

**West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine
Board of Governors – Regular Meeting
Friday, November 5, 2021
Location: Conference Center located in the
WVSOM Student Center**

DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, ONLY BOARD MEMBERS AND ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL WERE ALLOWED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING IN PERSON. THE PUBLIC WAS INVITED TO ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE.

I. Call to Order, Roll Call/Quorum, and Mission Statement

Meeting was called to order at 10:06 am by Board Chair, Dr. Robert Holstein. Roll call was taken by Board Secretary, Marlena Dunbar. A quorum was present. The WVSOM mission statement was read by Board Vice Chair, Dr. Randall Belt.

Members Present:

Robert Holstein, D.O., Chair
Randall Belt, D.O., Vice Chair
Marlena Dunbar, Secretary
Abdulrahman Al Halak
Gregory Burton
Thomas Cole

Sharon Hall
Frederick Morgan, D.O.
Gary Poling, D.O. (teleconference)
Steven Sarver
Todd Smith, D.O. (teleconference)
Peter Ward, Ph.D.

Members Absent:

None

Others in Attendance:

James W. Nemitz, Ph.D., President
Jeffrey Shawver, J.D., General Counsel

Debbie Green, Scribe/Board Liaison

II. Introductions

President Nemitz introduced Ms. Linda Arnold, Interim Vice President for Integrated Marketing & Chief Communications Officer. Ms. Arnold is from Charleston and is well known in the State of West Virginia as the founder of the Arnold Agency which is a multistate advertising agency. Ms. Arnold is also a nationally syndicated columnist on wellness, a member of the West Virginia Business Hall of Fame, and a Wonder Woman award recipient.

Dr. Nemitz also introduced Andrew Ickes, Development Director with the WVSOM Foundation. Mr. Ickes is originally from Lewisburg and has a broad range of experience in philanthropy with Virginia Tech.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Chair Holstein requested an addition to the minutes of the September 10, 2021 Board of Governors meeting to allow the following statement (Item IX. C): "In response to the Board's expressed interest in pursuing the topic of admissions/scholarships/tuition discounting further, the Chair directed Greg Burton, Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee and its members, to

gather more detailed information on this and report to the Board at its next meeting on November 5, 2021.”

The Board had no objections to adding the proposed statement and there was no further discussion.

It was moved and seconded (Ward/Hall) to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2021 regular meeting as revised. Motion Carried

V. Investment Update

Mr. Larry Ware, Vice President for Finance & Facilities, introduced Whit Yates and Jack Carvalho, managing directors with Morgan Stanley Investment Company. Mr. Yates and Mr. Carvalho have managed WVSOM funds since WVSOM began investing outside of the State Treasury in the fall of 2014. Mr. Ware also introduced Daniel Skelly, head of the market research and strategy team within Morgan Stanley Investment Company.

Mr. Yates reviewed WVSOM’s wealth management prospectus booklet which was provided to each Board member prior to the meeting. WVSOM has outperformed the indexes 4 out of the last 5 years. Of note, WVSOM has substantially outperformed the education index as indicated by investments in 2020 which were up 6.4% versus the average investment return for an educational facility of WVSOM’s size of 2.8%.

Mr. Yates thanked Mr. Ware for his support and Morgan Stanley will continue to work with Mr. Ware to rebalance WVSOM’s investment portfolio.

Mr. Yates introduced Mr. Skelly who works closely with the Global Investment Committee with a primary focus on US equity strategy. Mr. Skelly has been a frequent guest on CNBC and Bloomberg and his views have been cited in The Wall Street Journal. Mr. Skelly provided a global snapshot of the investment market as a whole and the impact on WVSOM’s portfolio.

Mr. Yates concluded the investment update by stating the current balance of WVSOM’s portfolio is 49 million dollars and WVSOM has earned 14 million dollars since 2017.

There were no questions. President Nemitz thanked Mr. Yates, Mr. Carvalho, and Mr. Skelly for their update and work on behalf of WVSOM.

