

## **SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

The Shepherd University Board of Governors met on February 11, 2021 in a regular meeting. The meeting was conducted digitally, as described in the Notice of Meeting, and all members participated by both video and audio feed. Members participating were: David Avella, Gat Caperton, Jim Cherry, Henry Kayes, Jr., Ramona Kissel, Eric Lewis, Robert Marggraf, Tia McMillan, and Elizabeth Rini. Also present were Shepherd University President Mary J.C. Hendrix, members of the executive leadership team and others. Board members Ray Alvarez and Taylor Seitzinger were absent from the meeting.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**M (Kayes), S (Cherry), PASSED**, all members were polled, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

**RESOLVED**, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves:

- 1) The Minutes of the Meeting of December 17, 2020;
- 2) The Termination of Bachelor of Science, Family and Consumer Sciences Degree Program; and
- 3) The Termination of Endorsement/Certification Teaching Field in Family and Consumer Sciences Education Grades 5-Adult,  
each as presented in the Agenda materials of February 11, 2021.

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hendrix reviewed highlights of the ongoing initiatives for advancing Shepherd from among the comprehensive list provided in the President's Report. Dr. Hendrix introduced Ms. Shelley Shaffer, Physical Plant Manager, to the Board. A discussion ensued regarding FY2022 appropriations and COVID relief federal funding.

**4. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Academic Programs and Development Committee, Mr. Avella introduced Dr. Max Guirguis, ACF University Representative, Professor of Political Science, and Chair, Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and Geography, to provide an update regarding the ACF. The ACF has focused on enrollment challenges throughout Higher Ed and the Legislative Session. Mr. Avella then provided a brief update of the Committee's discussions regarding the University Development Update and invited Dr. Scott Beard, Provost, to discuss the Implementation of Online Programs and other curricular proposals for 2021 and beyond.

Chair Lewis then asked Ms. Monica Lingenfelter, Executive Vice President of the Shepherd University Foundation, to discuss the Day of Giving.

5. **REPORT OF THE ENROLLMENT, STUDENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Enrollment, Student and Community Affairs Committee, Mr. Caperton called on Dr. Kelly Hart, Vice President for Enrollment Management, to provide updates on Fall recruitment and the evolving strategies to support our marketing and recruitment efforts.

6. **REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

On behalf of Finance and Facilities Committee, Mr. Kayes provided a brief update of the Committee's discussions which included Tuition and Fees, Room and Board Fees, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report. Mr. Kayes called on Ms. Pam Stevens, Vice President for Finance, to provide a brief overview of the University's management of federal COVID-19 relief funds.

7. **PROPOSED 2021-2022 HOUSING, DINING AND OTHER FEES**

Dr. Hart reviewed the Tuition and Fee proposals; Mr. Jack Shaw, Vice President for Campus Services, reviewed Housing and Dining Fees and meal plans proposals; Ms. Stevens reviewed the special and course fees adjustments. Members discussed these proposals, including specifically the University's position as to out-of-state fees for graduate programs and the concern as to whether fee increases in any area are advisable under current circumstances.

**M (Avella), S (McMillan), PASSED**, all members were polled, that the consideration of the new Online Degree Programs Enrollment Fee, effective August 2021, be voted on separately.

**M (Avella), S (McMillan), PASSED**, all members were polled, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

**RESOLVED**, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the new Online Degree Programs Enrollment Fee as presented in the Agenda Book for the February 11, 2021, meeting.

**M (Marggraf), S (Kayes), PASSED**, all members were polled (**Avella - No**), that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

**RESOLVED**, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the adjustments to Graduate Enrollment, DNP Enrollment, and the Housing and Dining, and Other Fees for FY2022, as presented in the Agenda Book for the February 11, 2021, meeting.

8. **DASHBOARD PRESENTATION**

Chair Lewis led a review of the Dashboard with the Board. Mr. Caperton requested that benefits costs be removed from salary costs and listed as a separate line item, in future presentations.

9. **HLC ACCREDITATION UPDATE**

Dr. Jason Best, Assistant Provost for Distance Education and Strategic Research Initiatives, Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics, and HLC Accreditation Liaison Officer, provided an update to the Board on the HLC Accreditation processes and timelines.

10. **COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN DISCUSSION**

Chair Lewis led a discussion with the Board on the Comprehensive Campaign planning.

