

Centre College Board of Trustees Minutes (Vol. 6 - 1917)

Danville, Kentucky, January 8, 1917

The Executive Committee of Central University of Kentucky met at the Library Building. Present, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, Robert T. Quisenberry, David M. Sweets, William L. Threlkeld, John A. Cheek, and William A. Ganfield.

On motion, the employment of an Athletic Director for the coming year was entrusted to Dr. Ganfield with power to act. On motion, Dr. Ganfield was authorized to attend a meeting of college presidents to be held in Chicago this week. On motion, Dr. Alexander as President of the Board of Trustees, or Mr. John A. Cheek as Treasurer of said Board, was authorized to release a mortgage for \$3,000 given to the Trustees of the Centre College of Kentucky by D.E. and B.A. Massey on a farm situated in Mercer County, Kentucky, said mortgage being recorded in the Clerk's office of Mercer County, Kentucky.

The Committee adjourned.

John A. Cheek, Secretary

Danville, Kentucky, March 26, 1917

The Executive Committee of Central University of Kentucky met at the Library Building. Present, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, David M. Sweets, C.R. Hemphill, Charles C. Fox, William L. Threlkeld, John A. Cheek, and William A. Ganfield.

A telegram of congratulations was sent in the name of the committee to Dr. Patterson of Lexington, Kentucky, on the 84th anniversary of his birth. On motion, the committee approved the names of alumni to be sent out by the Alumni Association in voting for an alumni trustee. On motion, Dr. William A. Ganfield was designated in place of Edward W.C. Humphreys, deceased, in connection with the Treasurer, Mr. John A. Cheek, to have custody of Box 2091 in the vault of the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Company in Louisville, Kentucky, and have the right to enter the same from time to time in connection with the Treasurer.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved that the Treasurer of Central University of Kentucky be instructed to sell at the best price obtainable 25 shares of the common capital stock of the Louisville Traction Company, now owned by Central University, and said John A. Cheek as Treasurer, and A.J.A. Alexander as president of the Board of Trustees, are authorized to sign the corporate name of the University on the back of said certificate of capital stock in making transfer of the same to the purchaser thereof.

On motion, Dr. Ganfield was authorized to employ Professors Gronert and Coolidge for the coming year at a salary of \$1,700 each, said salary to be payable in monthly installments. On motion, authority was given to Dr. Ganfield to have the Academy classes temporarily instructed in vacant room in the main building *[Old Main]*. The authority heretofore given to Dr. Ganfield to employ an Athletic Director was confirmed.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee was fixed for May 8, 1917, and Dr. Ganfield was authorized to call a meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held June 1, 1917, which meeting was to take the place of the annual meeting. On motion, the Executive Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees that the trustees at their next meeting confer on Rev. W. Francis Irwin, D.D., the honorary degree of LL.D., and on Dr. Jean the degree of M.A., pending action by the Board providing new plan for granting degrees.

Committee adjourned.

John A. Cheek, Secretary

Danville, Kentucky, May 8, 1917

The Executive Committee of Central University of Kentucky met at the Library Building. Present, Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, George W. Welsh, C.R. Hemphill, Charles C. Fox, David M. Sweets, John A. Cheek, and William A. Ganfield. Committee on new plan for conferring degrees made report which was adopted, and referred to the Board of Trustees with recommendation that they adopt the same. The plan suggested by Dr. Ganfield and a committee of the Faculty for moving Commencement day forward was approved, and the Faculty was authorized to complete the details. On motion, \$150 was appropriated to be paid by the Treasurer to the Athletic Association of Centre College for use by them in paying the salary of the coach for current year.

On motion, the meeting of the trustees was fixed for Friday, June 1, 1917, at 9:00 a.m. On motion, the offer of a pool table for the Gymnasium [*Old Boyle-Humphrey Gymnasium*] from Mr. Ben W. Lord was accepted, and Mr. George W. Welsh was authorized to have the same moved to the gymnasium. Dr. Ganfield was authorized to express to Mr. Lord the thanks of the College for this gift.

Committee adjourned.

John A. Cheek, Secretary

Danville, Kentucky, June 1, 1917

The Board of Trustees of Central University of Kentucky met pursuant to the call of the Executive Committee in the Library Building of Centre College on Friday, June 1, 1917, at 9:00 a.m., and was called to order by Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, president of the Board of Trustees, and opened with prayer. Members present, Harvey Glass, Rutherford E. Douglas, J. Rice Cowan, David M. Sweets, Hugh Leith, John Barbour, A.J.A. Alexander, J.G. Hunter, Richard P. Ernst, George W. Welsh, William L. Threlkeld, E.L. Warren, Charles C. Fox, J.S. Lyons, Robert T. Quisenberry, and John A. Cheek.

