

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

October 5-6, 2017

The quarterly business meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held Friday, October 6, 2017, in room 321 of the Robert M. Smith Student Center. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by William McCarrier, chair.

Recording of Attendance

Trustees present: Dr. Alfonso Angelucci, Mr. Tom Breth, Mr. Matt Lautman, Mr. Jeff Smith, Mr. William McCarrier, Ms. Suzanne Vessella, Mr. Robert Taylor, Ms. Monica Traggiai, Mr. Richard Wukich, Senator Mary Jo White

Trustees absent: Mr. Matt Shaner

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Trustee Lautman moved, second by Trustee Angelucci, approval of the Friday, October 6, 2017 meeting agenda. Motion carries. Agenda approved. (TAB 16) (Appendix A)

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Traggiai moved, second by Trustee Wukich, approval of the June 9, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carries. Minutes approved. (TAB 17) (Appendix B)

Trustee Lautman moved, second by Trustee Smith, approval of the September 11, 2017 special meeting minutes. Motion carries. Minutes approved. (TAB 18) (Appendix C)

Presentations

Ms. Deanna Brookens instructor, Theatre Department, introduced Anna Roe, who performed Not for the Life of Me” from Thoroughly Modern Millie and Alex Scabis who performed “You’ll Be Back” from Hamilton.

Public Comments

Rachel Lawler, Student Government Association President

Good afternoon Council. For those of you who may not know me, my name is Rachel Lawler and I am the President of the Slippery Rock Student Government Association. I am also a Senior Exercise Science major with a minor in Leadership. Thank you for allowing me to speak today on behalf of the SRS GA.

This past month has been extremely busy for our student government leaders. Senators and Executive Board members have worked very diligently with planning events, funding pre-existing

clubs and organizations with capital budget items of about \$37,000, recognizing newly established clubs and organizations, increasing our activity on social media, and being present and supporting other student leaders at their meetings and events.

More specifically, this week alone, SGA elected 10 new members to senate and we have full confidence that they will succeed and bring fresh ideas to our organization. Scott Vogelgesang, the VP of Student and Academic Affairs launched the annual Student Life Survey on CORE. The purpose of this survey is to evaluate any student concerns on campus and to allow them to vocalize what they think can be improved at SRU. Also, yesterday concluded SGA's Student Safety week, where various programs were held to promote and prepare students for various emergency situations. These programs included, "Stop the Bleed" sponsored by Greek Life, Campus Crawl, First Aid and Cardiac Emergency sponsored by B4 it's 2 late and a campus safety discussion sponsored by the Women's Center.

Coming up, we will be hosting a Blood Drive in the Smith Student Center Ballroom on October 26 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. with the American Red Cross. In order to make this event a success, there are plans to reach out to many students and clubs and organizations for blood donations, as well as volunteers. In addition, the Outreach Committee is working on our Homecoming float, the theme for the float is, the pianist, Elton John since the overall theme for Homecoming is "Rock the World." Also, next weekend, myself and two other SGA members will be attending the Board of Student Government President's Conference at Kutztown University. There we will spend time with other student governments within the PASSHE System, sharing what we do at each other institutions and attending various leadership lessons.

With continuing our efforts of promoting an inclusive and supportive environment for all student within the SRU community, the Social Justice Committee has collaborated with the Office for Inclusive Excellence with a social media campaign bringing awareness to social justice issues and posting various facts or statistics regarding social justice, utilizing the hashtag #srusocialjustice

Lastly, regarding the presidential candidates, some of our executive board members have been present at both the student and open sessions. We have shared our thoughts with student trustee Traggiai regarding the three candidates for SRU's next president. Trustee Traggiai, I urge you to take our thoughts into consideration when casting your vote later today.

Again, thank you for your time and consideration. Have an enjoyable weekend!

Riley Keffer

I am the Vice President of Finance for SRSGA. I appreciate the opportunity to speak before you today. In addition to my leadership in SGA, I am also active in a number of other groups. Lastly, I am a proud legacy student at Slippery Rock University. As a student leader who attended the sessions of all three candidates as well as having consulted with other students who were also present, we the students are not entirely confident in one candidate being the best decision for the presidency of Slippery Rock University. In our opinion, a president should possess:

1. A strong academic background
2. Experience with a residential campus and the student culture it promotes
3. Experience elevating a university that is already successful in the areas of enrollment, academics, finances, athletics, and many more

4. Proactive in promoting an inclusive environment
5. Knowledge about issues that students face and the related policy
6. Strong presence to communicate with the Board of Governors
7. Passion for SRU

Thank you for your time.

