



## MINUTES

Kelce Board of Advisors Meeting  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. / Meeting Noon, CDT, May 15, 2023  
Also available via Zoom Invitation  
Room #121 Kelce Center

Present: Alex Binder, Ben Burns, Din Cortes, Terry Calloway, Doug Eaton, Tommy Elms, Nancy George, Paul Grimes, Brandee Johnson, Holly Kent, Lynn Murray; Via Zoom: Jeff Beasley, Paul Bergant, Brenda Flood, Mike Foster, Joe Harris, Daniel Kjergaard, John Lowe, Timon Oujiri, Shelly Schorer, Rachel Vanzant; Guests Present: Becky McDaniel; Absent: Doug Ball, Ken Brock, Chelsey Decker, John Ison, Charlie Myers, Jeff Ney, Mark Paden, Terry Puett, Lee Scott, Cheryl Sullivan

- I. Welcome – Paul Grimes
  - A. Lunch Served
- II. Meeting Opening – Nancy George
- III. College News – Paul Grimes
  - A. Restructuring of Pitt State student advising function
    1. Discussed Pitt State’s new centralized Student Success model; closing of Kelce Academic Advising Center as all advising functions were shifted to new university-wide center to be housed in Axe Library along with other student support services
    2. Reimagined “Kelce Student Engagement Center”; Holly Kent hired as Director (handling all of the non-advising functions that Academic Advising Center provided in addition to some additional duties – such as Business Studies BBA program coordinator, Business Administration Minor coordinator, and oversee all certificate programs, etc.)
    3. Distributed a new copy of the organizational chart for KCOB
    4. Will be hiring Coordinator for Internships and Career Readiness who will report to Holly; college plans to build a more formalized approach to internships
  - B. AACSB Year of Record (now ended at the end of the spring 2023 semester)
    1. Campus visit Scheduled for **November 5 through 7, 2023** - Opening reception on Sunday evening (at the Crossland House with KBOA members encouraged to attend)
    2. Peer Review Team Chair, Robin Sronce (University of Southern Arkansas) visited campus in May. Met with Leadership Team, committees, faculty, Provost Smith, and student leaders.
  - C. Gorilla Rising Project – Pitt State Downtown Educational District
    1. Update from Fall meeting; \$12.5M matching grant from Kansas Department of Commerce
      - a. Dr. Grimes shared preliminary slides of the Downtown Educational Enterprise District (development site map and concept renderings designed by architects)
      - b. 60-70 student apartments will be housed in the old Besse Hotel
      - c. Master plan map shows possible future green ways project to access the downtown areas
      - d. Discussed parking issues and logistics of scheduling downtown classes
      - e. Will continue to teach Kelce freshman and sophomore courses on campus and junior, senior and graduate classes in the new downtown facility

2. Implementation plans – lots of people very excited about the new project. 3 years (2026) is the anticipated date for completion of the new building.
  - a. Funding needed for Gorilla Rising project is approximately \$50 million, \$30-35 million for the business building. There is still a gap that needs to be closed. President is confident there are donors that will help close gap.

#### IV. Curriculum – Updates and Solicitation of Input and Advice

##### A. Bachelor-level Items Discussion – Alex Binder

1. International Business; discussed recommendation to phase out of BBA with maintenance of minor and introduction of new concentration under Business Economics
  - a. Reviewed reasons for phasing out the IB BBA program; low enrollment, loss of dedicated faculty champion, other areas with greater growth potential, etc.
  - b. We will continue to maintain the IB minor for all other BBA majors for those still seeking a global business component to their degree
  - c. IB is not STEM designated but pairing it with Business Economics (a STEM major) will make it attractive to potential international students due to visa extension opportunities
  - d. Plan to present recommendation to the faculty in the fall
  - e. Board members discussed the situation and concluded that the plan was reasonable and strategic; unanimously recommended to proceed with the plan to teach out the IB BBA, maintain the minor, and consider the concentration
2. Business Analytics and math/quantitative courses; future directions
  - a. College task force charged with reviewing business analytic content of curriculum; need for coordination across programs; exploring opportunity for certificate
  - b. Creating survey for faculty on mathematical methods and software programs that are being used in courses – to better leverage mathematical content of courses
  - c. What do most companies/board members regularly use? Discussion revealed many are now using Power BI (a Microsoft data visualization tool) extensively
  - d. Discussion revealed that linear programming is a highly specialized skill set that all students may not need; must be familiar with techniques to understand/interpret results; but proficiency in execution not necessary for everyone; other data analytic skills more important in daily operations
3. Excel proficiency; revive idea of Microsoft certifications?
  - a. Consensus from board members was that reviving Microsoft certifications for students would be a very good idea – students need to enhance skills and stay current with latest software advances

##### B. Master-level Items Discussion – Din Cortes; last week Kelce graduated 68 MBA students (20 traditional, 48 online PMBA) plus 5 MPAcc students

1. Introduction of new Health Care Administration emphasis for the MBA – first course will be offered in spring of 2024; will partner with Ransom School of Nursing for traditional MBAs
2. Opening of international enrollment in the online PMBA program – will use Paraguay program to attract additional international students to the program
3. New admission standards for the online PMBA program – provide greater access to the program for applicants not meeting current managerial experience requirements – i.e., recent BBA graduates

#### V. College Development Activity

##### A. College Director of Development Opening and Search – Becky McDaniel

1. Two viable candidates have been identified and will be brought to campus soon for second round in-person interviews.

- B. 2023 Golf Tournament
  - 1. \$13,000 in the current spending/operating account
  - 2. Next tournament is October 2
  - 3. Endowment has just above \$58,000 in the current fund
- C. KBOA Endowment and Giving
  - 1. Board endowment has around \$30,000 in the current fund
  - 2. All board members encouraged to make additional contributions to the endowment; provides the Dean's Office with discretionary funds to support student activities (e.g., competitions, travel, etc.)
  - 3. Dean Grimes would like to report to AACSB that we have 100% participation in KBOA giving during the year of record; all members encouraged to contribute soon; amount not as important as the act of giving
  
- VI. Old Business
  - A. KBOA Member Engagement Reporting Form Operational – Now Open for Reporting  
<https://forms.office.com/r/TuywCEaprg>
  - B. All board members encouraged to report their engagements with the college and university using this form; will be used to illustrate board's active involvement to AACSB
  
- VII. New Business
  - A. Fall meeting on Homecoming Weekend, Friday October 27<sup>th</sup>
  - B. Summer meeting will be on Zoom in July; date TBD
  
- VIII. Adjournment – 1:45 p.m.