

**WSU Tech Board of Trustees
Board Minutes
February 19, 2026**

Role Call	WSU Tech Board of Trustees met face-to-face at 3:05 pm on February 19, 2026. The meeting was held at WSU Tech - NCAT Campus with a virtual option. Role Call: Alicia Thompson – Yes Andrew Nichols – No Bryan Frye – No Derek Penn - No Derrick Nielsen - Yes Doug Stark - Yes Enrique Villar – No Jeff Morris - Yes Greg Stroud – Yes Kahlilah Iratheta - No Lily Wu – Yes Maggie Topping – Yes Matt Hesse – Yes Pete Meitzner – Yes Richard Dinkel-Yes Members noted absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, Kahlilah Iratheta
Public Communications	All proper notifications were sent. There were no speakers signed up under Public Communications Maggie Topping, Board Chair introduced Dennis Marstall the new Wichita City Manager.
New Board Members	Jeff Morris, Intrust Bank has a background in leadership, human resources, marketing, and sales, with 15 years of experience. Richard Dinkel, Koch Executive Vice President and CFO. In this role, Richard has responsibility for Koch’s finance functions, including accounting, tax, treasury, risk and technology, in addition to Koch Investment Management, Koch Real Estate Investments and Koch Logistics.
Make A Difference Student Award – Dr. Justin Pfeifer	Shaylen Katz, freshman student in the surgical tech program. She is set to graduate in May. Shaylen shared her personal story, including her early interest in becoming a surgical nurse after her grandfather's passing and her journey from working in a nursing home to finding her path in the surgical tech program at WSU Tech. She thanked the board for the recognition and shares her excitement about living her dream in the surgical tech program.
Consent agenda	a. BOT Meeting Minutes Recommendation action: Approval of the WSU Tech Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2025. These documents were provided to the Board electronically in advance of the meeting. The board minutes were considered and discussed and upon the motion of Board member Pete Meitzner seconded by Matt Hesse, the minutes were approved. Motion carried: 10-0 Members noted absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, and Kahlilah Iratheta

b. **Board review & ratification of employment offers December – January**

***Roger Greene, 12 Month Faculty, AMT**

Education/Credentials:

Master of Business Administration with emphasis in Operations and Strategic Planning, Southwestern College

Bachelor of Science in Business Quality Management, Southwestern College

Applied Science Degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology, Kansas State University

A&P License, Kansas State University

25+ years of experience in the Managerial field

Adjunct Faculty, AMT at WSU Tech (August 2025 – January 2026)

Amanda Johnson, 9 Month Faculty, Veterinary Nursing

Education/Credentials:

Associate of Science, Veterinary Technology, San Juan College

20 years of experience across multiple departments and roles within the Veterinary field

Clinical:

Anesthesia-ASA I-V, Arterial Catheters, Central Line Placement, Epidural Administration, Triage in ER setting, ICU Management, RECOVER BLS/ALS certified

Kenneth Luce, Trainer, Automation and Maintenance

Education/Credentials:

Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Electrical Technology, Hutchinson Community College

Certifications:

Motor Controls, Hutchinson Community College

Boiler Technician, Garden City Community College

Ammonia 1 & 2, Garden City Community College

***Michael Schmidt, 12 Month Faculty, Construction Science**

Education/Credentials:

Bachelor's in Construction Science and Management, Kansas State University

Associate of Science, Dodge City Community College

4+ years of experience in Construction industry

Adjunct Faculty, Construction Science (May 2024 – January 2026)

***Andrew Wingo, 9 Month Faculty, EMT**

Education/Credentials:

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, Butler County Community College

11+ years of experience as Staff Nurse, Wesley Medical Center, Emergency Department

Adjunct Faculty, EMS Programs at WSU Tech (November 2020 – January 2026)

Jonathan Workman, Corporate Instructional Developer

Education/Credentials:

Bachelor of Science, Information Technology, DeVry University

Bachelor of Music Education, Wichita State University

20+ years of experience designing training for manufacturing environments

***Indicates transition to a full-time position or rehire**

The ratification of employment offers was reviewed and discussed. Upon a motion by Board Member Doug Stark, seconded by Derrick Nielsen, the Board approved the employment offers.

	Motion carried: 10–0 Members noted absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, Kahlilah Iratheta
WSU	WSU update – Dr. Rick Muma Census day was February 18th. Provided an enrollment update, 2.4% increase in spring enrollment with a strong domestic enrollment. Discussed the impact of new immigration policies on international enrollment and the challenges faced by the university. BioMed building is on target. He suggested that maybe the board should tour the facility.
Reports of Officers	Vice President of Finance & Administration – Marlo Dolezal January Financials (approval required) Marlo presented the financial update for the end of January, focusing on the forecast for the end of the year. The finance committee did meet and review the financials in detail. Revenue is pacing ahead of budget, with tuition coming in under budget due to variability in customized training. Expenses are under budget in some areas and over budget in others, with a net effect of half a million dollars. The forecast for the fiscal year shows a net income of 8.2 million, with a goal of staying within a 2-3 million net income range. The financials were reviewed and discussed. Upon a motion by Board Member Greg Stroud, seconded by Pete Meitzner, the Board approved the financials were approved. Motion carried: 10–0 Members noted absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, Kahlilah Iratheta Five Year Forecast – Marlo Dolezal The Board reviewed the updated 5-year forecast, including key revenue and expense assumptions. The FY27 outlook reflects a projected \$3.1 million reduction in Excel in CTE funding, partially offset by an estimated \$2 million increase in Post-Secondary Aid. Tuition revenue is projected to grow modestly at approximately 2% annually. The forecast includes a 3% operating expense reduction in FY27 and assumes disciplined 2% annual expense growth thereafter. Revenue growth beginning in FY27 is tied to the opening of the new NCAT facility and continued program expansion. Net income is expected to decline in FY27 and FY28 due to strategic investments in the NCAT and BioMedical expansions, with improvement projected beginning in FY29 as revenues mature and efficiencies stabilize. FY27 Tuition and Fees – Teresa Seymour (approval required) Reviewed the Process Structure The college is proposing a 3% tuition rate increase with an option to increase by 4% to address funding impacts resulting from the loss of state support. Reviewed the tier structure Fees are not changing Concurrent High School rate of \$149/\$199 per course remains the same

Board members asked whether this reflects a broader trend in higher education. Dr. Utash and Dr. Muma noted that most universities, community colleges, and technical colleges are expecting tuition increases of approximately 3–5%.

