

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

March 18, 2016

The quarterly business meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held Friday, March 18, 2016, in room 321 of the Robert M. Smith Student Center. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Senator Mary Jo White, chairperson.

Recording of Attendance

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

Trustees absent: Mr. Matt Shaner, Dr. Robert Marcus, Dr. Dennis Murray

Senator White welcomed our newly appointed student representative, Monica Traggiai, to Council. "We are delighted to have you with us."

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Senator White called for questions, changes to the Friday, March 18, 2016 meeting agenda. Hearing none, agenda was approved as submitted. **(TAB 18) (Appendix A)**

Approval of Minutes

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee McCarrier, to approve the December 4, 2015 meeting minutes, all were in favor. Minutes were approved as submitted. **(TAB 19)**

Presentations

Student/Faculty Presentation – Programming of the NAO Humanoid Robot

Dr. Sam Thangiah, Professor, Computer Science
Justin Cather, Computer Science, New Sewickley, PA
Zachary Kearney, Computer Science, Pittsburgh, PA
Steve Fulton, Computer Science, Irwin, PA

Award of Excellence – Coach John Papa

2016 Atlantic Region Women's Indoor Track and Field Coach of the Year **(Appendix B)**

Award of Excellence – 2016 Women's Indoor Track Team

2016 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Championship **(Appendix C)**

Video Spotlight – Connect to Success, featuring Justin Brown, SRU Class of 2011

Aaron Moore, Digital Design Director and Nikita Falen, videographer

Public Comments

Senator White welcomed public comments from the audience. Senator White announced individuals to come forward in order as they appeared on the sign-up sheet.

Jenna Temple, Student Government Association Vice President of Internal Affairs (on behalf of Logan Steigerwalt, SGA President)

Thank you, Council of Trustees, for allowing me to come and speak today during your meeting.

Good afternoon, I cannot believe that the Spring Semester is already halfway over. This year is going by so fast. I would like to give you a report of the past quarter involving the SGA and the students of the University. We have been able to accomplish many of our goals and have great ideas for the semester moving forward.

Some of our goals this semester include hosting a leadership conference which is headed by VP of Finance, Michael Farah. This event, with a possible collaboration with the Green and White Society will promote leadership training and opportunities to the students of the university. We will also continue our project positivity at the end of April to promote a more positive atmosphere and environment around the campus and community.

Also at the end of April will be our large outreach event, Spring Fling. With this event, we will be partnering with UPB, ARHS, and HOPE. This event will be a fun opportunity for all students to come out, play some games, eat some food, and meet other students. We are also promoting a “walking campaign.” This campaign will encourage students to walk to campus instead of drive. This is supporting a more fit and healthy campus environment. We have paired with Athletics and the Wellness commission to provide incentives to students including a sneaker and FitBit giveaway.

Next week, we are launching our Campus Safety Week. This is something we are very excited about and feel that it is a great benefit to the students to know about. It will essentially be a week-long series of presentations that will equip students with information about how to handle emergency situations. Monday will be the safety week “kick-off,” where discussions will be held about the importance of student safety, what is going on at other universities in the country and active shooters. Tuesday will also be a presentation on active shooters, and how to combat them. Wednesday will be a RAD self-defense class. Thursday will be a presentation about stalking prevention.

Over the next few weeks, we will be very busy with elections of SGA members for the 2016-2017 academic school year. During this time we encourage any student interested in the organization to apply and run for a position! This is a very exciting time around campus to see the possibility of new leaders arise. Elections will end in mid-April and the new senate will be sworn in following that.

Recently, we have been a part of a dialogue that is allowing the students to be involved with university administration to go over certain ideas and changes happening across the campus. This was all stemmed when plans for the new Student Success Center were brought up. Certain students

were upset with some of the specifics of the plans and asked the administration to reconsider. Before long, the plans were halted and certain offices that were slated to move will be staying in the student center.

Students like to be in the loop and involved in important decisions. Bringing students to the table in certain discussions is definitely a right step moving forward and they are really appreciating the opportunity that they are going to be getting from the administration to sit in and participate in these talks. That being said, we feel as though the conversation is nowhere to being over. Students need to continue to have their voices heard, be involved in major decision making and, most importantly, be respected by the administration. We are glad that there will be student input on the search for the new Associate Provost for Student Success, and also a committee which will go over buildings and renovations.