VI. Agenda Order

No changes were made to the agenda order.

VII. Rules

A. GA-28: Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (policy to be renamed “Discrimination in the Workplace and Educational Environment Prohibited”). Chair Holstein presented for approval Institutional Policy GA-28 with proposed revisions including a title change to “Discrimination in the Workplace and Educational Environment Prohibited” which was posted for a 30-day comment period. Dr. Randall Belt, Chair of the Institutional Policy Committee, reported the committee reviewed the policy and recommended the revised policy to the full Board as presented.

It was moved and seconded (Ward/Dunbar) to approve GA-28: Discrimination in the Workplace and Educational Environment Prohibited as revised and retitled.

Motion Carried

VIII. Reports

- A. Chair of the Board of Governors. Chair Holstein provided a report on the following topics:
- Chair Holstein and President Nemitz will present at the WVOMA conference during the afternoon session on November 5, 2021. Chair Holstein's presentation will focus on the structure and function of the WVSOM Board of Governors and will highlight Board members.
 - WVSOM will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022 and numerous events are being planned to celebrate the occasion. Chair Holstein encouraged Board members to consider attending the events.
 - Board members, alumni, WVSOM Foundation donors, faculty, and staff will receive an email from Chair Holstein on behalf of the WVSOM Foundation regarding an opportunity for year-end giving to the WVSOM Foundation Scholars Fund. Chair Holstein encouraged Board members to consider donating to this fund which supports West Virginia students from medically underserved counties.
- B. Committee Reports.
- a. Academic Committee. Dr. Ward stated the Academic Committee met to approve the graduates presented by Dr. Boyd and received a report on the Textbook Affordability Annual Report.
 - b. Finance & Audit Committee. Mr. Burton stated the Finance & Audit Committee met for discussion but he will hold his comments until Mr. Ware's presentation on admissions/scholarships/tuition discounting.
 - c. Institutional Policy Committee. Dr. Belt stated he had no further report.
- C. President of WVSOM.
1. Administration. President Nemitz provided updates on the following topics:
 - COVID-19 Response. The vaccination rate for students and faculty is at 99%. Currently, there are no infections on campus. The COVID-19 Task Force is monitoring and adjusting protocols based on county infection rate. Student co-curricular activities have been reintroduced to include several cocurricular educational programs, community service, and social activities.
 - Higher education. A focus of higher education is on flexibility in the work environment. The Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) continues to focus on the higher education funding formula. Marshall University has named a new President, Brad Smith. Mr. Smith visited the WVSOM campus in October 2021.
 - Fundraising Update. An estate gift of 3 million dollars has been pledged from Dr. and Mrs. Barger. The couple has agreed to gift \$100,000 to WVSOM per year until death. Dr. Faheem, WVSOM preceptor, has donated \$35,000 for a new WVSOM scholarship. WVSOM has received a grant from the Peyton Foundation for two WVSOM scholarships: \$25,000 in 2021 and \$100,000 in 2022. The WVSOM Foundation is currently launching an end-of-year giving campaign. President Nemitz has been working with Andrew Ickes on a donor prospect list and fundraising strategic plan in order to identify and meet with potential significant donors. President Nemitz stated other significant grants and gifts are in process.

