MINUTES OF THE TELEPHONIC MEETING OF
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

AUGUST 1, 2005

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/WELCOME

Board President Henry Lorenzen called the telephonic meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Board of Higher Education to order at 3:31 p.m.

On roll call, the following committee members were present: Henry Lorenzen, Kirby Dyess, Don Blair, Geri Richmond, and Gretchen Schuette.

OUS staff present included: George Pernsteiner, Ryan Hagemann, and Jay Kenton

Meeting attendees also included OUS staff, faculty, institution representatives, the press, and interested observers.

2. ACTION ITEM

a. Authorization of the Chancellor to Conduct Assessment for Interim President

DOCKET ITEM:

Oregon University System Internal Management Directive (IMD) 1.141 governs the selection of an interim president. It states: "If a resignation, retirement, or other situation necessitates naming an interim president before a search can be conducted, the Board will authorize the Chancellor to conduct an assessment on its behalf."

On March 9, 2005, Western Oregon University President Philip W. Conn announced his retirement effective August 31, 2005. In order for an interim president to be named before Dr. Conn's departure, the Board's Executive Committee needs to act to authorize Acting Chancellor George Pernsteiner to "conduct an assessment [of individuals] on its behalf."

After Acting Chancellor Pernsteiner is authorized to conduct an assessment, Board president Henry Lorenzen will name three Board members to assist Acting Chancellor Pernsteiner in the assessment. See IMD 1.141(2). ("The Board chair names three Board members to assist the Chancellor in conducting an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the individual [recommended by the Chancellor].")
Staff Recommendation to the Committee:
The Board, pursuant to OUS IMD 1.141 and acting through its Executive Committee, authorizes Acting Chancellor George Pernsteiner to conduct an assessment of individual(s) to fill an interim presidency at Western Oregon University.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

After confirming WOU President Conn's August 31, 2005, retirement date, President Lorenzen outlined the Board procedure necessary in order to arrive at the appointment of an interim university president. He explained the first step of authorizing the Chancellor to conduct an assessment of candidates and stated, "The purpose of this meeting today is simply to authorize the Chancellor to conduct an assessment of various potential candidates for the position of interim president." President Lorenzen explained additional elements of the process, including the appointment of a three-person Board subcommittee to review the Chancellor's recommendation, a Board interview of any recommended candidates, and eventual appointment of the interim president.

Director Blair inquired about the pool of candidates and President Lorenzen noted the pool would be somewhat limited by the relatively short nature of the appointment and the requirement that the individual know something about the System and Western Oregon University. Director Schuette asked about the duration of the appointment and President Lorenzen replied the likelihood was one to two years. Acting Chancellor Pernsteiner confirmed President Lorenzen's characterization of the process and added that he had received several expressions of interest regarding the position.

Director Schuette asked for clarification regarding process and President Lorenzen explained that the subcommittee would make a recommendation and an interview with the full Board would follow soon thereafter. Director Blair asked if this would need to occur in between regularly scheduled Board meetings and President Lorenzen answered that he was not sure, but the reality of the upcoming academic year would drive the process. With no further questions, President Lorenzen called for a motion to authorize the Chancellor to conduct an assessment of candidates for the position of WOU interim president as outlined in the docket. Director Blair moved to authorize the Chancellor to conduct an assessment of candidates and Director Richmond seconded the motion. All in favor: Dyess, Blair, Richmond, Schuette, and Lorenzen. Opposed: none. Motion passed.

Director Schuette asked about the members of the subcommittee and President Lorenzen shared that Directors Dyess and Richmond would join him to receive Pernsteiner’s recommendation as required by Board internal management directive.
3. **ADJOURNMENT**

President Lorenzen adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.

Henry C. Lorenzen  
President of the Board

Ryan J. Hagemann  
Secretary to the Board