

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY**

**June 9, 2006**

The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held in Conference Room 304 of Old Main on Friday, June 9, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Dr. Dennis Murray, Chairperson.

### Attendance

Trustees present: Dr. Dennis Murray, Ms. Suzanne Vessella, Dr. Robert Marcus, Mr. Ken Blair, Ms. Grace Hawkins, Mr. Robert Taylor, Mr. Nicholas DeRosa, Dr. Van Peterson.

Trustees absent: Mr. Richard Christofer, and Mr. John Thornburgh (excused)

### Approval of Minutes

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Ms. Vessella that the minutes of the March 24, 2006 meeting be approved and submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

### Public Comments

Dr. Murray gave the audience an opportunity to address the Council at this time. Dr. Murray and President Smith announced and welcomed Scott McCaskey as a guest in the audience. Scott will join the Council as student trustee following official notification from the Governor's Office. There were no additional public comments.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

(Appendix A)

President Smith distributed the Report of the President to the Council and provided comments.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### University Advancement Committee

Mr. Robert Taylor, Esq., Chairperson for the University Advancement Committee provided the following report to the Council.

The Advancement Committee continues to provide assistance to the University Advancement office with the University's financial and fundraising goals. Mr. Taylor reported that last year, 100% of Trustees were credited with providing support to the University. The committee established a \$1000 goal for each Trustee to contribute annually, however, it is understood that Trustees will contribute according to their individual means. Mr. Taylor noted with the fiscal year ending June 30, it is the hope of the committee that all Trustees will again participate in this initiative in the coming year.

The Division of University Advancement reported gifts and pledges received from the following staff, faculty, former faculty members, and former staff members include:

- Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Smith for the Jazz Band and sponsorship of the President's Gala,
- Mr. Thomas McPherson for the McPherson Scholarship,
- Ms. Wilma Cavill for the Warner Film Institute,
- Dr. Elizabeth Curry estate for the Elizabeth Curry Scholarship,
- Ms. Jane Scott-Cleary for the Marjorie Stephens Scholarship,
- Dr. William Shiner for the Dr. Bill Shiner Scholarship, and
- Dr. Kathleen Kellinger for the James M. Kellinger and George W. Gault Memorial Nursing Scholarship.

In addition, key gifts were received from Mr. Stephen Medwid '62 for the football program, and from Mr. Joseph Diorio for the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center.

As of April 30, 2006, The Campaign for Slippery Rock University gifts and pledges total \$21.5 million, representing 65% of the \$33 million Campaign goal. Gifts received for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 as of April 30<sup>th</sup> total \$2,028,876.42. The System Accountability Performance indicators for University Advancement are total charitable giving less the top three gifts and the value of the endowment. As of April 30, the charitable giving total less the top three gifts is \$1,457,870.64; and the value of the endowment as of April 30 is \$18,198,428.73, a 7.94% increase over last year. The charitable endowment represents the combined totals of the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. and Alumni Association endowments.

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Kelli McKee joined the Advancement staff as the manager of prospect research. Ms. McKee was formerly employed by the University of Pittsburgh's Office of Institutional Advancement.

### Student Life Committee

President Smith, serving as Interim Vice President for Student Life, provided the report of the Student Life Committee in the absence of Mr. Thornburgh.

Two items are submitted for Council action: 1) Resolution to approve Slippery Rock University's undertaking a System-financed capital facilities project to construct a new Student Union following the 4-1 referendum vote by the students in favor of the new construction; 2) revisions to the SRU Parking Policy.

A number of significant individual programmatic and divisional efforts were accomplished within the spring semester. Our students continue to be actively engaged citizens through peer mentoring, serving as student ambassadors, participating in the Freshmen Leader Scholar Program, student organizations, intramural sports, athletics and Greek Life, fundraising for philanthropic projects and participating in community events.

Two buildings of the first phase of the new residence suites will be opening in fall of '06. Response by students has been positive. Preparation for the fall move-in is being made by the residence life staff.

External evaluations were completed by the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, the Office for Intercultural Programs and the Office of Residence Life. A Food Services master plan was initiated to study the impact and necessary changes to the food service program as a result of the shifting of the residential population due to the newly constructed residence halls. An external review team visited to review the alcohol response processes and adherence to the CAS Standards.

President Smith also recognized Dr. Paula Olivero, Ms. Deb Pincek, and Dr. John Bonando for their combined efforts in leading the division during this transition period. Dr. Constance Foley will assume the role of Vice President for Student Life on July 3.

