Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Delaware State University, Wednesday, May 16, 2012

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees held a special meeting via teleconference on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 in the Drs. James C. Hardcastle & Cora Selby Boardroom of the Administration Building on campus. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Dr. Claibourne Smith, chair – via telephone
- Dr. Alton Thompson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs - via telephone
- Mr. David Turner, vice chair – via telephone
- Dr. Bradley Skelcher, associate provost
- Mr. Wesley Perkins – via telephone
- Mr. Charles McDowell – via telephone
- Dr. Harry Williams, president, Ex-officio

Chairman Smith opened the meeting and thanked everyone for participating. Following the agenda, there were three items for Board action. Prior to the motion, Chairman Smith asked Associate Provost Skelcher to give an overview of the 2012 list of potential graduates.

Dr. Skelcher provided a breakdown of the potential degree levels as follows:
- 19 EDDs
- 2 PhDs
- 167 Masters
- 555 Undergraduates

He noted that this includes summer 2011, fall 2011 and spring 2012.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion, duly seconded, that it was appropriate for the welfare of the University for the Executive Committee to act for the Board of Trustees between its regular meetings and to approve for graduation, those students who have completed all requirements and as recommended by the Faculty Senate and general faculty and also approved by the President as presented in the list of potential graduates for academic year 2011-2012.

The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Smith stated that the Educational Policy Committee (EPC) met on May 1, 2012 and approved the following items for Board action.
1. Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters – Ms. Mable R. Morrison

President Williams said that Ms. Morrison, associate professor of Music, has served DSU for half a century. He noted that according to Dr. Marshall Stevenson, dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, “Ms. Morrison’s longevity at Delaware State is a reflection of her commitment to music education. She has provided guidance and wisdom to hundreds of DSU students who have developed their musical skills under her tutelage. During her remarkable career Ms. Morrison studied under a number of now famous musicians and composers and had the fortune to travel and perform abroad in such countries as France, Austria, Sierra Leone and Liberia.”

President Williams stated that the Faculty Senate as well as the 2011-2012 Awards and Honorary Degrees Committee overwhelmingly supported the recommendation that Ms. Morrison be awarded the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters and he concurred.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion, duly seconded, that it was appropriate for the welfare of the University for the Executive Committee to act for the Board of Trustees between its regular meetings and to approve the recommendation that an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters be conferred on Ms. Mable R. Morrison at the 120th DSU Commencement on May 20, 2012.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Posthumous Degrees – Ms. Akiah Powell & Ms. Paula Voshell

Dr. Alton Thompson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, presented a brief overview of the information previously sent to the Executive Committee and discussed in the May 1 Educational Policy Committee meeting regarding the two students recommended for posthumous degrees.

Ms. Akiah Powell passed on February 4, 2012 of natural causes. Ms. Powell was a Political Science major with a minor in Law Studies who planned to attend law school. She was an honor student and a McNair Scholar and had cleared all the appropriate requirements to graduate in May. It is recommended that Ms. Powell be awarded a posthumous Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion, duly seconded, that it was appropriate for the welfare of the University for the Executive Committee to act for the Board of Trustees between its regular meetings and to approve the recommendation that a posthumous Bachelor of Arts in Political Science be awarded to Ms. Akiah Powell.
The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Paula Voshell died of natural causes. Ms Voshell was pursuing a Graduate degree in Business Administration. She had completed 30 hours toward her degree and was an honor student with an overall GPA of 3.60. It is recommended that Ms. Voshell be awarded a posthumous Master of Business Administration (MBA).

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion, duly seconded, that it was appropriate for the welfare of the University for the Executive Committee to act for the Board of Trustees between its regular meetings and to approve the recommendation that a posthumous Master of Business Administration be awarded to Ms. Paula Voshell.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion, duly seconded, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claiboone D. Smith, chairman

Eleanor Wilson, board secretary