



MINUTES

Kelce Board of Advisors Meeting
Noon CDT, October 18, 2024
Kelce Room #121

Present: Todd Allison, Jeff Beasley, Alex Binder, Ben Burns, Chelsey Decker, Doug Eaton, Tommy Elms, Mike Foster, Nancy George, Paul Grimes, Jenni Hall, John Ison, Brandee Johnson, Mimi Morrison, Lynn Murray, Jeff Ney, Terry Puett, Ross Turney, Rachel Vanzant

Present Via Zoom: Brenda Flood

Guests Present: Susan Bon, Executive Vice President and Provost

Absent: Doug Ball, Paul Bergant, Terry Calloway, Joe Harris, Holly Kent, Daniel Kjergaard, John Lowe, Timon Oujiri, Mark Paden, Shelly Schorer, Lee Scott, Cheryl Sullivan, Steve Thompson

- I. Lunch served for those in attendance
 - A. Welcome by Dean Paul Grimes
 - B. Special Guest: Dr. Susan Bon, Executive Vice President and Provost
 - i. Dr. Bon introduced herself to the board and gave the board her educational and career background information. Provided brief update on university initiatives.
- II. Opening of the Meeting – Chair Nancy George; asked board members to introduce themselves to everyone present
- III. Internship Initiative – Melissa Weed
 - A. Center/Program update – explained the new program and ongoing work on additional opportunities for employers and students; micro-internships are internships that are between 20-40 hours total – several completed with funding through a statewide grant
 - B. Intern and Host Reception – November 4th at 2:30 p.m. in the Bicknell lobby – working with Chamber of Commerce to celebrate kicking off the program over the last year
 - C. New Initiative - Volunteers needed to mentor undergraduate students enrolled in our Professionalism course – Holly will be reaching out to KBOA members to volunteer minimal hours to the program
- IV. Update on Gorilla Rising Project
 - A. Contractor: Crossland Construction; Architects: Tessere – bidding process closed a few weeks ago; design/build project; KLT met with Crossland and Tessere last week; timeline to complete building by July 2026; using previously developed renovation plans as basis for designing the layout of rooms and spaces for the new building; ample parking space available on new lot; old Kelce building will come down except for IT area; freshman and sophomore courses will be taught on campus and upper division courses will be taught in the new downtown building; Gus Bus should be available to transport students back and forth; Crossland has placed a banner on the construction site announcing the project is beginning
 - B. Design discussions started last week with architects; reviewing needed space requirements; all private pledges made to the renovation project will be honored

- V. Development Update – Jenni Hall; just finished first year at Pitt State; as plans become available, will be talking to lots of donors about the new building; continuing to support scholarships; President Shipp desires that new scholarships are less restrictive and easier to award; new scholarship recently given by Eric Harris; looking to engage new donors; \$12 million fundraising goal set for this year
 - A. 15th Annual Golf Tournament – Jeff Ney; annual Golf Tournament was on October 15; 26 teams and 15 corporate sponsors – largest number of sponsors to date; had lots of support from faculty and students; estimate of making close to \$14,000 which will go toward student scholarships; next year’s tourney will again be first Monday in October
 - B. Board member Todd Allison donated a portable stage to Pitt State with a banner package – plan is to sell advertisement space to raise funds for MBA scholarships; stage is named “Kelce MBA Stage”; will be used this evening at the homecoming concert and tomorrow at the football game (in Gorilla Village)
 - C. Discussed Kelce Board of Advisors endowment fund – used primarily to support sending student organizations to competitions; encouraged all KBOA members to make an annual donation to the fund

- VI. KCOB Strategic Planning
 - A. Progress on current strategic initiatives for university’s Gorilla Plan – see handout; brief discussion followed about FY25 Quarter 1 updates
 - B. Finalized new mission statement:
Educating future business professionals today to build stronger communities tomorrow.
 - C. Board members complementary of final wording and work to date on initiatives

- VII. Curriculum Initiatives Update
 - ☆A. Human Resource Development; faculty and programs relocating from College of Technology to KCOB; three faculty members and two degrees (one bachelor and one master); faculty will move to Kelce in January; discussion ensued about converting tech degrees to business degrees and the online format of both HRD programs
 - B. Supply Chain Management; BBA degree proposal submitted for legislative and KBOR approval; cooperative program with College of Technology (see handout); discussed adding sustainability components to this program (suggested by board member Ben Burns based on experiences at Leggett & Platt)
 - C. Entrepreneurship; new courses (see handout); Lynn Murray presented new courses and discussed minor under development; Entrepreneurship Coordinator search underway in cooperation with Economic Development and Community Engagement (Block 22)
 - D. Business Education; pathway for secondary teacher licensure by creating an option under the Business Studies BBA; two new certificates are being developed in cooperation with College of Education; will add student teaching observation course and a new internship course code
 - E. Regional Economic Development; new emphasis for MBA; being developed in cooperation with Political Science faculty in College of Arts and Sciences (goal to test market for a micropolitan studies degree)
 - F. Data Science and Information Systems (DSIS); emphasis for the online MBA – targeting launch in fall 2025; will eventually be offered in the traditional MBA; Chelsey Decker presented the proposed descriptions for the new graduate courses

- VIII. New Business
 - A. Quick personnel update – due to retirements, separations, and expansion, seven searches underway in addition to the transfer of HRD faculty – Marketing (Non-tenure earning), Accounting & Finance (Non-tenure earning), Economics (Tenure earning), Entrepreneurship Coordinator (Non-tenure earning), Assessment & Accreditation Coordinator (staff), Forecasting Director (BERC staff), Data Analyst (BERC staff)

- B. March 1 – KCOB to sponsor the last home basketball games of the season; everyone invited to attend; will serve lunch in the Champions Room overlooking the arena; will again have drawing for scholarships
- IX. Old Business - none
- X. Adjournment – 2:30 p.m.