industry trends that were affecting the school. He used the Purdue Polytechnic Institute as an example of how the College of Technology transformed its strategy to address the changing technology landscape.

A copy of Dean Hummels’ presentation was filed with the minutes.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

By consent, the meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.