The FY27 Tuition and Fees were presented for consideration and discussion. Upon motion by Board member Matt Hesse, seconded by Board member Doug Stark, the FY27 Tuition and Fees were approved.

Motion carried: 10-0

Members noted absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, Kahlilah Iratheta

Strategic Plan update – Marlo Dolezal

Marlo provided a mid-year update on the strategic plan, focusing on accessible and transformative education.

The college has met its enrollment target of 6500, with strong retention and completion rates.

The college is working on becoming the number one transfer school to WSU, with a significant number of students indicating interest in transferring.

Provide Accessible and Transformative Education

Scholarships, including the Kansas Promise Scholarship and Wichita Promise, have had a significant impact on student affordability and accessibility.

Strengthen Workforce Partnerships and Alignment

Highlighted the college's efforts to strengthen workforce partnerships and alignment.

The college has seen growth in customized training revenue and industry-recognized credentials.

The college is working on fostering a culture of inclusive excellence, with a focus on employee and student demographics.

The college is implementing a program review process and deploying AI-powered advising assistants to improve institutional effectiveness.

CTEC launch Fall 2025

Wichita BioMedical and NCAT Expansion opportunities

Launch of CMMC/NIST Certified Training

Choose Aerospace active in 3 high schools across the state with 3 more starting in Fall 2027 and 10 additional locations in discussions

Continued progress in launch of HAMR with opening in Mid March

Infrastructure for Smart Manufacturing ecosystem expands to include vision systems in robotics and advanced control panel demonstration

Machining lab is fully networked and capable of data

Integration

WSU Tech is the only provider worldwide for certified Cessna

High Wing Training. Our first customer was the Royal Thai Airforce

17 Drone trainings for 5 different organizations

Foster A Culture of Inclusive Excellence

New Employee Mentor program implemented

New employee training programs focused on leadership

FY27 additional trainings focused on change management

Advance Academic Innovation

Competency based education committee formed

Launched electrical Fall 2025

Automation Eng Tech, Masonry & Heavy Equipment approved by KBOR

Electrical Power Distribution (Lineman) in process

Student mentoring program implemented

	AMT Tutoring Center Fall2025 AI Committees focused on use of technology in academics and administrative support Continued growth of Future Ready Centers Tech Financial Grow Your Own <i>Improve Institutional Effectiveness</i> College wide implementation of program review process Transition student success CRM from Navigate to Slate to increase automation, improve integration and reduce cost Deploy an AI powered advising assistant to enhance advising through meeting summaries, task tracking, and automated follow-up Vice President, Aviation & Workforce Development – James Hall Aviation Maintenance Program Overview Provided an overview of the aviation maintenance program, highlighting its success and growth. The program has seen significant growth in enrollment, with 431 AMT students in 2026. The program has undergone several changes, including a revamp due to FAA regulations and a switch to an eight-week block schedule. The college has expanded its part 65 flight path program and is working on removing barriers for students Vice President of Student Success – Dr. Justin Pfeifer Justin reported another strong enrollment semester, with a 7% increase in credit hours and a 6% increase in unduplicated head count. Strengths include traditional trades like welding, electrical, and auto programs, as well as business programs. Challenges include aviation core and manufacturing programs, which are mostly high school students, and cloud computing. The college has diversified its program offerings to mitigate the impact of short-term aviation enrollment. Largest overall Spring semester – credit hours and headcount Largest adult spring semester – credit hours and head count Largest high school semester (any semester) – credit hours and headcount
President's Report	Board Bylaws Dr. Utash presented proposed bylaws changes, including increasing the number of board members to 17 and allowing designated proxies. The bylaws were reviewed and discussed and, upon the motion of Board Member Derrick Nielsen, seconded by Maggie Topping, the bylaws were approved. Motion carried: 10–0; absent: Andrew Nichols, Bryan Frye, Derek Penn, Enrique Villar, and Kahlilah Iratheta. Legislative Priorities Dr. Utash will continue the fight and will keep the board updated. The board discussed the importance of maintaining a balanced budget and the impact of legislative changes on the college's funding. It was emphasized the need for continued advocacy for higher education and the college's budget. Foundation Year End Report – Courtney Sendall Courtney presented the foundation's year-end review, highlighting significant fundraising success.

	The foundation raised over \$6 million in cash and pledges, with a 75% acceptance rate for proposals. The foundation has established over 50 different scholarship opportunities, supporting almost 200 students. The foundation is preparing for the public phase of the capital campaign and expanding its reporting capacity. Courtney highlighted the success of employee giving, with over half a million dollars contributed since 2011. The foundation is working on establishing an annual fund and strengthening non-major donor stewardship. The foundation is also focusing on expanding its reporting capacity and improving communication across the campus. The foundation is set to launch the public phase of the capital campaign, aiming to raise \$8 million to support the \$45 million building project.
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30p.m.

Approved:

Signature

Dated