- Center for Rural and Community Health (CRCH). In FY 2021, the CRCH secured \$2,523,205 in grant funds and over the last five years the CRCH has brought in \$8,508,316. Sara Crickenberger, new institutional grants writer, has been instrumental in WVSOM being awarded the following new grants: Greenbrier Community Care Corps (\$120,000), Seneca Trail for Fit Kids (\$6,000), and the Department of Health and Human Resources COVID Rural Health Disparities (\$495,000) for a total of \$621,604 since March 2021. President Nemitz recently met with Dan Evans, former CEO of Indiana University Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, regarding the White Sulphur Springs Family Activity Center project. Dr. Drema Hill will spearhead this project moving forward.
- New Programs. President Nemitz stated WVSOM recently posted a position for Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. This position will oversee development of the post baccalaureate program. WVSOM will seek accreditation approval for online courses and Master's degree programs. Administration will submit a projected budget for new programs to be reviewed at the January Board of Governors meeting. President Nemitz stated Dr. Linda Boyd's academic leadership has been instrumental in moving forward the new programs initiative.
- Marketing and Communications. President Nemitz was recently highlighted in an article in The State Journal and was the keynote speaker at the virtual West Virginia Rural Health Association (WVRHA) Conference. Marketing has focused on increasing advertising in state publications as well as television interviews.
- WVSOM Building Projects. The Testing Center project is underway and phase II will be completed in November 2021. The Main Building roofing project is in progress and on schedule with a completion date scheduled for November.
- Legislative. President Nemitz recently hosted a dinner for legislators in the Eastern Panhandle to discuss WVSOM initiatives.
- Staff. The Staff has been active and Halloween activities raised over \$453. Several Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday activities are currently being planned.
- Faculty. Pam deWilde, D.O., has recently joined WVSOM as a new Osteopathic Principles & Practice faculty member. Faculty is currently working on revising the curriculum.
- Students. Student Doctor Matthew Parsley, OMS II, was named the Outstanding Rural Health Student by the WVRHA.
- Cocurricular Activities. Community service projects have resumed with the following organizations: Habitat for Humanity, United Way, Helping Hands of West Virginia, Demonstration Garden at the Clingman Center, Fit Kids with the CRCH, Communities in Schools, and the Committee on Aging. Educational series programs now being offered include: Leadership (LEAD) series, Grand Rounds, Spanish Medical Checkout series, and diversity series. The students have been involved in social activities including intramural football, pumpkin carving, trick or treat bags and the auto extrication event.
- Research. Research continues to thrive at WVSOM and the following students have recently received awards: 1st place (tie) award for Best Student Doctor Original Research Presentation at ACOI to Student Doctor, Jessica Brumbaugh, OMS II, for her work with Dr. Crystal Boudreaux, Ph.D.; 2nd place award for poster presentation at OMED to Student Doctor, Sarai Arbus, OMS III, for her work with Dr. Chris Pankey, Ph.D.; and 2nd place (tie) award for poster presentation at OMED to Student Doctor, Katherine Goh, OMS II, for her work with Dr. Marc Benson, Ph.D. Poster of the year at the WVRHA annual meeting to Student Doctors Saniya Ahmed, Zoe Harold,

Abeera Naeem, Nicole Newman, Vivian Shiffler and Isabelle Sinitza (all OMS II students) for their work with Gretchen Lovett, Ph.D. and Andrea Nazar, D.O. Four student publications and one staff paper have published since the September 2021 Board of Governors meeting. Also, Dr. Tony Liu received a West Virginia Clinical & Translational Science Institute pilot grant for \$5,000.

- WVSOM Events. WVSOM hosted the virtual WVRHA annual meeting in October 2021 and will be hosting the in-person annual meeting in 2022. Other recent notable WVSOM events include hosting Leadership West Virginia on campus and an open house event for the Central West Statewide Campus in Parkersburg which had very good media coverage.
- Future WVSOM events. WVSOM will host the HEPC Title IX training hybrid event November 9 – 10, 2021; the WVSOM MidWinter Conference in Charleston, WV January 28 – 30, 2022; and multiple 50th Anniversary celebration events in 2022.
- State and National Events. President Nemitz recently attended the HEPC higher education funding formula meeting at Stonewall Jackson Resort; the GO D.O. luncheon at WV Wesleyan College; the Marshall University Business Hall of Fame banquet; and the Covenant House Gala in Charleston, WV. President Nemitz will present at WVOMA during the afternoon session on November 5, 2021 and also at the Small Communities, Big Solutions Conference on November 15 – 18, 2021.
- BOG Member Birthdays. The following birthdays were celebrated: Greg Burton, Peter Ward, Ph.D., and Marly Dunbar.

