

I. Call to order: 6:32pm

II. Guests:

Dean Johnson
Dean Campbell
Jamie O'Hara
Kasie Ryan
Paul Hughes
Christian Dennis
Chad Kelleman

III. Tuition Increase

AC – We've been working hard as an administration to try to have tuition increases be minimal however they are increasing. Letters will be going out to the community this weekend so we wanted you to have answers to questions.

JO – One of the things we try to decide upon is how to set tuition at the lowest possible rate. This is the lowest tuition increase we've had in 4 years, and we are lower than other universities at our level. See attached sheet for details. We've looked at our financial aid package to try and counteract the tuition increase. We're also working on lobbying the state government to increase financial aid help.

JO – The board of trustees has approved a major for arts administration and graphic design. The degree audit system is something that we have in Lawrenceville and we're adding to Westminster so you'll be able to check how many credits you've completed and how many more you need to complete. Also there are four travel studies this summer to China, Switzerland, Sweden, England and Italy. 30 courses will be offered for distance learning. I would love to hear from your students about the type of course that you would like to see offered here on the Westminster campus (remember the summer rate is a discounted rate).

JO – There have been improvements to some of the facilities on campus, most of them were funded by the tuition increases from last year. This year we'll be purchasing new chairs for the playhouse, a few new pianos. We're replacing the roofs on both Dayton and Ithaca; also we'll be adding lighting on the driveway between the gate and Williamson. We'll be replacing the boiler in Seabrook and also replacing some lounge furniture. We've started the process of adding between 40 and 60 spaces to our campus. There were necessary safety upgrades to Bristol and the Playhouse, we're working on getting a generator for this campus.

AntBar – What percent in terms of operating budget is generated through fundraising?

JO – Our overall endowment is about \$55 million, there are two pieces that come through the development office. Annual fund is \$2.5 million, major gifts is \$10 million. Overall operating budget is \$180 million. Also

those two figures the annual fund is the only fund we can use. Other funds go toward scholarships.

AC – Also remember the \$55 million generates \$50,000 in money that can be used for operating costs.

MF – Does Westminster have its own endowment?

JO – Yes it's around \$10 million and most of that goes into scholarships.

AntBar – Are there any plans to increase merit based scholarship opportunities?

JO – Typically for endowed awards at the undergraduate level its based on academic achievement. Freshman need to spread the word about the Rider Advantage; if you had a 3.0 and higher and filled out an online portfolio you will be reviewed for the Rider Advantage, it is for the amount of the tuition increase. Deadline is 5/15/08.

III. For the Good of the Order

PM – For the past 12 hours were been taking a collection for Sally our safety officer who is ill, if you could send out emails to your constituents and see if we can get our entire campus community putting forth some sentiment that would be great.

AntBar – A constituent of mine suggested that we station a security guard to check for sticker and id's.

IV. Adjournment: 7:03pm