Northwest Missouri State University
Board of Regents
Open Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2024
Approved on March 20, 2025

The Northwest Missouri State University Board of Regents met at 1:00 p.m. on December 12, 2024, in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom, under public notice given December 6, 2024.

The following members of the Board were present: Steve Coppinger (joined by phone), Shanda Durbin, Jason Klindt, John Moore, Debbie Roach, Roxanna Swaney, and Mel Tjeerdsma (joined by phone). Also present were President Dr. Lance Tatum, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Matt Baker, Interim Vice President of Culture Krista Barcus, Vice President of Finance and Administration Stacy Carrick, Provost Dr. Jamie Hooyman, Vice President of Advancement Mike Johnson, Athletics Director Dr. Andy Peterson and Attorney Sean Tassi.

A quorum being present, Regent Swaney called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Resolution #25-027: It was moved by Regent Klindt and seconded by Regent Durbin to approve the agenda as presented in agenda item 2.02:

adopt the agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously (7-0) by voice vote.

Resolution #25-028: It was moved by Regent Klindt and seconded by Regent Moore that the consent agenda as presented in agenda item 3.00 be approved:

- October 3, 2024 Board Work Session Minutes (document on file)
- October 3, 2024 Board of Regents Open Meeting Minutes (document on file)
- October 3, 2024 Board of Regents Closed Meeting Minutes (document on file)
- Conferral of Degrees (provided all requirements are met by the 18th day of the following semester and certified by the Registrar; document on file)

The motion carried unanimously (7-0) by voice vote.

Recognitions

- Provost Hooyman and Senior Instructor Jeff Bradley recognized student Hunter Weakley who is the recipient of the O.R. Grawe Award as the top geology student in the state of Missouri.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #25-029: It was recommended by Provost Jamie Hooyman, endorsed by President Tatum and the Academic and Student Engagement Committee, moved by Regent Klindt and seconded by Regent Roach that the following item presented in agenda item 4.02 be approved:

the appointment of one full-time and 20 adjunct faculty for the 2024-2025 academic year (list on file).

Regent Coppinger voted yea.
Regent Durbin voted yea.
Regent Klindt voted yea.
Regent Moore voted yea.
Regent Roach voted yea.
Regent Swaney voted yea.
Regent Tjeerdsma voted yea.

The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Resolution #25-030: It was recommended by Provost Jamie Hooyman, endorsed by President Tatum and the People, Finance and Operations Committee, moved by Regent Moore and seconded by Regent Durbin that the following item presented in agenda item 4.03 be approved:

Renew the Hubbard Center for Innovation lease agreement with Bolder Industries, LLC, in the amount of $36,598 for the period covering January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 (document on file).

Regent Coppinger voted yea.
Regent Durbin voted yea.
Regent Klindt voted yea.
Regent Moore voted yea.
Regent Roach voted yea.
Regent Swaney voted yea.
Regent Tjeerdsma voted yea.

The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Resolution #25-031: It was recommended by Interim Vice President Barcus and Assistant Vice President Tapps, endorsed by President Tatum, the People, Finance and Operations Committee, and the Academic and Student Engagement Committee, moved by Regent Moore and seconded by Regent Roach that the following item as presented in agenda item 4.04 be approved:

replace the current Smoke-Free Campus Policy with the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy effective July 1, 2025 (document on file).

Regent Coppinger voted yea.
Regent Durbin voted yea.
Regent Klindt voted yea.
Regent Moore voted yea.
Regent Roach voted yea.
Regent Swaney voted yea.
Regent Tjeerdsma voted yea.

The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Vice President Carrick reported the results from the FY24 Financial Audit (document on file). The audit results were accepted by the People, Finance and Operations Committee at their meeting on December 10, 2024. No action was required by the Board.

Verbal reports were presented by the following individuals**:**

- **Ms. Chloe DeVries, Student Senate President**
  - End of Semester totals:
    - We appropriated $13,340.09 to 13 student organizations, allowing them to attend conferences or host events on campus. This has used just over 50% of our Organizational Finance budget for the year, so we are right on track.
    - We approved the formation of 10 new student organizations this semester.
  - We are beginning planning for our annual Legislative Reception. This year, we will attend Jefferson City on February 25th – 26th. At the Legislative Reception, Senators get the chance to tour the capitol and meet with different Missouri Legislatures.
  - Finals are wrapping up and the students are excited for graduation or a nice winter break!
  - Commencement ceremonies are Friday, December 13th at 10:00AM and 2:00PM.

- **Dr. Rob Voss, Faculty Senate President**

  On behalf of the faculty at Northwest Missouri State University, I extend our gratitude for your unwavering support of our academic endeavors. Your leadership and dedication to advancing the mission of our institution enable us to educate, inspire, and guide our students as they strive to achieve their full potential as Bearcats. I am honored to present this semester's Faculty Senate Report, which highlights the impactful work our faculty have accomplished in teaching, research, and service, while also addressing how we are adapting to emerging challenges.