We feel like this has been a very successful year so far. We accomplished many goals and objectives and we are looking forward to everything that we still have to do for the remainder of our time in office. Advocating for the students is something we strongly support and will continue to do during our time in office.

Thank you for allowing me to speak in front of you all today and I will now answer any questions you may have. Although I am not the President, I do work very closely with Logan and will try to answer any questions you may have.

Senator White commented: "I want to make one observation, a correction, with regard to the Student Success Center. That was not a plan, what was put out there was a feasibility study, and there is a big difference, a long way between a feasibility study and a plan for a project. There will be plenty of time for all people concerned to have input into this project. We are looking at 4-5 years before it would come to be realized. I applaud the President for moving this project forward, as SRU with this growth, could utilize this space. I would suspect most universities are always looking for more opportunities for space, so this is a very good problem to have. We will make sure that everybody has a say in the project. Thank you, Jenna. Good job."

Alex Rizzutto, SRU graduate student

My name is Alex Rizzutto, I am a first-year graduate student in the Student Affairs program. I have a lot to say but for time's sake, I am going to attempt to be brief.

There is a continued lack of communication between this university's upper administration and the departments of Student Affairs on this campus. The preferred mode of communication has been one in which a message or decision is passed from the top of the hierarchy down to the bottom, without the desire or recognized need for input or feedback from the students, or from the staff and faculty who are in direct contact with those students. To me, this exemplifies the extent of the upper administration's disregard toward student affairs offices and the students inside them. A prime example of this can be seen with the proposed move of the Office of Multicultural Development, Veteran's Center, Women's Center, and the Pride Center to the future Student Success Center in the University Union, but I will not speak on that at this time because I assume one of my fellow students likely will, either way I strongly encourage you to read the past four editions of the Rocket that describe the issue. My example of the upper administration's lack of caring and communication comes from my own personal experience this past year. I work as a graduate assistant in the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, an office that lost two professional staff members last

semester. Laurel Dagnon, the old Director for Service Learning and Volunteerism retired in October. Brad Kovalski, the old Director for Involvement and Leadership, had announced his decision to leave November 24th, and he officially left January 6th. Those positions have yet to be officially listed, and it was only this past Wednesday, March 16th that any evidence of a job description had been completed and shared with the staff of our office. The office I signed up to work in turned into an office with only two experienced professional staff members. Although both of them are fantastic, I and my fellow graduate assistants have been left to pick up the slack. Now I, a student, am essentially paying money to do more work due to the upper Administration's ignorance of this issue. I'm taking out loans to pay for my food and my housing, making roughly 400 dollars a month, and paying over 1800 dollars a semester in student fees. I don't feel as though this administration cares about me when they actively take advantage of the cheap labor I am providing through their continued lack of desire to fill those salaried positions. Had they asked or at least listened to our attempts to communicate, they would have heard how vital those people and positions were and are to our office, and how the search should have begun immediately upon the exiting staff's announced decision to leave, instead myself and my co-workers have been left to pick up the pieces. That's not to say that I am not grateful for Dr. Brad Wilson and Dr. Chris Cole, who are both great professionals, but to suggest that they could adequately fill Brad Kovalski's place while already completing their extensive responsibilities as Associate Provost and Director of the Smith Student Center is an insult to the incredible amount of work Brad Kovalski did for our office and this university. It would take a considerable amount of time for the person in that full-time position to become nearly as effective as Brad was, and that timeline has continued to be delayed by not listing that position, thus delaying the time until our office can get back to the standard of work that we, and our students, are accustomed to.