President William A. Ganfield was present and invited to sit with the Board. The minutes of the last annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, and the minutes of the Executive Committee, were read, and on motion, approved for record.

The following trustees, members of the class expiring 1920, viz., J.S. Lyons, William L. Threlkeld, E.L. Warren, took the oath of office before H.L. Briggs, Notary Public for Boyle County, Kentucky. President Ganfield made his report to the Board, and the recommendations of the Faculty for degrees to be conferred were on motion adopted, and the degrees and names of the recipients were as follows:

Master of Arts

Charles Rice McDowell Danville, Ky.

Bachelor of Arts

Stanley Smith Dickson	Paris, Ky.
Hugh Francis Montgomery Hoss	Johnson City, Tennessee
Edwin Walker Powell	Richmond, Ky.
Robert Stokes Tyler	Danville, Ky.
Gladstone Wesley	Somerset, Ky.
Donald Lansdale Wood	Maysville, Ky.

Bachelor of Science

Frederick Burns Caldwell Danville, Ky.
William Bruce Montgomery Danville, Ky.
Brinck Coleman Renick Paris, Ky.

The Treasurer made his report, and on motion it was approved as a whole.

The resignation of Dr. W. Francis Irwin was received, and on motion accepted. Mr. R.P. Ernst was appointed a committee to bring in a minute expressing the regret of the Board on the retirement of Dr. Irwin, and the Rev. David M. Sweets was appointed a committee to express the sense of the Board on the retirement of Dr. H. Glass as a member of the Board. Mr. Ernst’s report was as follows:

Resolved that the Board of Trustees accept with very deep regret the resignation of Dr. W. Francis Irwin, made necessary by the Dr.’s change of residents from Louisville, Kentucky, to Irvington on the Hudson, New York. The Dr. during his service on the Board has endeared himself to us all. He has been faithful in his attendance, a wise counselor and in all respects a most efficient and industrious trustee. We wish him great success in his new field.

On motion, this resolution was adopted.

The report made by Rev. David M. Sweets’ committee concerning the retirement of Rev. Harvey Glass, D.D., was adopted, and is as follows:

The Board has heard with regret the request of Rev. Harvey Glass, D.D., that he be allowed to retire from the Board in view of failing health, and the fact that his term expires with this meeting. The Board would place on record its sincere appreciation of the faithful services of Dr. Glass for thirty years as a member of the Board of Central University (both before and since the consolidation). Dr. Glass has always manifested the greatest interest in the welfare of the institution, and his self-sacrificing labor in the past will always endear him to the members of the Board.

The Board conferred the following honorary degrees:

Doctor of Laws

Rev. W. Francis Irwin Irvington on the Hudson, New York
Hon. William Jennings Price Danville, Ky.

Doctor of Divinity

Rev. Henry N. Faulconer Baltimore, Maryland

Master of Arts

Dr. George William Jean New York, New York

On motion, the Board adopted the following plan for conferring degrees.

Resolved:

1. That Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees shall be granted by the Board of Trustees of Central University of Kentucky only upon recommendation of the Faculty, and under such regulations as they may adopt.

2. That all other degrees other than Bachelor and Master shall be granted as honorary degrees, and that the following plan be adopted:

The name of a candidate for an honorary degree must be presented to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, with a statement of the degree desired and the reasons why same should be granted on or before March first of each year.

The Executive Committee will consider the candidate and the recommendations, and shall in turn recommend to the Board of Trustees any candidate whom they select for honorary degrees. No candidate shall be recommended to the Board of Trustees who does not receive the approval of two-thirds of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall prepare and mail a ballot to every member of the Board of Trustees not later than April 15, containing the names of the candidates recommended and the degrees proposed.

Each trustee shall vote yes or no for each candidate, sign and return the ballot to the office of the President of the University not later than May 1.

Sixteen affirmative ballots shall be required to elect to any honorary degree.

The President shall notify the candidate of his election for the degree, and request his presence on Commencement day of the same year to receive his degree. All candidates elected to receive degrees will be required to be present at the time same is conferred, unless excused by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee.

No honorary degree will be conferred upon members of the Faculty or Board of Trustees while in service. This plan will go into effect with the college year 1917-1918.

The portion of the plan governing honorary degrees may be set aside by the affirmative vote of sixteen members of the Board.