### Finance & Audit Committee

Dr. Charles Curry, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs provided the following report to the Council.

Items reviewed for Council action included: Contracts, Fixed Assets, Service and Supply Purchase Orders, and the Annual Inspection of Facilities report. As a result of increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic, a Resolution was presented to Council at the request of the Slippery Rock Township Board of Supervisors to permit an additional 8 ½ foot right-of-way from the Slippery Rock Borough – Slippery Rock Township line on Kiester Road to the Harmony Road intersection and an additional 15 foot right-of-way from the intersection of Kiester and Harmony Roads east to the end of the Slippery Rock University property. The Board also requested an additional 8 ½ foot right-of way on

both sides of Harmony Road from the intersection of Kiester and Harmony Roads to the intersection of Branchton and Harmony Roads. A Resolution was presented for Council action to expand the Russell Wright Alumni House to add approximately 2,300 square feet of space for a conference room and related support spaces.

Dr. Curry also reported that a new web-based travel process was implemented to reduce travel costs. An occupancy permit is being pursued for the Advanced Technology and Science Hall and the Vincent Science Hall renovation is under design. Fifty-seven training programs have been conducted with a total of 219 employees participating. Instituted a clerical hiring pool to streamline the process for filling clerical positions and reduced advertising costs. Since the fall of 2005, Diversity efforts have yielded the following: hired five regular managers, including four women (80%) and hired fifteen tenure track faculty, four persons of color (26%) and nine females (60%).

### Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. Robert Marcus, Chairperson for the Academic Affairs Committee, provided the following overview from the report provided by Dr. William F. Williams, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Mary Del Brady, a 1972 Slippery Rock University graduate was commencement speaker for the May 13 commencement ceremonies when the university awarded 1,050 diplomas, including 42 doctor of physical therapy degrees and 110 masters degrees.

During the last three months, Slippery Rock University had three significant programmatic actions:

- The Theatre Department received accreditation from the National Association of the Schools of Theatre.
- Athletic Training received re-accreditation from The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon recommendation of the Joint Review Committee on Education Programs in Athletic Training.
- The Office of the Chancellor has approved moving the new stand-alone program in Criminology and Criminal Justice to the Board of Governors for final approval.

For the Fall Semester of 2006 applications from students seeking admission to Slippery Rock University are well above last year's level. We are building a cohort of between 1450 and 1475 first year students at the same quality level of the 2005 cohort.

- The number of first year students in the top 25% of their graduating class is at 30% up 1% from last year at this time.
- Transfer student deposits are the same as last year at this time with the goal of 575-600 students.

- African-American student deposits are up 28% compared to last year at this time.
- Latino-American student deposits are the same as last year at this time.
- Out-of-state student deposits are 14% ahead of last year at this time.

The increase in the number of applications for next year is attributable to the excitement being generated by the new student housing project and to our out-of-state tuition policy change that took effect last year.

### **ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

#### Resolution – SR Township Request (Right of Way – Kiester Road) (TAB 2)

Dr. Peterson moved, seconded by Mr. DeRosa that the Resolution – SR Township Request (Right of Way – Kiester Road) be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (Appendix B)

#### Annual Inspection of Facilities (TAB 3)

Mr. Blair moved, seconded by Mr. DeRosa that the Annual Inspection of Facilities be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix C)

#### Contracts (TAB 4)

Dr. Peterson moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus that the Contracts be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix D)

#### Fixed Assets (TAB 5)

Dr. Peterson moved, seconded by Mr. DeRosa that the Fixed Assets be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix E)

#### Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TAB 6)

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Dr. Peterson that the Service and Supply Purchase Orders be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix F)

#### Resolution – MOU Expansion of Alumni House (TAB 7)

Ms. Hawkins moved, seconded by Mr. Blair that the Resolution – MOU Expansion of Alumni House be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix G)

#### Resolution – New Student Union (TAB 8)

Mr. DeRosa moved, seconded by Mr. Blair to approve Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania's undertaking a System-financed capital facilities project to construct a

new Student Union. The Resolution was approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix H)

Proposed University Union Fee Increase (TAB 8)

Mr. Blair moved, seconded by Dr. Peterson; Mr. Taylor requested a roll call on the motion – Vote was 4 yes, 4 no; motion failed. (Appendix I)

Parking Policy Revisions (TAB 9)

*(Council split the following Parking Policy Revisions into two separate items for action)*

A: Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus that the current policy be altered to include the ability for SRU Police to issue SRU tickets for handicap, fire lane, and non-designated parking violations. Motion carried unanimously (Appendix J).