President Nemitz congratulated Peter Ward, Ph.D. on his new textbook, *Netter's Integrated Musculoskeletal System*. The WVSOM Alumni Association will host an online book signing event for Dr. Ward on November 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

2. Finance.

- a. FY 2021-2022 Financial Update. Mr. Larry Ware presented the financial statement ending September 30, 2021. Actual revenues received for the period are on target at \$21,770,071. Total estimated expenses for the period are \$12,930,456. WVSOM is operating within the approved budget with no concerns to report at this time. There were no questions concerning the financial update.

IX. Board Items

- A. Approval of Graduates. Dr. Linda Boyd presented the list of graduates for approval who will successfully complete all requirements for graduation, have been approved by the Student Promotions Committee, and also approved by the faculty.

It was moved and seconded (Cole/Ward) to approve the graduates as presented.

Motion Carried

- B. Textbook Affordability Annual Report. Roy Russ, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Preclinical Education, presented the Institutional Annual Report on Bookstores and Textbooks according to HEPC Series 51, Procedural Rule. HEPC has waived the report for the last two years. WVSOM submitted the Institutional Annual Report on October 15, 2021 and followed HEPC requirements. The first and second-year students at WVSOM have 12 required textbooks; 10 of the required textbooks are available in electronic format. The use of electronic books offsets 85% of the cost of textbooks for first and second-year students. Seventeen textbooks are required for third and fourth-year students; 16 of the required

textbooks are available in electronic format. The use of electronic textbooks offsets 79% of the cost of textbooks for third and fourth-year students.

- C. Admissions/Scholarships/Tuition Discounting. Chair Holstein asked Mr. Burton, Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee, to provide an update to the Board on the discussion during the Finance & Audit Committee meeting regarding admissions/scholarships/tuition discounting.

Mr. Burton thanked Mr. Ware, President Nemitz and members of the Finance & Audit Committee for input regarding admissions/scholarships/tuition discounting. The Finance & Audit Committee members compiled a list of questions for Mr. Ware and President Nemitz which was discussed in the committee meeting at 9 am on November 5, 2021. Mr. Burton asked Board members to contact Mr. Ware with additional questions they might have in order for Mr. Ware to provide additional information at the January 27, 2022 Board meeting.

Mr. Ware reviewed the Finance & Audit Committee question and answer sheet with the full Board. Mr. Burton emphasized to the Board members to keep in mind that offering tuition discounting/scholarships is a four-year commitment for each student. Mr. Burton recommended to Chair Holstein that admissions/scholarship/tuition discounting be placed on the January 27, 2022 Board meeting agenda for further discussion by the Board.

President Nemitz distributed an informational sheet regarding WVSOM's tuition discounting pilot program. The informational sheet provides data regarding the partial tuition discounting outcomes since inception of the program in FY 2018 - 2019. President Nemitz stated Ronnie Collins, Director of Admissions, and Dr. Boyd are working together to determine if modifications should be made to the program.

Dr. Morgan requested percentages over the last 30 years of WVSOM graduates that practice in West Virginia. Dr. Morgan stated he wanted to ensure WVSOM continues to accomplish its mission. Chair Holstein stated the current statistics include the following information:

- 40% of physicians practicing in West Virginia are WVSOM graduates.
- 46% of primary care physicians practicing in West Virginia are WVSOM graduates.
- 62% of physicians practicing in rural West Virginia are WVSOM graduates.

Dr. Morgan stated he wants to ensure those percentages do not dwindle.

Questions and in-depth discussion followed.

X. **Board Education**

- A. Foundation Update – Drema Hill, Ph.D., Vice President for Community Engagement & Development. Dr. Hill provided a PowerPoint presentation to the full Board regarding the following:

- WVSOM Foundation/Alumni Association Reorganization
- WVSOM Fundraising Progress
- WVSOM Foundation Upcoming Projects

Questions and discussion followed the presentation. Questions were asked regarding yearly operating costs versus the current fundraising goal of one million dollars. Dr. Hill stated the

Alumni Association and WVSOM Foundation have a strategic planning session scheduled for December 2021 to reevaluate the fundraising goals.

