

**WSU Tech Board of Trustees
Board Minutes
August 21, 2025**

	WSU Tech Board of Trustees met face-to-face at 3:05 pm on August 21, 2025. The meeting was held at NCAT with a virtual option. Present: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Greg Stroud</td><td>Maggie Topping</td></tr> <tr> <td>Doug Stark</td><td>Derrick Nielsen</td></tr> <tr> <td>Lily Wu</td><td>Meredith Olson</td></tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Nichols</td><td>Pete Meitzner</td></tr> <tr> <td>Enrique Villars</td><td></td></tr> </table> Absent: Derek Penn, Bryan Frye, Khalilah Iraheta, Matt Hesse, and Alicia Thompson	Greg Stroud	Maggie Topping	Doug Stark	Derrick Nielsen	Lily Wu	Meredith Olson	Andrew Nichols	Pete Meitzner	Enrique Villars	
Greg Stroud	Maggie Topping										
Doug Stark	Derrick Nielsen										
Lily Wu	Meredith Olson										
Andrew Nichols	Pete Meitzner										
Enrique Villars											
Public Communications	All proper notifications have been sent out and we have no speakers signed up to speak under Public Communications										
Make A Difference Student Award – Justin Pfeifer	The WSU Tech Board Meeting highlighted the success of the Micro Work Ethic Scholarship, awarding nine students from various programs. Jade Estrada from the Mike Rowe Works Foundation praised the recipients' work ethic. - Justin Pfeifer introduced the Micro Work Ethic Scholarship winners at WSU Tech, highlighting the shift in perception of technical education over the past 20 years. - Nine winners are introduced, representing various programs such as veterinary nursing, professional pilot, unmanned aircraft systems, and culinary arts. - Speaker 1 emphasizes the rigorous application process and the hard work required to secure the scholarship. - Justin Pfeifer congratulates the winners and introduces Jade Estrada from the Mike Rowe Works Foundation, who runs the scholarship program. Jade Estrada's Encouragement and Foundation Overview - Jade Estrada thanks Sheree and the WSU Tech team for their partnership and highlights the competitive nature of the scholarship. - Jade mentions that out of over 1500 applications, WSU Tech students made up 30% of the 526 recipients. - She expresses excitement about the winners' stories and the foundation's goal to change the narrative around skilled trades. - Jade encourages the winners to keep in touch and share their experiences to help the foundation's mission.										
Consent agenda	a. BOT Meeting Minutes Recommendation action: Approval of the WSU Tech Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2025, and May 09, 2025, email vote. These documents were provided to the Board electronically in advance of the meeting. The consent agenda was considered and discussed and upon the motion of Board member Doug Stark seconded by Derrick Nielsen, the consent agenda was approved. Motion carried: 9-0 Derek Penn, Bryan Frye, Khalilah Iraheta, Matt Hesse, and Alicia Thompson noted absent b. <u>Board review & ratification of employment offers June - August Sherif Antoun, Faculty, IT Education/Credentials:</u> Master of Science in Management Information System, Friends University										

Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems, Friends University
Certified Cloud Practitioner, AWS (Amazon Web Services)

Christopher Cantrel, Faculty, Culinary Arts

Education/Credentials:

Degree Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management, Oregon Coast Culinary Institute
SERV Safe Manager's Certificate
Certified Sous Chef ACF

Tri Dang, Program Director, Cyber Range/HACK

Education/Credentials:

Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing, Cybersecurity, Wichita State University
CompTIA Security+ SYS-601 certificate
Certified Network Associate
EC-CHFI (Computer Hacking Forensic Investigator) Certificate

Jordann Haffner, Faculty, LPN

Education/Credentials:

Bachelor of Science in Nursing, University of Kansas School of Nursing
Associates of Arts, Highland Community College
Associates of Science, Highland Community College
BLS (Basic Life Support) Certificate
ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support) Certificate
PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) Certificate

Michael Harper, Faculty, Work Ethic Facilitator

Education/Credentials:

Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Arkansas
Master of Arts in Philosophy and Ethics, Biola University
Bachelor of Science in Marketing, Indiana State University
NACCAP High School Guidance Counselor Certification

***Steve Heiden, Faculty, Supply Chain**

Education/Credentials:

Master of Business Administration, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Wichita State University
Bachelor of Business Administration, Wichita State University

Jean Koontz Faculty, Surgical Technologies

Education/Credentials:

Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology WATC
Master of Business Administration at Healthcare, Friends University
Bachelor of Business Administration, Wichita State University
CPR Certified
Certified Surgical Technician

Elias Martinez, Faculty, Industrial Machine Maintenance Technology

Education/Credentials:

Associates of Applied Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Hutchison Community College
Apprenticeship Certificate, Heating/Air Conditioning Mechanic & Installer, United States Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship
Universal EPA Certification
OSHA Certifications
CPR & First Aid Certified

Rachel Napoleon Faculty, Surgical Technology

Education/Credentials:

Associates in Surgical Technology, WSU Tech

	CST (Certified Surgical Technologist) NBSTSA (National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting) CPR/First Aid Certified <u>Andrea Pearson Administrative Assistant, People & Culture</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> Bachelor of Business Administration in Management, Human Resources Management, Wichita State University <u>Andrew Stovall Faculty, Machining Technology</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> High school graduate Over 9 years of experience operating CNC Milling Machines <u>McKera Walker Receptionist, South Campus</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> Certificate of Technical Studies, Cyber Security Southern Careers Institute Expected Graduation 05/2026 <u>*Landon Winsky, Technician, IT Specialist</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing, Wichita State University Cyber Security certified Data Analysis certified <u>*Christopher Wyant, Senior Project Manager, Automation</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> Master of Science in Education, Curriculum and Instruction, University of Kansas Bachelor of Science, General Physics, Kansas State University <u>*Rebecca Zinabu, Manager, Digital Marketing</u> <u>Education/Credentials:</u> Associate of Applied Science & Technology, Digital Marketing, WSU Tech Associate of Applied Science & Technology in Healthcare and Administration, WSU Tech <u>Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) New Hires Full-Time</u> Daniel Boley, Executive Director, CTEC Travis Broxterman, 9-month Faculty, CTEC Construction Michael Clark, 9-month Faculty, CTEC Automotive Raymond George, 12-month Faculty, CTEC CDL (Driver II) Ronnie Jackson 12-month Faculty, CTEC CDL (Driver) Tiffany Myers Administrative Assistant, CTEC Davis Oehme 9-month Faculty, CTEC Welding Nacoma Oehme 9-month Faculty, CTEC Mason Bradley Wallace 9-month Faculty, CTEC HVAC <u>*Indicates title change, transitioned to a full-time position, or rehired in the timeframe</u> The ratification of employment offers were considered and discussed and upon the motion of Board member Gerg Stroud seconded by Derrick Nielsen, the consent agenda was approved. Motion carried: 9-0 Derek Penn, Bryan Frye, Khalilah Iraheta, Matt Hesse, and Alicia Thompson noted absent
WSU update	School launched this week and, while we were concerned about enrolment, especially with international students playing a key role in revenue, the first few days are encouraging. Students are showing up, classes are filling, and early indicators are positive. In a broader context where many four-year institutions are flat or declining, our momentum is a great sign for the semester.