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**M (Rini), S (Kayes), PASSED**, all members were polled, that pursuant to Section 4 of Article 9A of Chapter 6 of the WV Code, it was moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion of matters relating to honoraria and awards and for discussion of legal matters relating to personnel as to one or more specific employees of the University which would be an invasion of privacy if publicly discussed, and to also discuss confidential legal matters relating to possible real estate transactions.

**AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE TO  
MR. MONTE CATER**

At each commencement, Shepherd University traditionally awards an honorary degree to the featured Commencement speaker. The University has invited Monte Cater to be the featured Commencement speaker for the baccalaureate ceremony, and it is recommended that he be honored with the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Monte Cater retired as head coach of the Shepherd University Football Team after the 2017 football season as the Mountain State's all-time winningest college football coach. He led the Shepherd Rams for 31 years (1987-2017) to a 245-93-1 record and 72.4 winning percentage. His Shepherd Rams teams won a state record 17 conference titles—a record 13 in the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and four in a five-year span in the Mountain East Conference (MEC).

He was inducted into the Shepherd University Hall of Fame (HOF) in 2007, the first active coach to be named to the HOF. Cater guided six unbeaten regular season squads including a 30-0 record in his final three seasons in the MEC. The 2015 team went 13-1 and reached the NCAA Division II national championship game. His efforts resulted in being named winner of the Furfari Award as state all-sports college Coach of the Year by the West Virginia Sports Writers Association in 2016.

A year later, the Rams went 13-1 with a Division II semifinal berth. His final team ended 10-1. The 2010 Rams squad also advanced to the national semifinals.

Overall, his Shepherd teams made 13 post-season appearances.

Cater also served as athletic director at Shepherd from 1993-2004 and led the college's transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division II.

Before his tenure at Shepherd, Cater served as football coach at Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, from 1981-1986 with three conference titles. His overall 37-year college coaching record was 275-117-2 for 70.3 winning percentage with 20 conference crowns.

Cater is to be inducted into the West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame during the 74th annual Victory Awards Dinner, which was postponed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and is tentatively set for May 2021.

The Shelbyville, Illinois, native graduated from Millikin College in 1971

**M (Avella), S (Caperton), PASSED**, all members were polled, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

**RESOLVED**, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the awarding of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Monte Cater, and directs that this action be reflected in the Board’s meeting minutes following the public announcement of this conferral of honors.

**AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE TO  
DR. BONDY SHAY GIBSON**

Shepherd University will conduct its graduate student commencement prior to the undergraduate ceremony on May 8, 2021. Dr. Bondi Shay Gibson, Superintendent of Jefferson County Schools, has been invited to be the featured Graduate Commencement speaker, and it is recommended that she be honored with the Honorary Doctor of Education degree.

Dr. Gibson is the Superintendent of Jefferson County Public Schools and has had responsibility for ensuring the education of over 9200 K-12 students within the county in this role since 2015.

She holds an Ed.D. in Educational Administration from Nova Southeastern University and a Master’s degree in special education from the University of Georgia. Prior positions include: Deputy Superintendent of Henrico Public Schools in Virginia, Director of Accountability and Instructional Services within the York County (VA) public school system, Federal Monitor for the Virginia Department of Education, and Director of Special Services within the Green County (VA) public school system among other administrative roles.

Over the years, she has served on several boards including the United Way Board of Directors – Jefferson NAACP Member, Henrico NAACP Member – Interim Education Chair, Virginia Commonwealth University – Autism Center for Excellence Board, Leadership Historic Triangle (VA) – Board of Directors, and the Children’s Behavioral Health Initiative – Board of Directors.

Dr. Gibson recently gained local and national attention with her “snow day” letter that captured the attention of social media and national news agencies.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board.

**M (Caperton), S (Rini), PASSED**, all members were polled, that the following resolution be adopted by the Board:

**RESOLVED**, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the awarding of the Honorary Doctor of Education to Dr. Bondy Shay Gibson, and directs that this action be reflected in the Board’s meeting minutes following the public announcement of this conferral of honors.

At the conclusion of the executive session, the Board reconvened and then adjourned.

Signed Copy on File  
Eric Lewis  
Chair

Signed Copy on File  
Henry Kayes, Jr.  
Secretary