Another big issue is the distinct lack of appreciation and undervaluing of those who hold Student Affairs degrees. There is currently no one consulting with the president on student issues that is an expert on the developmental and societal issues students go through. Although the president and her cabinet would likely argue that they are capable, they are not trained the same way a student affairs professional is, nor are they near us students often enough to have the pulse of what's really happening. That does not add up to me. I can propose to put someone in that cabinet with a Student Affairs background but that is not enough. There needs to be someone with a Student Affairs background in that cabinet who will be listened to, who will vouch for the voices of the students, and the voices of staff who have direct contact with those students. I emphasize this valuing of voice because Warren Anderson, the old Associate Provost of Student Success, had that experience and background, but his voice and opinion were so frequently discarded that it ultimately led him to resign. The President and her staff have justified that these positions that directly supervise Student Affairs can be done just as well by someone with a business or academic background. This sends me a message that contradicts the one I heard when signing up for this program. It tells me that what I am studying is not important, valued, and definitely not something the current administration believes in. These comments tell me that the well over 50 hours a week I spend studying, working, volunteering in my classes and graduate assistantship will be worthless upon my graduation. These comments imply that anyone who doesn't have a Student Affairs degree can just as well recognize the appropriate measures needed to be taken to develop our students outside of the classroom, it implies that they possess the interpersonal skills to put a student at ease during a difficult conversation, and that they have the trained ability to multitask issues that range from advising, counseling, project planning, strategic planning, assessment coordination and everything else that is being taught to us by the distinguished faculty in our department. When my classmates and I talk in class, we talk about our dreams of one day becoming a Provost, Vice President, or President of a university, and then we leave class and come into contact with our own administration who, through

their actions, imply that our degree of study will not be valued enough to reach those positions. Student Affairs is an academic discipline in its own right, we are content experts in students, organizational management, culture, and how those variables impact one another. No one can do what we do the way we do it. We need our administration to not only say they understand that knowledge, but to act on it.

One such issue on this campus that could be improved by a further inclusion of Student Affairs professionals at the cabinet level is Diversity. We study Diversity extensively in our degree program. Had there been a professional in the President's cabinet who has received the same education on Diversity that I currently am, perhaps the retention rates of under-represented minority students would not have dropped the way they have as is to be described by my friend and classmate DeWayne Anderson. I wonder if the positions of the Chief Diversity Officer, the assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Development, or the Assistant Director of the Women's Center would not have been cut, had there been an SA professional in upper administration that understood the value of these positions. The message sent by eliminating the positions I just mentioned is that this university does not care about diversity. The rationalization for removing these positions, shared again in Tuesday's forum, was that diversity is everyone's business. To quote Dr. Norton, "Diversity is the responsibility of the community, not one person". But when something is everybody's business, it becomes nobody's business. It becomes something that takes the backseat to the primary duties of University staff. It turns into an afterthought comforted by the belief that "everyone else" in the university is working on it as well. Who is coordinating efforts for our university's Diversity initiatives? Are they aptly trained in these matters to the extent that someone with a Student Affairs degree is? What happened to the actual diversity and inclusion series? What happened to ongoing diversity training for faculty and staff? What happened to the university diversity strategic plan? Who is coordinating efforts to recruit a diverse staff, faculty, and student body? No one. A one-time "Courageous Conversation" does not do justice to the diverse student populations found at Slippery Rock. Actions speak louder than words and the lack of action taken for diverse populations significantly contradict the words spoken regarding this university's appreciation and attention to Diversity. I assure you that the students on this campus can recognize and feel that contradiction. Diversity cannot be everyone's business and it needs to be emphasized at each level of our university's structure.

As I said before, I have a lot to say, not all of which I could fit into this presentation. This speech was originally a fourteen-page paper that even had academic research behind it, but it took me well over 30 minutes to read that. I will gladly email you a copy if you desire. Thank you for taking the time to listen to me.

Senator White suggested that Alex submit the 14-page paper to the President's Office so the information is distributed to trustees.

Dwayne Anderson, graduate assistant, Academic Services

I am a graduate student in the Office of Academic Services. I have many points to cover, [but will condense my message in the time allotted]. The main focus of my message is regarding retention rates and I have documentation to support my message.

Speech Guide for Council Trustees Meeting- "Retention Rates"

Retention rate from fall to spring of our URM students. Fall 2015 fall to spring retention dropped from 92.4% last year to 88.0% this year. This is the first year since this data has been kept that we have gone below 90%. So since 2007, our minority retention rate from fall to spring is at its lowest.

(Minority Students) Pell eligible- fall to spring retention for this group is down. This year 88.6% compared to 92.1% last year. Total of 3.5%. This is the lowest it has been since this data has been tracked in the beginning in 2007.

