# Minutes of the Special Board of Regents Meeting

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| **Roll Call** | **Secretary Hunt** |
| **Authorization of 2018-19 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Rates*** | **President Davies/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of 2018-19 Housing Rates*** | **President Davies/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of 2018-19 Dining Rates*** | **President Davies/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of 2018-19 Course and Program Fees*** | **Provost Arant/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of Prior Learning Assessments and Proficiency Reviews Fees*** | **Provost Arant/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of 2018-19 Online Course Fees***<br>4 p | **Provost Arant/ VPFAS Dudley** |
| **Approval of 2018-19 Parking Rates*** | **President Davies/ VPFAS Dudley** |

**Adjournment**

**(*Requires Board of Regents Action)**

Dr. Davies reported that a Special Meeting of the Board of Regents Finance Committee was held on May 1, 2018, where many of the issues with regard to tuition, fees and rates were discussed fully. Today highlights of those elements will be considered and should result in recommendations which will then be made to the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE). Two weeks ago the CPE set tuition caps for the universities for the biennia   no more than a 6 percent increase and no more than 4 percent in one year for tuition and mandatory fees. A mandatory fee is one imposed on all students across the University and this differs from program and course fees, etc. The University will provide a tuition and mandatory fees recommendation to the CPE in June for approval. The University is undertaking this work now because the budgeting process is also being finalized. The budget will be presented to the Board for approval on June 8.

**2018-19 Tuition and Mandatory Fee Rates, approved**

Dr. Davies reported that a 3 percent tuition and mandatory fee rate increase is being recommended. Full-time resident tuition for students admitted prior to 2016 will increase from $4,170 to $4,296 ($126 increase, $10.50 per credit hour). Full-time resident tuition for students admitted after 2016 will increase from $4,410 to $4,542 ($132 increase, $11 per credit hour). The academic merit scholarship grid is based on a percentage of tuition for those students admitted after 2016. Since the Board last met many of the other state universities have also announced their proposed tuition increases. Western Kentucky has announced between a 3 and 4 percent increase. If they approve a 3 percent increase tuition will be $5,151. It is expected Northern Kentucky University will recommend a 4 percent increase which will make their tuition rate $4,867. Eastern Kentucky University initially proposed a zero percent tuition increase but

Confirmation was provided that the

**2018-19 Dining Rates, approved**

Dr. Davies reported that a 3 percent increase in dining rates is being proposed related to all access residential meal plans.  Information was provided to illustrate where Murray State stands in regard to peer institutions in terms of dining rates.  The University is currently undertaking the Request for Proposals (RFP) process to outsource dining operations.  The Board will still maintain authority over any rate increases even if dining operations are outsourced.  This rate has also been discussed with those organizations contemplating submitting a response to the RFP and this dining rate increase will not impact that process.

Ms. Dudley reported that next week two contractors will be on campus to make presentations. University staff have already visited a school that utilizes one of the contractors being considered and next week will visit another school that uses the second company being considered.  The

**2018-19 Course and Program Fees, approved**

Dr. Davies stated that all opportunities were considered ranging from reductions to recommendations for revenue increases as the budget process was undertaken. Murray State has not typically relied on course fees and he and the Provost would both prefer to pursue more tuition-like revenue streams but the University is in a very unique situation with regard to the current fiscal environment. Course fees are specific to programs, courses and expenses that add incredible value, rigor and relevance to classroom instruction and each area should be handled differently. Some universities have implemented differential tuition models and this has been studied by Murray State and may need to be considered in the future. In light of action which needs to be taken today, course fees represent an option to maintain rigor.

reiterations of the budget which were undertaken and the resulting short notice    did not have time to discuss the proposed fees with their respective student groups.

