

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

March 9, 2007

The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held in Conference Room 304 of Old Main on Friday, March 9, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Ms. Grace Hawkins, secretary in the absence of Ms. Suzanne Vessella, chairperson.

Attendance

Trustees present: Ms. Grace Hawkins, Dr. Robert Marcus, Mr. Scott McCaskey, Dr. Dennis Murray, Mr. Nick DeRosa, Dr. Van Peterson, Mr. John Thornburgh.

Trustees absent: Mr. Richard Christofer, Mr. Ken Blair, Mr. Robert Taylor, and Ms. Suzanne Vessella

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Dr. Peterson that the minutes of the December 15, 2006 meeting be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Ms. Hawkins gave the audience an opportunity to address the Council at this time. Ms. Amie Homa, President of the Student Rock University Student Government Association (SGA), provided a report of SGA activities.

- Amie announced to Council that she is graduating in May and, therefore, this is her last opportunity to speak to this group as President of SGA.
- Continuing efforts to implement a plan and revive the Rock Rowdies, a fan base on campus. Increased membership in the group and witnessed very good attendance at many events this semester.
- We are in the midst of the SGA elections and this is a busy time for our association. We look forward to an engaging group of new leaders to continue the work of SGA.
- Completed the budget process as well as completing other projects including the senior gift project (new sign at Kiester Road campus entrance).
- SGA is planning an alcohol forum for students later this month to provide education and awareness of the dangers of alcohol consumption.

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

Dr. Robert Watson, interim co-vice president for University Advancement, provided the following report to Council in the absence of Mr. Robert Taylor, Esq., chairperson for the University Advancement Committee.

As of February 20, 2007, The Campaign for Slippery Rock University gifts and pledges totaled \$27.6 million, representing 83.5% of the \$33 million Campaign goal. Gifts received for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 as of February 20 totaled \$1,528,351. 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 February 20, the charitable giving total less the top three gifts was \$1,163,381; and the value of the endowment as of January 31, 2007 was \$20,389,385, a 15.9% increase over last year. The endowment represents the combined totals of the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc., and Slippery Rock University Alumni Association endowments.

The fourth and final building within Phase 1 of the on-campus residence suites will be completed in March 2007 – five months ahead of schedule. The other three Phase 1 buildings maintain a 98.7% occupancy rate for the current academic year. Financing for Phase II will close on March, 2007. Phase II includes two additional on-campus residence halls and 446 additional beds.

The President's Scholarship Gala Committee met on February 15, 2007 to discuss the next Gala scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2008. Committees were assigned and theme suggestions were proposed. The Marriott in Cranberry was selected as the location for the Gala. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2007.

Dr. Robert Aebersold, president emeritus, and Dr. Robert Watson, retired vice-president for student life, were appointed by President Smith to serve as Interim co-vice presidents for university advancement until a permanent vice president is selected. A national search for the position is under way. The search committee plans to identify the top candidates by mid-March and schedule on-campus interviews by mid-April.

Student Life Committee

Dr. Constance Foley, vice president for Student Life, provided the report of the Student Life committee at the request of Mr. John Thornburgh, chair.

The entire Student Life staff has spent numerous hours examining its vision, mission and values through a learning outcomes model. Each director has identified the learning outcomes associated with each departmental program and are working out the articulation of long-range goals for their departments.

The division has recognized outstanding student academic achievement, which included 54% of the residence hall and apartment student population achieving at least a 3.0 QPA in the fall 2006 semester. Additionally, 133 student athletes received Director of Athletics Honor Roll status by having a 3.5 (or above) QPA with 40 of those student athletes attaining a 4.0 QPA in fall 2006.

During January and February Martin Luther King Day and Black History Month were celebrated with diversity-oriented programs being a major priority for the entire division of Student Life. Specifically, the Office of Intercultural Programs, in conjunction with the King Day of Service Committee, hosted the fourth annual King Day of Service with 300 student volunteers and over 450 attendees throughout the daily activities. Other programs, primarily in celebration of Black History month, were presented by the University Program Board, the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, the University Union, Dining Services and Residence Life.