Senator White asked for the total number of students, because the overall number would significantly impact the percentages. Mr. Anderson stated that he only had percentages, not the total number of students.

NRA (Non Resident Alien) (International) This is a total of new students and their retention from fall to spring. In fall of 2015 we had 14 new international students and retained 11 of them for this spring semester. This basically just gives you an idea of how many international students we have on campus.

“These numbers are not saying that the retention for our international population is perfect but as you can see, we are losing sight of our domestic minority population because the numbers are at their lowest since 2007.”

Points to Touch on:

- Chief of Diversity Officer - this position was eliminated and focused on our domestic minority population.
- Too much focus on International Students. I am not saying that it is not important to have our international population, however, we are losing focus on our domestic students, particularly our minority students.
- Staffing for the Office of Global Engagement- 3 full time staff members, 1 interim coordinator for travel abroad, 2 secretaries, and 1 temporary staff member. Academic Services office has 1 faculty member (Lorraine Craven) and 1 graduate Assistant (DeWayne Anderson).
- “It’s important to have a diverse student body and international students are a part of that, but when you lose the focus on diversity and inclusion for our domestic student population, how can we effectively have an enriching diverse student body that appreciates each other when there is no focus on diversity and inclusion.”
- “We focus heavily on International students (funds, staff, and attention) and we are taking the focus off minority students as a whole.” I am not implying that we should take the focus off international students.
- Domestic Minority student population is much larger than the international population.
- Mission and Strategic plan: Goal 1 of the University Strategic Plan focuses on diversity of our student population, but we are emphasizing international students and losing focus of our domestic minority population of students.
- Lack of Staff in offices who deal with diverse students (Examples: OMD or Academic Services). As an example, we have worked with 60 – 62 minority students and only 3-4 have a GPA of lower than 2.0, so this shows that we work very hard to retain our students. But we could do more if we had more staff, two additional graduate assistants and a student worker would benefit this area.
- If we had more [programming and initiatives] we could have more successful academic success for URM students- FYTS is an example.

Following Mr. Anderson's remarks, Senator White called for questions or comments from the floor.

President Norton commented, "I just would like to say that we couldn't agree with you more, that more hands on deck helps with retention and the hiring of student success coaches, which is our goal, would be helpful not only immediately, but into the future. Since 2013 we have increased the domestic minority student population by 35%, so we have increased the numbers. We are also concerned as to why the retention rates from fall to spring of this year have reduced, we do not know what is exactly behind that, including the absolute number, but we need to go back and look to see what is causing that retention drop. We have been recognized nationally for our retention rate of minority populations. In fact, we were just recognized in December in the top 14% in the country for being successful in how we deal with minorities, not only to take the opportunities offered, but to successfully graduate from this institution. Sometimes you get an anomaly, the key is, what can we do to fix it.?"

Senator White commented that this is an issue across the state system – everybody is looking at retention across the board, and particularly at our minority populations.

Gabriella Lyons, SRU undergraduate student

First, I would like to thank the board of trustees for letting me speak with you today. I am Gabriella Lyons and I am here to talk about my concerns regarding the lack of transparency that has been brought to the attention of students in the past several weeks. We have formed a committee of concerned students who wanted to bring your attention to the current administrations lack of honesty, clarity, and respect for student voices. President Norton has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday the 23rd to address some of these issues, but we think it is absolutely necessary that you are aware of the events of the past few weeks.

There was a breakdown in communication within the administration which resulted in Provost Way misinforming SGA of proposed changes regarding the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership and the Center for Student Success. Since then our committee has attempted to prevent those changes from taking place and address the underlying issues which allowed this mistake to occur in the first place. While we were successful in our attempt to prevent the unwanted changes, we have been unable to properly address our concerns about transparency, honesty, respect, and student inclusion.

This past Tuesday, we attempted to address President Norton in an open forum setting to redirect the conversation from the particular plans of the Student Services and Success Center and to instead focus on the break down in communications. Unfortunately, we do not feel as if the president truly understood our concerns. Our focus is trained on returning the voice to the students of SRU and the pattern of top down decision making perpetrated by our current administration since the absence of a VP for student affairs as a cabinet level position and which has only increased as more and more administrators resigned since then. At the moment we feel as if the administration either does not care or does not understand what the real problem is here and as trustees, the committee believes it is truly imperative you are aware of what is going on from the students' perspectives.

