



April 17, 2023

Updates from President Pamela R. Fox Following the April 13-14 Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Dear Faculty and Staff Colleagues:

Thanks to each of you for your highly valued roles in supporting our students during this exciting time of the year. As we enter the start of exam week, we wish our students the best as they successfully complete the spring semester. We look forward to the upcoming annual Capstone Festival next week and our 181st commencement ceremonies May 20–21.

Last week was a historic and momentous week in Mary Baldwin’s history, as we announced our 10th president, Dr. Jeff Stein, on Friday. Thanks to the entire Mary Baldwin family for making Dr. and Mrs. Stein feel immediately welcome.

On Thursday morning, EY Parthenon presented their final report to the Board of Trustees, including an exhaustive analysis of Mary Baldwin's financial fundamentals and extensive modeling of scenarios to reposition undergraduate residential education to ensure the University both survives and thrives. The session included vigorous discussion, and, as promised, we will communicate the Board's determinations before commencement.

Action Items

On Friday, April 14, 2023, during the Business Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes to the February 9–10, 2023 meeting. The February minutes contained the resolution to suspend Section 3.3.2 of the Faculty Handbook. The resolution reads:

“Be it resolved that to provide necessary flexibility for the University’s fiscal stability and alignment to the radical repositioning, the Board of Trustees votes to suspend, effective February 10, 2023 and continuing until otherwise revoked, section 3.3.2 of the Faculty Handbook.”

The Board voted on Friday to unanimously approve the lifting of the suspension to section 3.3.2. ***“Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees votes to lift the suspension of section 3.3.2 of the Faculty Handbook effective immediately.”***

Approval of Trustees & Honoring Retiring Trustees

The Governance & Trusteeship Committee recommended two new trustees. We will welcome Wendy Foster, former President & CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts, and Sue Whitlock '67, retired educator and avid Mary Baldwin supporter to the Board starting July 1. The committee also honored the retiring trustees who will be rolling off this year: John Nolde, Annabel Barber '81, Dorie Clark '97, and Kathy Smallwood '75.

Academic Promotions

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to approve the promotion recommendations brought by the Colleges & Mission Committee. The resolution reads ***“Be it resolved that the Colleges & Mission Committee recommends approval of promotion to the rank of professor for Matthew Davies, Kristen Egan, Jenna Holt, Katherine Low, Peter Ruiz-Hass, and Rachel Potter and promotion to associate professor for Christopher Harnish, Rebecca Haberman, Adam Fajardo, and Calvin Chung.”*** We congratulate these colleagues on their hard work and thank them for their dedication to Mary Baldwin!

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to approve the following resolution:

“Be it resolved that the Colleges & Mission Committee endorses the following faculty for promotion to associate professor for Martha Saunders and promotion to assistant professor for Annmarie Trost.”

The Colleges & Mission committee also brought the recommendation from the President for Emeritus Status to be granted for Dr. Edward Scott, Dr. Lisa Shoaf, and posthumously to Dr. Alice Waddell:

“Be it resolved that the Colleges & Mission Committee recommends approval of the recommendation by the President for Emeritus Status to be granted to Edward Scott, Alice Waddell, and Lisa Shoaf.”

I continue to be inspired by the impact and importance of our work ahead. I am deeply appreciative of each of you, and how you live our mission now and into the future.