A Regent shared that her life is very different than her siblings who did not attend college due to the education she received at Murray State University.  Another Regent shared that she was also the first in

The recommendation being advanced today also includes amending Board policy to include program fees.  Provost Arant reported there are a number of programs which have unique associated expenses.  The program fee being proposed today is for the Doctor of Nurse Practitioner   Nurse Anesthetist Program.  This particular program    like all doctoral programs is required to cover all expenses.  The CPE made this distinction when it allowed the University to begin offering doctoral degrees.  One expense within the Nursing program just mentioned is a collaborative agre                                                    Baptist Health in Madisonville.  That fee costs Murray State $288,000 per year for this one specific program.  It is reasonable to charge a fee related to that program instead of charging journalism majors to help cover the cost.  Dean Marcia Hobbs, School of Nursing and Health Professions, reported that as the Nurse Anesthetist Program is transitioned into a Doctor of

*Regents Policy 2.6    Fee Establishment, Section II.A.*    and include those program fees in the annual escalation review.  Dr. Tharpe seconded.

Ms. Green asked for clarification that students will be informed about fees when they make the decision to attend Murray State and Dr. Davies confirmed that all are aggressively working toward this goal and it will be in place for the entering freshman class in Fall 2019.

The roll was called with the following voting:  Ms. Farmer, yes; Ms. Green, yes; Mrs. Guess, yes; Mr. Kemp, yes; Mrs. Rudolph, yes; Mr. Schooley, yes; Dr. Tharpe, yes; Ms. Wood, no and Mr. Williams, yes.  The motion carried by a vote of 8 to 1.

(See Attachments #2 and #3)

The Board expressed appreciation to the Deans for what they do each and every day for students. The work they undertake is not easy in good years but in more challenging years it is even more difficult.  The Deans are the backbone of the University in terms of academic leadership and are to be commended for their efforts toward helping Murray State maintain its reputation for academic excellence.

## Prior Learning Assessments and Proficiency Reviews Fees, approved

Dr. Davies reported that a new phenomenon in higher education is the essence of prior learning related to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels who already have great experiences but are entering the University.  Prior learning is a mechanism to provide course credits for students who have already gained the outcomes from various classes or experiences.  The military is a good example of prior learning because as officers move through the training process they gain leadership and other skills that can be applied to various Murray State programs.  As is the case at most universities, the assessment of prior learning and granting of academic credit requires a fee and while the one being proposed today pertains to Education, an effort is being made to move the entire University in this direction.  Provost Arant added that a Superintendent enrolling in the Ed.D program will be required to take a course in school finance. They have lived school finance in their role as Superintendent so they should not be forced to take another class related to a subject they already know.  There must be a way to determine academic equivalency and this represents a mechanism through which that work is commonly accomplished.  A student applying for admission to a program would request to have their transcript or portfolio of work experience reviewed and the University must go through the verification process with due diligence which will cost money.  Confirmation was provided that there will be a limit to the number of hours students can opt

fees of $10 will help cover the increased costs of technology.  Undergraduate students will now pay $75 per credit hour for online courses.  Also being proposed is moving the cost for online graduate and doctoral courses from 130 percent of tuition to a $100 per credit hour fee.  This actually lowers the total cost to the student by $28 and represents a competitive decision.
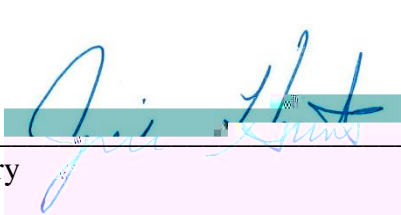
Mrs. Guess moved that the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, approve the increase of $10 per credit hour for all undergraduate online courses and the creation of a $100 (per credit hour fee) for all graduate and doctoral online courses, effective with the 2018 Fall Semester.  Mrs. Rudolph seconded and the roll was called with the following voting:  Ms. Farmer, yes; Ms. Green, yes; Mrs. Guess, yes; Mr. Kemp, yes; Mrs. Rudolph, yes; Mr. Schooley, yes; Dr. Tharpe, yes; Ms. Wood, no and Mr. Williams, yes.  The motion carried by a vote of 8 to 1.

## 2018-19 Parking Rates, approved

Mrs. Guess reported that in considering this recommendation she learned that employees can pay a monthly fee for parking and this does not represent an upfront cost.  Confirmation was provided that $250,000 is currently budgeted for parking lot maintenance and an increase of $50,000 is needed which will be covered by these parking fee increases.  It was also indicated that this fee increase is needed in order to balance the budget and if not approved $600,000 would have to be

## Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Regents, the meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

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Secretary

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Chair

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