B: Mr. Blair moved, seconded by Mr. DeRosa the proposed request to increase the tire boot fine from \$25.00 to \$75.00 while lowering the requirement to boot a vehicle from five unpaid tickets to three unpaid tickets. Dr. Marcus requested a roll call vote on the motion – Vote was 4 yes, 4 no; motion failed. (Appendix J).

Formal Evaluation of President Robert M. Smith

Consistent with *Board of Governor's Policy 2002-2003: Evaluating Presidents*, the Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees completed the formal evaluation process of President Smith April 2-3, 2006. The Council of Trustees recommends the extension of the existing contract of Robert M. Smith for an additional year, not to exceed the maximum term allowed by Board policy.

Ms. Vessella moved, seconded by Dr. Peterson. Dr. Marcus called for a roll call vote on the action. The Council of Trustees by a unanimous vote of confidence supports the extension of Robert M. Smith's existing contract.

*Mr. Taylor as a member of the evaluation committee extended thanks to the internal and external constituents who provided valuable input to the evaluation process. Mr. Taylor extended congratulations to President Smith for his outstanding leadership and the many wonderful accomplishments of Slippery Rock University under his leadership. "The leadership that President Smith has provided in the last year and a half is nothing short of extraordinary."*

Increase Undergraduate Application Fee

Mr. Blair moved, seconded by Ms. Hawkins a motion to increase the undergraduate application fee from \$25 to 30, effective Fall 2006. Motion carried unanimously (Appendix K).

SRU Council of Trustees – Nominations of Officers

The slate of officers presented for nomination for a one-year term (June 2006-June 2007) are submitted as follows:

Ms. Suzanne Vessella, Chairperson

Mr. Robert Taylor, Esq., Vice Chairperson

Ms. Grace Hawkins, Secretary

Mr. Blair moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus a motion to approve the officers of the Council as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix L)

Council of Trustees Meeting Date Change – September 8, 2006

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor a motion to change the September meeting date from September 15 to September 8. Motion carried unanimously.

*(Trustees are encouraged to attend the Presidential Gala at the Pittsburgh Hilton on Saturday, September 9. A formal invitation to the Gala will be mailed to Trustees in mid-July).*

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, September 8, 2006.

Instructional Appointments Effective Summer Session 2006

Instructional Appointments Effective the Second Semester, 2005-2006

Instructional Appointments Effective the First Semester, 2006-2007

Strategic Leadership Appointment

Operational Leadership/Professional Appointment

State University Administrator Appointment

Non-Faculty Athletic Coach Appointments

Support Staff Appointments

Retirements

Resignations

Tenure Effective Fall Semester 2006-2007

Promotions Effective Fall 2006-2007

Administrator Emeritus

Adjunct Faculty 2006-2007

Quarterly Internal Audit Report

Facilities and Planning – Construction Projects

**Quarterly Division Reports**

**Budget**

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dr. Murray extended congratulations to the new officers for the coming year. Dr. Murray also thanked the Council for their support and vote of confidence during his tenure as Chair.

Mr. Blair acknowledged Dr. Murray's wonderful work as Chair of the Council and thanked him for his leadership. Mr. Blair also welcomed Scott McCaskey and looks forward to his officially joining the Council in September. Mr. Blair thanked President Smith for his outstanding leadership, "a great leader, a great visionary." He ended with congratulations to Ms. Vessella and best wishes in her role as Chair.

Dr. Peterson commented on the engaging meetings and the very good work of the Council. Everyone feels comfortable and confident in sharing his or her thoughts and this makes for wonderful collaboration. He also thanked Dennis Murray for his leadership this past year.

Mr. Taylor thanked Dr. Murray for his leadership as Chair. He congratulated Ms. Vessella and Ms. Hawkins in their elected roles as Chair and Secretary to the Council. He also extended congratulations to President Smith for a job well done.

Dr. Marcus commented on the exceptional work of the Council and was most impressed with the engaging conversations in the morning sessions. He thanked President Smith for his leadership.

Ms. Vessella extended best wishes to everyone on the Council and looks forward to her role as Chair.

Mr. DeRosa extended thanks to Dr. Murray for his leadership this past year as Council Chair. .

Ms. Hawkins thanked Dr. Murray for his leadership and congratulated President Smith for his continued outstanding leadership to Slippery Rock University.

With no further business, the Friday, June 9, 2006 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:35 p.m. Dr. Marcus moved, Dr. Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.