Dr. Joan Duval Flynn
PA State President, NAACP

Good Afternoon, trustees. It is my pleasure to be with you all today and I thank you for this opportunity to speak. A special thank you to Trustee Wukich, who was very kind inviting me to attend the meeting today. My name is Joan Duval Flynn, and I am the President of the NAACP for the state of Pennsylvania. We are the oldest civil rights organization in the country. We are 10,000 members strong in Pennsylvania. We are pleased to work with students at Slippery Rock University to re-organize a student chapter. As members of the NAACP, students will have the opportunity to engage in thoughtful discussions and address concerns important to our society. As an organization, we ask for support from our legislators, and fight for educational funding. We are very pleased to be on the campus of all PASSHE schools.

Formed in 1909, by a multiracial group of progressive thinkers, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is a non-profit organization established with the objective of insuring the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority groups. The NAACP has as its mission the goal of eliminating race prejudice and removing all barriers of racial discrimination through democratic processes.

As the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, the NAACP has worked successfully with allies of all races who believe in and stand for the principles on which the organization was founded. Throughout its history, some of America's greatest minds have worked to effect change.

It is my pleasure to be on campus. Thank you for your time.

Chair McCarrier thanked Dr. Duval Flynn for her comments and extended best wishes on the organization's future endeavors.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Interim President Philip K. Way shared the Report of the President (**Appendix D**)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee (Agenda, Appendix E)

Trustee Smith, chair of the Governance Committee, reported the activities of the Governance Committee.

The Governance Committee met this morning at 10:00 a.m. and discussed a number of informational items and had two action items for Council consideration and approval.

The first item was approval of the PACT Dues (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). PACT is the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees. The membership dues are in the amount of \$3,500 and assist with funding attendance for two professional workshops held annually in Harrisburg.

Trustee Wukich moved, second by Trustee Smith, recommended approval to pay the PACT Dues and vote on the item at the business meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The second item was approval of the recommendation from the Presidential Search Committee to move the names of two presidential search candidates forward to the full Council for consideration and vote.

Dr. Bruce Murphy
Dr. Amir Mohammadi

Mr. Breth moved, second by Mr. Lautman, to send the recommended candidates to the full board for consideration.

Jeff Smith	yes	Robert Taylor	yes
Senator Mary Jo White	yes	Thomas Breth	yes
Matt Lautman	yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

In other business, Ms. Monica Traggiai, provided an update to the student trustee selection process. Monica is graduating in December, so her time on the Council will soon end, but not before she chairs the committee to find her replacement.

The student trustee is appointed by the Governor following an interview process at the University level and approved through the Chancellor's Office.

Candidates must be:

- A full-time undergraduate student in good academic standing at the sophomore or above level;
- Enrolled for at least 12 semester hours at the institution which he/she is a trustee;
- Understands the role is an honor, a privilege and a significant responsibility, and is in partnership and in support of the University President and the Administration;
- Is engaged in the SRU community and brings an understanding and knowledge about the student body, and is curious to listen, to learn, to think critically and objectively, and to ask questions.

Two open sessions were conducted: Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2017 @ 12:30 p.m., Commuter Lounge, Smith Student Center and Friday, Oct. 6, 2017 @ 11:30 a.m., Commuter Lounge, Smith Student Center. Interviews will be conducted on Nov. 10. The committee is charged with selecting three candidates to be interviewed by the University President. The President interviews the finalists and selects the candidate to be interviewed by System officials and, if approved, the name is forwarded to the Governor's Office.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee (Agenda, Appendix F)

Senator White provided the Academic and Student Affairs Committee report.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting was called to order yesterday at 3:30 p.m. One item was brought forward for Council review and action.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting program proposal was presented by Ms. Rebecca Morrice, Associate Professor and Dr. David Skeelee, Professor of Theatre.