Student Health Services hosted their accreditation site visit in early February. The accrediting body, The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc., sent two surveyors to evaluate the appropriateness and quality of the health care services provided by Student Health Services. Although the official acknowledgment of reaccreditation status is expected within 12-18 weeks, the accreditors stated that, "SRU Student Health Services is truly remarkable."

The final gender equity mediation hearing is scheduled for March 2, 2007, which should resolve issues related to the "laundry list" of items associated with gender equity including coaches' salaries, equipment, recruitment and equipment budgets, facilities, etc.

The entire university has been involved in discussions and planning for the possible outbreak of the pandemic flu. This has had a major impact on Student Life and in particular, Student Health Services and Residence Life. Student Life staff and other campus personnel participated in an all day video workshop sponsored by PASSHE. Breakout sessions will be held on March 16 for individuals involved. Members of the Student Life staff have also collaborated with Slippery Rock Borough and Butler County in the coordination of community plans. Although we cannot anticipate the entire effect this might have on the University, we are confident that we will be prepared.

Finance & Audit Committee

Dr. Charles Curry, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs provided the following report to the Council at the request of Dr. Van Peterson, chair.

Items reviewed for Council action included: Resolution – Compliance with Board of Governor’s Policy 1985-04-A, Contracts, Fixed Assets, Service and Supply Purchase Orders, Resolution – Renovation/Conversion of Patterson Hall to an academic facility. In addition, the 2007-2008 Capital Budget Request was brought forward with two recommended projects being submitted as part of the five-year plan: a new Performing Arts Center for \$36.2 million (Priority #1), and the renovation of the Morrow Field House for \$23.9 million (Priority #2). Information items included the Quarterly Budget Report FY 2006-07 and a draft of the Annual Inspection of Facilities.

Employee Self Service (ESS): Implemented the web-based service in January 2007. Through a confidential secure portal, ESS provides SRU employees with information related to their employment records including current and past pay statements, benefit plan coverage, contributions, covered dependants, bank information, retirement, savings plan contributions, leave usage and leave balances. Currently, we have had nearly 20% of faculty and approximately 45% of staff access the site. The ESS portal is located on the main SRU web page for easy access.

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.

Each college is creating a plan to enhance the quality of Slippery Rock University.

Accreditation of the School of Business is a primary goal of the College of Business, Information and Social Sciences. The initial accreditation committee of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business has accepted Slippery Rock University’s School of Business Accreditation Plan, and faculty is now proceeding to complete the full accreditation process. AACSB accreditation requires five years to complete, including assessment of current programs, development of assurance of learning measures, faculty scholarship and finally both internal and external reviews. The University’s first annual report is due in October.

A significant goal for the College of Education is to become recognized as a national leader in generating Professional Development School sites within area school districts. Working with three area school districts, the faculty within the College of Education will provide staff development and student assistance for the schools and opportunities for Slippery Rock University students. The College of Education will also

become the center for the development of in-service teachers through providing workshops that will assist area teachers in attaining National Board Certification.

The primary programmatic goal for the College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts is to develop a degree program in Arts Management. The college will also participate in Liberal Education and America's Promise Initiative to improve and gain recognition for the liberal education program at Slippery Rock University.

The College of Health, Environment, and Science plans to increase enrollments in low enrolled programs through expanded marketing efforts. The college also plans to develop an Adaptive Physical Activity major and to increase internships, practicums, and other career-related experiences.

Spring Enrollment 2007 Update: Headcount increased by 1.31% as compared to same time last year (2007-7709 and 2006 – 7609). New transfers increased by 5.31% (2007 – 258 and 2006 - 245) and new first-year student enrollment was nearly the same as last year (2007 – 39 and 2006 – 40); 2007 spring enrollment for African-American students increased by 5.30% (2007 – 338 and 2006 – 321) and Hispanic enrollment increased by 15% (2007 – 69 and 2006 – 60). FTE graduate enrollment increased by 4.84% (2007 – 453 and 2006 – 432). Transfer students – 2007 transfer deposits are up by 26% (2007 – 185 and 2006 – 147).