Centre College Alumni Association, by Nelson D. Rodes, Secretary, notified the Trustees that the Alumni Association had nominated Dr. Philip F. Barbour, of Louisville, Ky., of the Class of 1884, as an alumni representative on the Board of Trustees. On motion, and by a ballot election, Dr. Philip F. Barbour was elected a trustee, and assigned to the class expiring 1921. Hugh B. Fleece and Rutherford B. Douglas and John A. Cheek, whose terms expired 1917, were nominated to the Board and elected by ballot as trustees for the term of four years expiring 1921. C.D. Gates, of Louisville, Ky., was elected to the vacancy caused by the death of Edward W.C. Humphrey for the term of four years expiring 1921. Colonel C.E. Hoge, of Frankfort, Ky., was nominated, and by ballot elected a trustee in place of Robert Quisenberry, whose term expired in 1917, thus, placing Colonel Hoge in the class expiring 1921. On nomination, Mr. J.T. Tunis, of Lexington, Ky., was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of W. Francis Irwin in the class whose term expires in 1920.

On motion, the following officers of the Board and standing committees of the Board were elected for two years in accordance with the b-laws of the University.

Dr. A.J.A. Alexander, president of the Board of Trustees, John A. Cheek, Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

Standing Committees of the Board of Trustees

The President of the University is ex-officio member of all committees.

Executive Committee

George W. Welsh, Chairman; William L. Threlkeld, C.R. Hemphill, Charles C. Fox, John A. Cheek, David M. Sweets, A.J.A Alexander.

Finance Committee

Building and Grounds

George W. Welsh, Chairman; Charles C. Fox, H.B. Fleece, J.R. Cowan.

Curriculum

John Barbour, Chairman; H.C. Read, E.L. Warren.

On motion, the Executive Committee was authorized to fill any existing vacancies on any of the standing committees.

Mr. John A. Cheek notified the Board that he would not accept any salary for his services as Secretary and Treasurer, and on motion the thanks of the Board were given to Mr. Cheek for his generous offer.

On motion, the salary of Dr. William A. Ganfield, President, was fixed at \$4,000 per annum, beginning with June 1, 1917, payable monthly. Dr. D.L. Thomas was authorized to write the history of Centre College, and the Board agreed to stand responsible for any necessary expenses connected therewith. The matter of continuing the Preparatory Department was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act. The recommendation of President Ganfield, with reference to the question of publicity, was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Board took recess until 2 p.m.

After lunch, the Board resumed business and the following motion of the Rev. Hugh Leith was adopted:

That in response to the overture of the Synod of Kentucky U.S. as to the relation of the College with the Synods of Kentucky U.S. and U.S.A., a committee be appointed to take carefully into consideration the whole matter, and report at an adjourned meeting of the Board held in connection with the Synods' meetings of 1917.

Dr. Alexander, president of the Board, appointed the following committee in accordance with the foregoing motion, viz., Hugh Leith, Chairman; C.R. Hemphill, David M. Sweets, and William L. Threlkeld.

The following resolution offered by Dr. E.L. Warren was adopted:

Resolved that the passing of Mr. Edward W.C. Humphreys has removed from our midst one of our most useful members. Succeeding his father as a member of the Board, he has been faithful and efficient as a member of the Committee on Finance, and as a lawyer has always contributed of his ability in legal matters before the Board. He was an alumnus of this College and received the degree of Master of Arts from Amherst College, Massachusetts, of which his grandfather, Dr. Herman Humphreys, had been president. He was an active ruling elder in the College Street Presbyterian Church of Louisville and in its successors, the Central and the Fourth Avenue Churches. Since consolidation, Mr. Humphreys has been a director in the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Kentucky. In his regular attendance upon the meetings of this Board, and his fidelity in the discharge of every obligation laid upon him, Mr. Humphreys was one of the most devoted members of this Board. As we contemplate his life, we may well say in our hearts, "Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like this."

The question of the sale of the west end of the old campus in building lots was referred to the Executive Committee with power to act.

Answering the communication of the joint conference committees of the Synods U.S. and U.S.A. concerning the admission of young women to the two higher classes of Centre College, on motion duly carried the following answer was directed to be made by the President.

To the Joint conference Committees of the synods U.S. and U.S.A. of Kentucky.

Dear Sirs:

Replying to your inquiry, whether the Trustees of Central University would be willing to admit young women to the classes of Centre College, and consent to some measure of co-educational work, we beg to reply that we have received your inquiry with interest, have given the same hearty and sympathetic consideration, and we have appointed Messrs. William L. Threlkeld, Hon. Charles C. Fox, Rev. Rutherford E. Douglas, D.D., Rev. John Barbour, D.D. and Mr. J. Rice Cowan, a conference committee to consider the matter with you.

Very truly yours.

Mr. John A. Cheek gave notice of an amendment to chapter 15 of the bylaws, being the chapter of the bylaws headed "Of the Election of Trustees" and which is more fully and specifically set forth on page 195 of the minute book of the Board of Trustees.