



AGENDA

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
with the
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF REGENTS
and the
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
November 24, 2007

12:15 p.m. – Founders' Club, Bank of America Hec Edmundson Pavilion

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. OPENING COMMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Mr. Stanley H. Barer, Chair, University of Washington Board of Regents
- Ms. Constance M. Niva, Chair, Washington State University Board of Regents
- Dr. Mark A. Emmert, President of University of Washington
- Dr. Elson S. Floyd, President of Washington State University

IV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Approaches to Enhancing Student Safety on Campus
- Regulations of Student Off-Campus Activities

V. WELCOME TO GOVERNOR CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH GOVERNOR CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

VII. ADJOURN

MINUTES

**BOARD OF REGENTS
University of Washington**

Joint Meeting with the

**BOARD OF REGENTS
Washington State University**

**Saturday, November 24, 2007
Founder's Room
Bank of America Hec Edmundson Pavilion
Seattle, Washington**

The Board of Regents of the University of Washington (UW) held a joint meeting with the Board of Regents of Washington State University (WSU) on Saturday, November 17, 2007, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Founder's Room of the Bank of America Hec Edmundson Pavilion. The notice of the meeting was provided appropriately to the public and the press.

Present from the University of Washington: Regents Stanley H. Barer, (chair), Craig W. Cole, William H. Gates, Frederick C. Kiga, Sally Jewell, Erin L. Lennon, Constance L. Proctor, Herb Simon, and President of the University of Washington, Mark A. Emmert

Present from Washington State University: Regents Connie Niva (chair), Kenneth Alhadeff, Scott Carson, Francois X. Forgette, William J. Gordon, Michael C. Worthy, and the President of the Washington State University, Elson S. Floyd

I. OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS

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- Ms. Constance M. Niva, Chair, Washington State University Board of Regents
- Dr. Mark A. Emmert, President of University of Washington
- Dr. Elson S. Floyd, President of Washington State University

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Approaches to Enhancing Student Safety on Campus
- Regulations of Student Off-Campus Activities

Regent Niva opened the discussion by noting that she and Regent Barer thought it would be useful to discuss what each campus is doing with respect to student safety, especially given what occurred at Virginia Tech and the murder suicide that occurred on the UW campus in April, 2007.

President Floyd stated it is the responsibility of universities to ensure the environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors is safe and secure. He reported WSU recently implemented an early alert system which will activate a public announcement system if there is any type of crisis or emergency on campus, which will also alert the entire town of Pullman. He reported all of Washington State's public institutions have made special requests to the Governor for the upcoming legislature session for implementing safety and security measures.

President Emmert said the UW has completed a thorough job of assessing potential risks and is doing a better job of coordinating state-of-the-art practices so students, faculty and staff on all three campuses have one-stop shopping for counsel, advice and action. One of the lessons learned from the Virginian Tech incident was the difficulty it had communicating quickly with everyone on campus. The UW has moved toward voluntary system of registering cell phones numbers so electronic media can be used to get information out quickly. Even though not politically popular, he said the University is erring on the side of caution whenever campus safety is threatened.

III. OPEN DISCUSSION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH GOVERNOR CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor Christine Gregoire arrived and Regents Barer and Niva extended a warm welcome to her. Governor Gregoire said she was pleased to again being invited to attend the joint meeting of the WSU and UW Boards of Regents. She mentioned that she is very fond of the tee shirts that were printed a few years back with "Rivals on the Field" "Partners in Education." She asked if the shirts could be reprinted for next year's meeting.

Regent Barer began the discussion of higher education by noting the need of the legislature to understand that the state budget allocated for tuition includes more than just tuition, and in particular funds for mental health counseling. He wondered aloud if a separate line item for mental health counseling should be created.

UW Regent Cole noted the Board recently heard visits to the UW Student Counseling Center have doubled over the last several years; 10% of entering freshmen students are already being treated for some form of mental health and 10% of freshmen will seriously consider suicide. He said he hopes a thorough assessment will be undertaken to ensure the services being provided are adequate and effective.