Trustee Taylor posed a question... "are you implying that there has been some incident in terms of lack of communication and a manager's resignation because of that?"

Ms. Lyon, “there have been administrators who have specially said that they resigned because of the lack of communication between administrators and students. I don’t know that he would be comfortable with me giving his name.”

Trustee Taylor, “I heard Dr. Norton in executive session this morning tell us that no student group is going to be moving into a particular building against their will, whether the Student Success Center or anywhere else. A feasibility study is a feasibility study, not the end of a planning process, but the beginning. I am relying on Dr. Norton’s word as she is telling us that nobody is going to be forced to move.”

Ms. Lyons, “this is not what we are focusing on today, what we are concerned with is the lack of communication that brought us to this place. That is our underlying concern.”

President Norton, “thank you very much, thanks to all the students for sharing with us how you feel and voicing your concerns. We obviously come to positions with different perspectives. I do think diversity is everybody’s business, I do. I think it makes not for only a richer environment, but a more respectful one. There is quite a bit of knowledge base and respect for student life and student affairs professionals at the upper level of administration. To give you one example, our Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs, has a strong background in student affairs, having served as assistant vice president and vice president of student affairs, director of the student union, director of food services, etc. Now he is a CFO. These experiences from a student affairs perspective incorporates all of that knowledge and helps to inform the operations of a university.”

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Cheryl J. Norton provided remarks (**Appendix D**)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Governance Committee (Agenda, Appendix E)

Trustee Jeff Smith, chair, provided the following report:

This morning we met in committee and the following items were addressed:

Two action items were brought forward:

The Governance Committee serves as the evaluation committee for the President’s Evaluation and brought forward a letter of recommendation for Council review and approval. The full board will vote on this item at the business meeting.

The Governance Committee also approved the quarterly business meeting dates through June, 2017:

September 22 & 23, 2016
December 8 & 9, 2016
March 23 & 24, 2017
June 8 & 9, 2017

Also shared as information were calendar mentions for fall/winter 2016 and spring/summer 2017. This concludes my report.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee (Agenda, Appendix F)

Trustee Matt Lautman chairs the Academic and Student Affairs Committee

The committee met yesterday at 1:30 p.m. to review one new academic program to be approved by Council to move forward to the Board of Governors for final approval. Trustee Lautman indicated that trustees appreciate the history/background of programs that are on the agenda for review. He is asking that information is provided in advance of meetings, including letters of support.

Dr. Christy Crute, associate professor, Mathematics and Statistics, presented the program review for the Bachelor of Industrial & Systems Engineering. Trustee Tom Breth moved, seconded by Trustee Jeff Smith, approval to move the program forward to the full board for consideration and final recommendation to move to the Board of Governors.

President Norton presented the DRAFT 2016 Action Plan highlighting programs of distinction, new and emerging academic programs, budget realignment highlights, enrollment focus and emerging opportunities and challenges. President Norton will present the draft action plan at the April Board of Governor's meeting.

Trustee Lautman commented that he received an anonymous letter from a concerned parent regarding the challenges the student is having with basic skills testing through the College of Education. Dr. Way provided background on the issue and suggested a presentation by Dr. Keith Dils, dean, College of Education, at the Council of Trustees meeting in June.

This concludes my report.

Finance Committee (Agenda, Appendix G)

Trustee Breth reported committee activities of the Finance Committee. The committee met yesterday at 2:00 p.m. to review a number of items for action and information. In addition to the routine items, there was a presentation on the Financial Risk Assessment by Ms. Lois Johnson, associate vice chancellor, PASSHE Office of Administration and Finance. There were also presentations by Dr. Amir Mohammadi, Scott Albert, and Molly Mercer on energy savings initiatives (ESCO), the Capital Budget, and Bond Financing.

Trustee Breth commented that PASSHE completes a financial risk assessment for all 14 universities. SRU was third best in risk assessment last year, moved to second this year. The overall financial picture of Slippery Rock University is heading in the right direction and there was significant movement in improving the risk assessment.