The proposed BFA in Acting degree at Slippery Rock University will be a unique program in the PASSHE system in that it will be the only NAST-accredited, BFA in Acting Professional training program. The BFA in Acting program will offer two areas of concentration: theatre performance and musical theatre performance. BFA students will hone their skills in musicianship and theory, intermediate/advanced dance techniques, advanced vocal training, and musical auditioning skills. They will also complete advanced studies in the history of musical theatre.

Trustees approved the program to move forward for full consideration by the board.

Dr. Amanda Yale, Associate Provost for Enrollment Services, presented an enrollment update. Amanda shared the very good news that applications and deposits are up! We can attribute this positive report to the incredible work of Amanda and her enrollment management team, the new graduate programs, and the collective recruiting efforts of the campus community. Congratulations to Amanda and her team for a job well done!

This concludes my report.

Finance Committee (Agenda, Appendix G)

Trustee Breth chairs the Finance Committee and reported committee activities. Trustee Breth thanked Trustee Angelucci for presiding over the committee meeting in his absence. The committee met yesterday at 2:30 p.m. to review a number of items for action and information.

Dr. Amir Mohammadi and Ms. Molly Mercer presented the budget proposal for FY '17 -18 that will be voted on later in this meeting. Dr. Mohammadi and Mr. Scott Albert provided the SRU Campus Master Planning update. Dr. Mohammadi shared the portfolio of Dumontjanks, the company providing design and planning expertise for the campus. Meetings were held Oct. 18 & 19 with campus and community constituents to present the project timeline and gather data and information to keep the project moving forward.

Dr. Mohammadi also provided information related to parking. The Student Government Association is taking the lead on addressing the parking issues with the administration.

Following presentations and further discussion, all action items were moved forward for consideration by the full board.

Items brought forward for action:

- 2017/2018 Proposed Budget
- Contracts
- Fixed Assets
- Service & Supply Purchase Orders

Information items included the monthly financial report, the facilities and planning project list and personnel items.

This concludes my report.

University Advancement Committee (Agenda, Appendix H)

Trustee Robert Taylor chairs the University Advancement Committee.

The University Advancement Committee met at 1 p.m. Thursday, October 5, 2017. Dr. Ed Bucha, executive director and Ms. Samantha Swift, director of development for the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc., provided updates. Dr. Bucha provided an overview of the structures and operations of the Foundation Board and Alumni Board.

There was very good discussion at the meeting with conversation centering around how to increase the fundraising and friend-raising aspects of the University. With state appropriation continually decreasing, we are responsible for developing innovative ways to bring private dollars to the institution.

Special thanks to Dr. Mohammadi and Mr. McIntire for providing data points and helpful information for the discussion.

Dr. Bucha provided fiscal and activity updates:

- Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. total net assets were \$33,191,239 as of June 30, 2017. The investment portfolio totaled \$28.7 million on June 30, 2017.
- SRUF Campus Housing Inc. and subsidiary net assets were \$1,345,820 as of June 30, 2017.
- 2016-2017 Financial Statements and Audits were completed and submitted within PASSHE established timeframes. The Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. received its 32nd consecutive clean opinion from an independent CPA firm.
- The SRUF Student Housing LLC Budget and Operating Plan are in place for 2017-2018. The Residence Suites are at 98% occupancy for the fall semester. Board members are considering the ESCO opportunity.

Ms. Swift provided the final report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017:

- Gift Income totaled \$2,704,806.
- Gift officers conducted 443 visits with donors and prospects.
- 297 proposals were presented resulting in five new endowed scholarships and the funding of 18 new or increased annual scholarships.
- 457 constituents contributed \$1,000 or more to SRU thereby becoming members of The Founders' Society.
- Five new charitable gift annuities were established totaling \$135,000 – representing the most annuities ever established in a fiscal year.
- A commitment of \$500,000 was secured for the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center improvements.

Ms. Swift delivered an update on the current fiscal year:

- Gift Income as of September 30, 2017 was \$520,000.
- Gift Income resulting from Sunset Serenade totaled \$140,000.

- Development officers are actively traveling and meeting with constituents. Their focus includes donor discovery, cultivation, and stewardship.

