



**EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
EWC Dolores Kaufman Board Room

Attendance

Present:

Members: Randy Adams, Bob Baumgartner, Jeffry Hawes, Doug Mercer, Katherine Patrick, Kurt Sittner, and Rick Vonburg

Absent:

Members: Jackie VanMark and Jim Willox

1. Vice Chairman Vonburg called the Work Session to order.

2. Approval of Work Session Agenda

Recommended To: Approve the Work Session Agenda

Moved by: Bob Baumgartner

Seconded by: Katherine Patrick

Carried

3. Approval of the January 14, 2025 Work Session Minutes

Recommended To: Approve the January 14, 2025 Work Session Minutes

Moved by: Doug Mercer

Seconded by: Bob Baumgartner

Carried

4. GEAR UP Updates: Ms. Chelsea Ballard

Director, Chelsea Ballard, discussed the progress of the Gear Up program,

highlighting the increase in students served and enrolled. She also mentioned the successful FAFSA nights held at 14 high schools, with 193 participants. Chelsea expressed optimism about receiving additional funding for the next FAFSA cycle. Dr. Hawes also shared a positive letter from a Hulett High School counselor, praising the team's efforts during a FAFSA night. Chelsea introduced her team, including Sherrie Peif, Gail Bower, Holly West, and Kim Jones, who played a crucial role in organizing the FAFSA nights.

5. Data Science Certificate Program Proposal: Dr. Andrew Lincowski

Dr. Lincowski discussed the potential for a Data Science Certificate program at the College, aligning with the University of Wyoming's new data science bachelor's degree. He highlighted the growing demand for data science skills, particularly in agriculture and energy sectors, and the need for students to understand how to interpret and make decisions based on data. The proposed program would include introductory computer science and statistics courses, as well as hands-on classes in spatial data visualization and computing in society. He also mentioned the possibility of a capstone class working with employers and a regional employer survey to gauge their needs. The program would be self-contained, allowing students to gain skills even without a degree.

6. General Education Certificate Program Proposal: Dr. LeAnn Smith, Ms. Kelly Strampe

Dr. LeAnn Smith and Ms. Kelly Strame discussed the proposed General Education Certificate program at EWC. The program aims to enhance institutional outcomes with an emphasis on critical thinking, technological literacy, effective communication, and informed citizenship. It offers a credential upon completing general education requirements at EWC and utilizes existing courses without the need for new offerings. The program is particularly beneficial for high school students in concurrent or dual enrollment programs and those who are working. The program is also innovative, with similar programs only found in the University of Nebraska and Colorado. The program is expected to transfer to other universities as general education courses are typically required. The team also discussed the process of obtaining approval from the Higher Education Learning Commission (HLC) for the program.

7. Website Update: Dr. Saygin Koc

Dr. Saygin Koc discussed two ongoing projects. The first project, started in

mid-December, involved assessing the website for broken links and other issues. He found numerous problems, including inconsistent spacing, layout, formatting issues, broken links, missing links, typos, and missing information.

The second project, started in January, involved making changes to the website based on his assessment. He simplified the website, making it more user-friendly, and categorized information into sections. Changes to the academic calendar were made to make it easier to read and understand.

8. Update on CTEC Parking lot litigation: Mr. Patrick Korell

Due to time constraints, this will be discussed at the regular board meeting at 5:45pm.

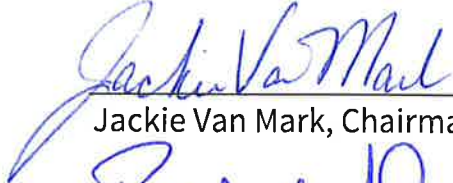
9. EWC Organizational Chart Update: Mr. John Hansen

Due to time constraints, this will be discussed at the regular Board meeting at 5:45pm.


10. Academic and Student Service Update: Mr. John Hansen

Due to time constraints, this will be discussed at the regular Board meeting at 5:45pm.

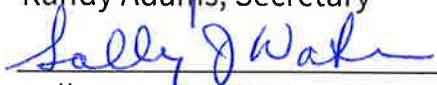
11. Work Session was adjourned



Jackie Van Mark, Chairman



Randy Adams, Secretary



Sally Watson, Executive
Assistant