	Dr. Muma also mentioned the ongoing construction projects, including the hub for advanced manufacturing and the ATF forensic science facility.
Reports of Officers	Vice President of Finance & Administration – Marlo Dolezal NCAT Bond Proposal update – Dr. Sheree Utash/Marlo Dolezal • Update on bond issuance process: direct placement vs. public offering. • Board discussed financial implications, liquidity needs, and debt limits. • Negotiations underway with local banks offering competitive rates. • Preference expressed for direct placement due to local partnership and favorable terms. • Strong relations with Commerce. Smoother Renewal transition. Lock in rates while low • Bond Issuance: NCAT Expansion, \$25–30M direct placement with Commerce Bank. • Terms: 8.5 years, UST + 1.65% ($\approx 5.75\%$ as of Aug. 5, 2025), prepayment via Make Whole Call. • Outlook: $\sim$\$21M principal due at term; plan to pay down with reserves. • Requirements: Debt Service Coverage Ratio 1.10x, minimum unrestricted liquidity \$12.5M, debt service reserve \$2.5M. • Limitations: Additional debt $>$ \$5M restricted (requesting \$10M); restrictions on mergers, consolidations, sales, leases. • Risks: Interest rate volatility, impact on cash reserves. • Timeline: • Aug 21 – Board update • Aug 22 – Finalize terms with Commerce • Sep 4 – Special Board meeting to approve resolution • Sep 5–24 – Execute investor letter, finalize legal docs, closing prep FY25 Preliminary Year End • Operating cash at \$1.5M (end of June), consistent with normal semester cash flow cycles. • Funds invested in short-term treasury bills, available for use as needed. • Cash flow on track to cover operations through fiscal year and fund reserves. • Total Net Income trending above budget due to higher interest earnings and contributions. • Noted that a significant portion of net income consists of restricted funds (state appropriations, grants, donor contributions, and capitalized expenses). Vice President, Instructional & Academic Support – Trish Schmidt Automation Engineer Technology • We have a new program, Automation Engineer Technology. • Planning on an ASS and Certificate C. • Scott has worked with the state over several years to align and develop the Industrial Automation program. • Complements existing maintenance and robotics programs by filling the automation component. • Most coursework already exists—only requires minor adjustments (e.g., renumbering). • About four courses in the commuting program remain under development. • Program is nearly ready to launch. The Automation Engineer Technology program was considered and discussed and upon the motion of Board member Meredith Olson seconded by Enrique Villars, the consent agenda was approved.

	Motion carried: 9-0 Derek Penn, Bryan Frye, Khalilah Iraheta, Matt Hesse, and Alicia Thompson noted absent Vice President of Student Success – Dr. Justin Pfeifer • Overall all credit hours up 8% • Unduplicated headcount up 9.3% • Enrollment report shows strong growth in credit hours and student numbers, especially in new programs. • Success highlighted in automation engineering technology and high school partnerships. • Discussion of challenges and strengths in electrical technology, aviation maintenance, and nursing. • Board emphasized need for flexibility in enrollment and noted possible impact of legislative changes on service area lines.
President's Report	WSU Tech President's Report – Dr. Sheree Utash Legislature update • Legislative updates: Textron-hosted day with legislators and meeting with university leaders. • Discussion on continued funding for aviation/manufacturing programs and Excel in CTE initiatives. • Reviewed the Impact of WSU Tech one pager. We will email out the page to all board members. NCAT Expansion update – Johnna Hart • Reviewed budget highlights • Estimated expansion project is \$48M • Construction bidding progress update • Reviewed the Training Facility Construction Timeline - Groundbreaking August 22nd - Ribbon cutting in December 2026 CTEC update • CTEC opened this week with strong momentum. • We held a ribbon cutting on August 14th followed by a Business & Industry lunch and an open house, and the welcome from partners and guests was outstanding—over 100 attendees at lunch alone. • Independence specifically expressed interest in having us, underscoring regional demand. • A big thank-you to Jena and her team for the heavy lift to get us across the line. • We officially opened Monday with 150 students, and our Academic VPs are coordinating next steps to support growth and day-to-day operations. WSU Tech Summer Camps • Introduction of Paige, new Director of Summer Camps; record year with 705 students. • Success of summer camps noted, including new boys' programs and strong parent feedback. • Foundation video shared highlighting scholarships, employee giving, and community support. • Board expressed gratitude for college community's efforts and optimism for continued success. Played the End of Year Foundation Recap Video
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:25 p.m.

Approved:

Signature

Dated