  <u>Innovative Teaching and Academic Excellence</u>
  Our faculty are continually finding creative ways to engage students and deepen their understanding of complex subjects. A shining example this semester is the Research Seminar in History (HIST 33591), which embraced a groundbreaking approach to studying ancient civilizations.

  Recognizing the growing interest in video games as both a cultural force and an educational tool, this course used popular video games as a lens to examine the Greco-Roman world. Students critically analyzed how these games represent key historical aspects, such as art, architecture, social structures, and the environment. Through over 1,000 hours of gameplay and analysis, students explored the narratives these games tell, their educational value, and their potential for shaping public understanding of history.
  As a culmination of the course, students applied their learning by developing their own video game concepts, each designed to teach audiences about specific facets of ancient history. This capstone project combined rigorous historical analysis with creative problem-solving, demonstrating how technology and storytelling can bring the past to life for modern audiences.

  This innovative teaching method not only aligns with the rising popularity of video games as a medium but also addresses their role in education and cultural dialogue. With the global gaming industry surpassing $200 billion annually, opportunities for education and engagement through gaming have never been greater. The success of this course highlights how Northwest faculty are leveraging these trends to prepare students for dynamic and interdisciplinary careers.

  <u>Faculty Research and Scholarly Contributions</u>
  Our faculty continue to excel in research, addressing some of today's most pressing challenges and contributing to their respective fields. A sampling of this semester's approved research projects span a variety of disciplines:

- Health and Wellbeing:
  - *Effects of Guided Mindfulness Practice on Test Anxiety*
  - *Impact of an On-Campus Sensory Space*
- Education and Counseling:
  - *Examination of the Hamburg CSD's Counseling Program: A Self-Study Based on Hatching Results' School Counseling Program Site Visit Questionnaire*
  - *An Investigation of the Relationship between Teacher Self-Efficacy and Burnout, Secondary Trauma, and Compassion Fatigue*
  - *The Impact of Needs Assessment for Tier One Instruction in an Elementary School Setting*
- Social and Behavioral Studies:
  - *That's What She Said: Navigating Toxic Comfort and Intrapersonal Communication in Survivors of Sexual Violence*
  - *Effects of Social Media Use on Adolescent Girls' Body Image and Self-Satisfaction*
- Sustainability and Agriculture:
  - *Alternative Fabrication and Processing Strategies to Improve Palatability and Consumer Demand of Underutilized Beef Briskets*
- Political and Global Perspectives:
  - *Exit Poll 2024*
  - *Global Literacy Mandates and Programmatic Changes*

These projects reflect the breadth of faculty expertise and their commitment to addressing complex societal questions.

We have been appraised of needs for a Masters of Public Administration program and we are pleased to inform the Board that we will be proposing a new Masters of Public Administration degree. The program is responsive to needs as indicated by our partners, Risepoint. This program represents an important credential/educational value, preparing people to work in government administration and other similar functions. The need in this area is high as well so not only is the university served by this, but the region is as well.

<u>Addressing Emerging Challenges: Artificial Intelligence</u>
One of the most pressing developments impacting higher education is the rapid evolution of Artificial Intelligence (AI). At Northwest, we are actively engaging with the challenges and opportunities AI presents. Next semester, the Faculty Senate will propose the creation of an interdisciplinary minor in Artificial Intelligence. This program will equip students with a comprehensive understanding of AI, addressing its applications, implications, and ethical considerations across multiple fields of study.
In addition, I have been collaborating with Dr. Cagg, Dr. Runyon, and Dr. Allard to develop a comprehensive set of AI policies for the university. Tentatively titled *Guidelines and Guardrails*, this document will provide actionable recommendations to address AI's influence on academic integrity, pedagogy, and institutional operations. Our goal is to ensure that Northwest remains a leader in navigating this transformative technology responsibly.

<u>Gratitude and Commitment</u>
As we reflect on these achievements and initiatives, we remain deeply grateful for the support of the Board of Regents. Your investment in faculty research, teaching, and innovation enhances the academic experience for our students and enables us to address emerging challenges with confidence. Together, we continue to fulfill our shared mission of preparing students for lives of purpose and leadership.
In closing, I thank you for your steadfast commitment to Northwest Missouri State University. The faculty

stand ready to work with you to advance our university's goals and ensure that every Bearcat thrives academically and professionally.

- **Mr. Duane Havard, Staff Council Chair**
  - In October our Employee recognition committee coordinated a wellness week which included:
    - Massage Mondays where we gave our free massages for lucky recipients
    - Time Out Tuesday for folks wanting a little break to shred some papers and maybe color a little
    - Wellness Wednesday which included health tips being emailed out
    - Thrifty Thursday which was a discount day at Bearcat bookstore and also at the Student Body
    - Fresh Air Friday which was a reminder to get outside and enjoy this beautiful campus.
  - In December, we will present recognition medals to any staff member that is graduating this semester.
  - We will also have two Holiday Happy Hours on Monday, Dec. 16th in the JW Jones Union living room from 3-5PM and also at the Facility Services West location from 9-11 PM.
  - Staff Council is currently reviewing comments collected from the most recent Northwest Employment satisfaction survey to look for ideas to keep improving the culture of Northwest. Those ideas will be presented to the Northwest Leadership Team for consideration.