Ms. Hall applauded the WVSOM Foundation and Dr. Hill on its reorganization and stated the goal of investing in the infrastructure to develop more funds is one of the most important things WVSOM is doing. Ms. Hall agreed with reevaluating the fundraising goals but stated it will take time to reach those goals. Ms. Hall stated that fundraising is an art and a science and the institution needs to count all donations and pledges in the year it was awarded because of the time and effort invested in each donor interaction. Ms. Hall concluded by stating that it takes talented people to fundraise and the current reorganization cost is reasonable but the Board of Governors should expect results from that increased cost.

Mr. Sarver stated many of the WVSOM Board members are affiliated with various foundations in southern West Virginia. Mr. Sarver suggested that Dr. Hill contact WVSOM Board members with expertise in fundraising to assist with specific fundraising projects.

Dr. Ward commended Dr. Hill on her efforts to build a stable infrastructure base in order for the WVSOM Foundation to succeed.

Dr. Nemitz also congratulated the entire fundraising team on a job well done during the reorganization process.

The Foundation Update will be submitted as 0.75 hour of Board Education to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission toward training credit hours required for the Board of Governors.

- B. History of Osteopathic Medicine – Robert Foster, D.O., Assistant Dean for Osteopathic Medical Education. Dr. Foster provided a PowerPoint presentation to the full Board regarding the history of osteopathic medicine and its founder, Dr. Andrew Taylor Still. Dr. Still believed in treating the whole person instead of only the physical ailment the patient suffered from which is the philosophy of osteopathic medicine. Dr. Still developed the four principles of osteopathic medicine which include:

- 1) The human being is a dynamic unit of body, mind and spirit.
- 2) The body is capable of self-regulation, self-healing and health maintenance.
- 3) Structure and function are reciprocally interrelated.
- 4) Rational treatment is based upon these principles.

Other topics discussed were spirituality in osteopathic medicine, self-healing homeostasis, and osteopathic manipulative treatment.

Due to time constraints, Chair Holstein asked Dr. Foster to finish his presentation at the January 27, 2022 Board of Governors meeting. Chair Holstein asked Dr. Foster to add the following to the presentation: a summary of osteopathic medicine in West Virginia, osteopathic medicine's impact on the State of West Virginia, and how osteopathic medicine's impact has changed over the years.

The History of Osteopathic Medicine presentation will be submitted as 0.5 hour of Board Education to the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission toward training credit hours required for the Board of Governors.

XI. Possible Executive Session – State Code §6-9A-4(12) Attorney/Client Privilege; State Code §6-9A-4(b)(2) Personnel; and State Code §6-9A-4(b)(9) Real Property

No executive session was held.

XII. Actions Emanating from Executive Session

No executive session was held.

XIII. Information Gathering

Chair Holstein stated the full Board would continue the discussion on admissions/scholarships/tuition discounting at the January 27, 2022 Board of Governors meeting. Mr. Cole and Mr. Burton also requested an update on new programs and a WVSOM Foundation update at the January 27, 2022 meeting. Ms. Hall requested an update on faculty/clinical faculty recruitment and retention at a future meeting by Dr. Boyd as well as a report on the availability of clinical experiences for the students and difficulties that might be experienced during rotations.


XIV. Next Meeting Date

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held Thursday, January 27, 2022 at Encova Insurance in Charleston, West Virginia. The committee meetings will begin at 1:00 pm followed by the regular meeting at 2:00 pm.

XV. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded (Cole/Dunbar) to adjourn. The motion carried and the Board meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.

Approved on January 27, 2022

DocuSigned by:

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Marlena R. Dunbar
Secretary
/dg