Trustee McCarrier moved, seconded by Trustee Breth approval to move action items forward for consideration by the full board.

Items for information and action:

- Action items:
 - Capital Budget
 - Bond Financing

Food Service CPI Adjustment
 SGA Letter of Support
 Contracts
 Fixed Assets
 Service & Supply Purchase Orders
 SRUF Student Housing LLC

- Information Items:
 Financial Report
 Facilities and Planning Project List
 HR Personnel Items
 ESCO

Trustee Taylor asked for clarification regarding the AVI contract specifications.

Deb Pincek was called upon from the audience to address the question related to the dining services contract. The AVI contract is a 5-year contract with an option of five one-year renewals. The contract renewal for the 2016-17 year is the second year of the one-year options. The contract is effective June 1 – May 31.

AVI is very receptive to student comments and concerns. We have had a reduced number of concerns this past year from student evaluations of our dining services. We've completed assessments of overall satisfaction to address student concerns regarding menu options and service hours with direct student input. We will be completing an overall satisfaction survey next month. My staff is customer-service oriented and works collaboratively with our students and community members to offer positive dining experiences on campus. The CPI of 2.56% is a reasonable increase.

University Advancement Committee (Agenda, Appendix H)

The University Advancement Committee met at 4:00 p.m. yesterday in room 320 of the Robert M. Smith Student Center. Following a presentation by Dee Jay Oshry, development consultant, Ed Bucha and Samantha Swift provided the following updates for the committee.

Mr. Dee Jay Oshry of Oshry Development Consulting presented the results of an internal development assessment study he conducted to determine the fundraising potential of a major gifts campaign for Slippery Rock University.

Gift Income as of the end of the most recent quarter (December 31, 2015) totaled \$1,453,350. Gift income as of February 29th totaled \$1,760,234 million.

Dr. Bucha reviewed The Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. Balance Sheet Summary, Statement of Income and Expenses Summary, and Investment Portfolio Summary. Assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2015, totaled \$29,777,418. The market value of the investment portfolio remained static, increasing \$33,361 at the close of the December 2015 quarter compared to the same timeframe of the prior year.

Dr. Bucha reviewed the new financing structure for the Residence Suites Debt Service. A loan financed through the USDA Rural Community Development Program in the amount of \$120 million was settled on January 13, 2016, at a fixed rate of 3.125 percent. The Foundation expects to

save \$1.4 million in debt service payments annually resulting in increased surplus funds, increased funding for scholarships, and the ability to maintain reasonable Residence Suites lease rates for students.

Ms. Swift updated the committee on development activities, noting travel by Development Officers to Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, Texas, Virginia, and Pennsylvania to provide donor stewardship, cultivation, and discovery. As a result of their efforts three new endowed scholarships were created, 14 annual scholarships were created or increased, a newly identified \$10,000 Gala sponsorship prospect signed on, and 246 donors are now Founders' Society Members this fiscal year.

Ms. Swift discussed the Celebration of Giving stewardship event held December 5th. She also commented on preparation for the April 2nd Scholarship Stewardship Luncheon, the Rock Football Golf Outing on April 23rd, and the Women's Athletic Golf Outing on June 10th.

Council of Trustees members are encouraged to mark their calendars for the May 21st President Scholarship Gala. Development officers are actively soliciting sponsorships, donations and auction items for the premier fundraising event. All proceeds will directly support student scholarships.

Executive Session (TAB 4) (Appendix H1)

Council met this morning in executive session with President Norton.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering (TAB 6) Appendix I

Motion: That the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania approve the Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering to move forward to the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education for final approval. Trustee Lautman moved, second by Trustee Breth. Motion carried unanimously.

Capital Budget (TAB 7) Appendix J

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee Smith, approval of the Capital Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Bond Financing (TAB 8) Appendix K

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee Traggiai, approval of the bond financing. Motion carried unanimously.

Food Services CPI Adjustment (TAB 9) Appendix L

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee Smith, approval of the Food Services CPI Adjustment.

Roll Call Vote: 6 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion carries.