Additional topics presented include:

- A detailed review of the 2017-18 Development Plan
- To secure a minimum of \$2.7 million to support Slippery Rock University and its priorities.
- Expand development activities to support institutional priorities such as scholarship and financial aid, programmatic initiatives and capital projects.
- Expand the Annual Giving Program through crowdfunding, targeted direct mail campaigns and focused Phonathon strategies.
- Increase awareness of gift planning opportunities in order to secure and document additional planned gifts such as charitable gift annuities, trusts, and bequests.
- Identify and cultivate additional prospects from all Slippery Rock University constituencies through enhanced prospect research, donor cultivation, and stewardship.
- Develop and implement enhanced procedures and processes to advance the fundraising program.
- Continue to plan and prepare for implementation of a major comprehensive fundraising campaign.

This concludes my report.

Executive Session (Agenda, Appendix I)

Council met this morning in executive session with Interim President Way.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

2017-2018 Proposed Budget (TAB 6) Appendix J

Trustee Breth moved, second by Senator White, approval of the 2017-2018 Proposed Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Angelucci commended Dr. Mohammadi and his staff on the fine work in preparing the budget information for Council review and approval.

Contracts (TAB 7), Fixed Assets, (TAB 8), Service and Supply Purchase Orders, (TAB 9) Appendix K

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee Wukich, approval of the Contracts, Fixed Assets, and Service and Supply Purchase Orders. Motion carried unanimously.

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting (TAB 10) Appendix L

MOTION: The Council of Trustees at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania approve the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting to move forward to the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education for final approval. Senator White moved, second by Trustee Traggiai. Motion carried unanimously.

PACT Dues (TAB 11) Appendix M

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Lautman, approval of the PACT Dues (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation of Presidential Search Candidates (TAB 12)

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Breth, approval of the Presidential Search Committees recommendation to move the following two candidates forward to the Board of Governors:

Dr. Bruce Murphy
Dr. Amir Mohammadi

Senator White moved, second by Trustee Taylor, calling for the question:

Roll call Vote: 6 in favor; 4 opposed. Motion carries.

Trustee Angelucci	No	Trustee Traggiai	Yes
Trustee Breth	Yes	Trustee Vessella	No
Trustee Lautman	Yes	Senator Mary Jo White	Yes
Trustee Smith	Yes	Trustee Wukich	No
Trustee Taylor	No	Trustee McCarrier	Yes

Recommendation to move forward the names of Dr. Bruce Murphy and Dr. Amir Mohammadi to the Board of Governors for further consideration.

Roll Call Vote: 5 in favor, 5 opposed. Motion fails.

Trustee Angelucci	No	Trustee Traggiai	No
Trustee Breth	Yes	Trustee Vessella	No
Trustee Lautman	Yes	Senator Mary Jo White	Yes
Trustee Smith	Yes	Trustee Wukich	No
Trustee Taylor	No	Trustee McCarrier	Yes

Trustee Taylor moved, second by Trustee Vessella. MOTION: that the Chairman of the Council of Trustees consistent with all the rules and regulations of *BOG Policy 1983-13-A Process for Recommending Presidential Appointment* shall reconstitute a new search committee for the purpose of selecting a President for Slippery Rock University.

Roll Call Vote: 4 in favor; 6 opposed. Motion fails.

Trustee Angelucci	Yes	Trustee Traggiai	No
Trustee Breth	No	Trustee Vessella	Yes
Trustee Lautman	No	Senator Mary Jo White	No
Trustee Smith	No	Trustee Wukich	Yes
Trustee Taylor	Yes	Trustee McCarrier	No

Following much discussion among the Council of Trustees, the two recommended candidates did not move forward to the Board of Governors for further consideration.

The Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees voted to extend the search for the next President of Slippery Rock University. There was continued discussion as to the protocol in moving forward with the current search committee. At this point, the current search committee is still in place. The current search committee members will continue their work, if they so desire.

The Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees will convene a special meeting at a later time, once they have guidance from the System Office, with clarification as to how to move the presidential search process forward.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Scheduled SRU Council of Trustees Meeting Dates – 2018

March 22-23, 2018

June 7-8, 2018

Financial Report (TAB 14) (Appendix N)

Facilities and Planning Active Project List (Cabinet Report) (TAB 15) (Appendix O)


HR Personnel Items (TAB 16) (Appendix P)

Divisional Reports (TAB 20)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Suzanne Vessella – thank you, students, for sharing your comments at this meeting.

With no further business, the Friday, October 7, 2017, Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, 

Tina L. Moser, Administrative Liaison to the SRU Council of Trustees