WSU Regent Alhadeff noted that universities can do all they can to ensure a safe campus, but there will always be those individuals who come on to campuses who are not students and not part of the university family and create havoc.

President Emmert said it is important for Regents to recognize how remarkably safe campuses are. The level of crime that occurs at the UW— in a community of 70,000 people, the majority of whom are between the ages of 18–22—is still extremely low. While both WSU and the UW have a lot of work to do with respect to safety, the Boards of Regents should feel comfortable and confident that President Floyd and he, along with all the people who populate the campuses are doing a very good job.

UW Regent Proctor remarked that connecting students in small groups, like the UW Freshman Interest Groups, is an excellent way to ensure students are not alone and suffering in silence.

UW Regent Jewell stated the issue of depression is not unique to college campuses. In her company, claims for depression rank high like heart disease and diabetes. She said she hoped the UW and WSU continues to encourage the kind of research that sheds light on what's happening societally that causes people to become more isolated and less connected with others. She complimented President Emmert for his bold move in supporting UW researchers who recently published information about the potentially damaging impact of video games on infants and young children.

UW Regent Lennon said whenever she talks with students, campus security is the number one issue that comes up. UW students are fully committed, she said, to partnering with the administration to make the campus the best it can be.

The conversation then turned to a discussion of higher education.

Regent Barer stated being appointed by the Governor to be a Regent carries with it a very strong sense of responsibility and duty. He emphasized how appreciative the Regents are for their appointments and how seriously they take their responsibilities.

Governor Gregoire again thanked the Boards for inviting her to come to the meeting. She noted the joint meeting has become an annual event she looks forward to. Governor Gregoire said the challenges are obvious with respect to higher education, however, there is no state or country that doesn't face similar challenges. She stated she is appreciative of what the UW and WSU are doing and where the institutions are heading.

She said she is extremely exciting about the institutions working together on global health and the amazing opportunity that it presents for Washington State. One of the challenges, she said, is getting Washingtonians to understand the work on global health is not just about finding cures or prevention for other nations alone, but it is also for Washingtonians. She asked the Regents to take every opportunity to bring that information to every Washingtonian so there will be understanding and help legislatively when it is needed. Governor Gregoire said she is proud of what the Regents, administrations and students are doing on behalf of students and the citizens of the state of Washington.

Applause followed Governor Gregoire's remarks.

Governor Gregoire then spoke briefly about the upcoming legislative session. She said the state of Washington has a sound economy; however, it is adversely impacted by the foreclosures occurring throughout the United States. The good news is the state of Washington is 49th in the country for foreclosures. Washingtonians are being influenced by a national angst about foreclosures and likely will clamp down on their pocketbooks, which will result in decreased sales tax revenue during the holiday season. The price of

gasoline may also have a negative impact on sales tax revenue. She stated she would ask the legislature not to assume the “rainy day fund” can fix everything. It is important the State have an ending fund balance that is healthy so if in fact cuts are necessary, the State won’t cut the budgets for higher education. On the issue of campus safety, she has been working on securing special allocations for higher education institutions in both the capital and operating budgets. She is also working on mental health issues and how health insurance covers these problems.

Members of both boards questioned the Governor a variety of topics, including lending, mortgages, gas prices, agriculture and the revenue forecast. They also asked what they could do, as ambassadors of education, to help the Governor.

Governor Gregoire said it would be immensely helpful if each Regent picked no less than 5 legislators with whom he or she will have an on-going and steadfast relationship. When an issue comes up in Olympia, each Regent will have at least five people with whom they can connect. She also asked the Regents to take the opportunity to attend local Rotary or Chamber of Commerce meetings to talk about the necessity for education for the workforce of tomorrow.

Governor Gregoire ended by once again expressing her thanks and appreciation to the two Boards for everything they do in the name of education.

IV. AJOURNMENT

The joint meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



Michele M. Sams
Secretary of the Board of Regents

MINUTES

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