Trustee Breth	Yes	Trustee Traggiai	Yes
Trustee Lautman	Yes	Trustee Smith	Yes
Senator White	Yes	Trustee Taylor	No
Trustee McCarrier	Yes	Trustee Vessella	No

Trustee Breth commented that the University has taken great steps in freezing student fees in a time of budgetary challenges. We would ask that AVI consider doing the same and offer a freeze in 2017-18. Council would welcome such a response from our dining services partner.

Contracts, Fixed Assets, Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TABS 10, 11, 12)

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee McCarrier approval of Contracts. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix M)

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee McCarrier approval of Fixed Assets. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix N)

Trustee Breth moved, second by Trustee McCarrier approval of Service and Supply Purchase Orders. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix O)

SRUF Student Housing LLC (TAB 13) Appendix P

Trustee McCarrier moved, second by Trustee Smith approval of the SRUF Student Housing LLC.

Roll Call Vote: 3 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstained. Motion fails.

Trustee Breth	Abstain	Trustee Traggiai	No
Trustee Lautman	No	Trustee Smith	Yes
Senator White	Yes	Trustee Taylor	No
Trustee McCarrier	Yes	Trustee Vessella	No

Senator White reiterated that this resolution recognizes the SRUF Student Housing LLC as an affiliated entity.

Robert Taylor commented the bond issue is a great deal and I would endorse the bond issue, however, I do not understand this legal entity we are to be affiliated with.

Dr. Ed Bucha, executive director of SRU Foundation, offered that he can provide information about this agreement in writing from legal counsel. Council would welcome that information.

Senator White offered that Council will get more information on this issue.

Evaluation of President Cheryl J. Norton

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Taylor, approval of the Evaluation of President Cheryl J. Norton.

Roll Call Vote: 7 in favor, 1 abstain. Motion carried.

Trustee Breth	Yes	Trustee Traggiai	Yes
Trustee Lautman	Yes	Trustee Smith	Yes
Senator White	Yes	Trustee Taylor	Yes
Trustee McCarrier	Yes	Trustee Vessella	Abstain

Senator White, congratulations to the committee and congratulations to President Norton. The letter is accepted by Council and will move forward to the Chancellor's Office.

Council of Trustees Meeting Dates – 2016-2017

Trustee Smith moved, second by Trustee Breth approval of the Council of Trustees quarterly meeting dates through June, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

September 22 & 23, 2016
 December 8 & 9, 2016
 March 23 & 24, 2017
 June 8 & 9, 2017

INFORMATION ITEMS

Meeting Dates

June 9 & 10, 2016
 September 22 & 23, 2016
 December 8 & 9, 2016
 March 23 & 24, 2017
 June 8 & 9, 2017

Financial Report (TAB 15) (Appendix Q)

Facilities and Planning Active Project List (Cabinet Report) (TAB 16) (Appendix R)

HR Personnel Items (TAB 17) (Appendix S)

Divisional Reports (TAB 20)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

With no further business, the Friday, March 18, 2016 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Tom Breth: Welcome Monica, it is good to have you at the table.

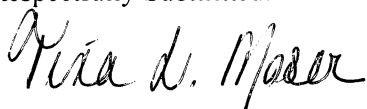
Bill McCarrier: We have had two good days of discussions and actions that will move the university forward.

Bob Taylor: I want to commend Dr. Norton on two very specific achievements over the past few weeks. The first is that I really do believe her explanation of what has transpired with the Student Success Center and her commitment to ensuring the students are engaged in the discussion is obviously sincere. I will take this to the bank and I hope my fellow Council members will as well. The second complement is to Dr. Norton and the administration to come forward and offer no increase in any fees that are not contractually required is a huge accomplishment. The administration sharpened their pencils and figured out how to do this in difficult budgetary times. To not put this on the parents and students is a great accomplishment. This administration has made the concerted effort two out of the past three years to not increase certain fees. Dr. Norton, thank you for leading us in this direction. You obviously have heard the Council on these issues. Thank you to the Council for getting us here.

Senator White: There is a culture of a commitment to affordability and it shows that SRU is one of the more affordable of the System schools. The administration has done this without sacrificing quality and that is a real accomplishment. We want to provide the best quality education at the best price. We are heading in the right direction and at the right pace.

With no further business, the Friday, March 18, 2016 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tina L. Moser". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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