- **Mr. Pat Pijanowski, Foundation Liaison**

  <u>NW Foundation Board Updates</u>
  - FY25 fundraising through November 30, 2024: $1,442,003 from 2,501 gifts committed.
  - Campaign planning continues with internal stakeholder meetings across campus, working toward building a case that includes initiatives within the 3 following areas:
    - Student support/Scholarships
    - Enhancing the collegiate experience - academic/faculty support
    - Capital interests that align with the University's strategic and master facility plans.
  - President Tatum, Angela Moskow (NWF President elect) and Mike Johnson will be attending the AGB Leadership Conference in Washington, DC – January 28-31, 2025
  - The Foundation has formed an AI Taskforce, led by Bilal Clarence & Pat Pijanowski, with the aim of leveraging technology to enhance our campaign fundraising efforts.

  <u>Alumni Engagement</u>
  - The Northwest Alumni Association hosted two very successful Alumni reunions in November:
    - November 1-2 (Delta Chi Alumni) – 25 people attended
    - November 16 (1998 and 1999 National Championship football teams)- over 125 players and family members attended)
  - The 2025 Northwest Alumni Award recipients have been finalized, and are the following:
    - Distinguished Alumni Award — Robyn Brinks Lockwood
    - Distinguished Faculty Award — David Kiene
    - Faculty Emeritus Award — Dr. James Eiswert
    - Honorary Alumni Award — Bob Fitzsimmons
    - Turret Service Award — Victor and Denise Kretzschmar
    - Young Alumni Award — Nicholas (Nick) Peterson
    - Public Service Award — Carrie Huke-Hibbeler
    - *All will be recognized at the April 5, 2025, Northwest Alumni Awards dinner*

  <u>University Advancement Team Updates</u>
  - We would like to recognize and thank Laurie Long for her 40 years of service to the university!!
  - The 2025 Day of Green, our annual fundraising blitz spanning 1905 minutes, will occur on April 2nd & 3rd.
    - Funds from this effort are directed toward supporting the following initiatives:
    - Academics
    - Bearcat Athletics

- Bearcats Supporting Bearcats
- Campus Beautification
- KXCV-KRNW
- Library
- Multiculturalism
- Northwest's Greatest Needs (Northwest Fund)
- Scholarships
- Student Life

  - The Advancement Team will be conducting two upcoming staff retreats.
    - The December 18th retreat will be focused on conducting a 2024 Recap & Reflection exercise.
    - The retreat on January 16th will focus on developing a 3-5 year strategic plan.

- **Dr. Lance Tatum, President**
  - Thank you to faculty and staff for great work this fall culminating with commencement ceremonies n December 13 at 10 am and 2 pm.
  - Congrats to Chloe DeVries and the Student Senate for their initiative to promote student involvement in elections. Northwest was named one of the most involved campuses for November elections.
  - The President's Student Advisory Committee met this fall and concerns regarding dining services and Safe Rides are being addressed.
  - Hosted 12 student groups at the Gaunt House this fall as well as the Tree Lighting event on December 5th.
  - Mike Johnson and Dr. Tatum have met with key donors regarding capital campaign priorities.
  - Compensation Task Force has been meeting and learning about the budget process. Thank you to Interim VP Barcus, VP Carrick and Provost Hooyman for their leadership of the group.
  - Thank you to AVP Dan Haslag, Capital Programs Director Kuhlemeyer and Capital Programs Engineer Derek DeMott for management of the energy infrastructure modernization projects.
  - The Martindale Hall project is on time to be completed in May 2026.
  - The creamery at the Ag Learning Center will be completed in February 2025.
  - Bids have been received for the Garrett Strong laboratory remodel project funded by a MO Excels grant.
  - Northwest was ranked by College Factual as #1 best value agriculture program in Missouri.
  - Congrats to Dr. Jay Johnson who is leaving Northwest to become the provost at Missouri Western.

Adjourn Meeting

Resolution #25-032: It was moved by Regent Roach and seconded by Regent Durbin to adjourn the open session and move into closed session to consider matters pursuant to exemptions to the open meeting requirement as specified in R.S. Mo 610.021(1)(2)(12)(13):

- R.S. Mo 610.021(1) Legal Actions, Cause of Action, Litigation or Privileged Communications between the Board/University's Representative and its Attorney
- R.S. Mo 610.021(2) Lease, Purchase or Sale of Real Estate
- R.S. Mo 610.021(12) Contract Negotiations
- R.S. Mo 610.021(13) Individually Identifiable Personnel Records

A roll call vote was taken:

Regent Coppinger voted yea.
Regent Durbin voted yea.
Regent Klindt voted yea.

Regent Moore voted yea.
Regent Roach voted yea.
Regent Swaney voted yea.
Regent Tjeerdsma voted yea.

The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

The open session adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hargrave, Secretary to the Board of Regents