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Resolution – Compliance with Board of Governor's Policy 1985-04-A (TAB 2)

Mr. Thornburgh moved, seconded by Dr. Murray that the Resolution – Compliance with Board of Governor's Policy 1985-04-A be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (Appendix B)

Contracts (TAB 3)

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

Fixed Assets (TAB 4)

Mr. McCaskey moved, seconded by Mr. Thornburgh that the Fixed Assets be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix D)

Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TAB 5)

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

Resolution – Reconstruction/Conversion of Patterson Hall (TAB 6)

Dr. Peterson moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus that the Resolution – Reconstruction/Conversion of Patterson Hall be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix F)

Dining Services Fee Structure (TAB 7)

Mr. Thornburgh moved, seconded by Mr. McCaskey that the Dining Services Fee Structure be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix G)

Residence Hall Fees (TAB 8)

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Thornburgh approval of a 5% increase in university-owned residence hall fees as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix H)

2007-2008 Capital Budget Project Request (TAB 8)

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Mr. DeRosa that the 2007 – 2008 Capital Budget Project Request be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix I)

Resolutions – Honoring the Service of Trustees: Mr. Kenneth B. Blair and Dr. Orvan Peterson

Grace Hawkins, acting chair, asked Scott McCaskey to read the Resolutions

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Dr. Murray that the Resolutions Honoring the Service of Mr. Blair and Dr. Peterson be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix J)

Ms. Hawkins informed the group that Mr. Blair and Dr. Peterson both served for two consecutive terms – a total of 24 years of dedicated service to Slippery Rock University.

President Smith announced to the group that Ms. Joan Chew is a former Trustee who preceded her husband's appointment. Both Ms. Chew and Dr. Peterson served two consecutive terms for a total of 24 years of service. President Smith added, "Your consecutive service as Trustees represented 20% of the history of this University. It is with great honor that I present to you both these matching chairs as our appreciation for the great service that both of you have given to Slippery Rock University."

**photos were taken with Ms. Chew, Dr. Peterson and the Council. Dr. Peterson took a few minutes and thanked the Council and the administration for the opportunity to serve this wonderful institution as a Trustee. It's been an exceptional life experience and he will take with him many friendships and special memories.*

**Mr. Blair will be honored at the June Council meeting.*

INFORMATION ITEMS

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, June 15, 2007.

Substitute Instructional Appointments

Instructional Appointments Effective the Second Semester, 2006-2007

Instructional Appointments Effective the First Semester, 2007-2008

Operational Leadership/Professional Appointments

State University Administrator Appointment

Non-Faculty Athletic Coach Appointments

Support Staff Appointments

Retirements

Resignations

Dismissal of Support Staff

Non-Renewal of Faculty

Leave

Professor Emeritus

Tuition Waiver for New International Students - 0107

Quarterly Budget Report FY 2006-07

Quarterly Internal Audit Report

Annual Inspection of Facilities

Independent Auditor's Report (June 30, 2006 and 2005)

Quarterly Division Reports

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

John Thornburgh –Receiving the sad news of Peter Vessella’s passing, we as a Council extend sympathy to Chairperson Vessella and her family –our thoughts are with her during this extremely difficult time. Mr. Thornburgh also commented, that he had the pleasure of working with Van as a fellow colleague as Trustee at California University of PA and served on the PACT Executive Board with Van. “I have great respect and admiration for you and to you and Joan both, thank you for your collective contributions.”

Nick DeRosa – served with Van and Ken for a few years – pleasure serving with you and I wish you both the best.

Robert Marcus – Congratulations Van and Ken – and also congratulations to Joan! We will miss you at future meetings and we appreciate your service and wonderful counsel through the years. Dr. Marcus also added it’s always a pleasure to meet with the Council and talk about the exciting things happening at SRU.

Dennis Murray – Van was my mentor on the Council and I appreciate you – also to Ken, who led the search to bring President Smith on board -- what a great decision that was! This has been a wonderful experience working with you both. You will be missed. Congratulations on receiving your chair and all the years you spent contributing to SRU. Thank you also to President Smith and Dr. Curry for the fine presentation this morning on the budget and projections for the future. This is an impressive budgetary model.

President Smith – When I first came here in 1999, I attended a reception for new arrivals at the President’s residence. Ramona and I spent much of that evening with Joan and Van and they helped us immensely in becoming acclimated to the community. That evening started a friendship that has blossomed in many directions. You have both been friends and wonderful advisors and fierce, loyal defenders of this university. Thank you – we appreciate you. President Smith added as an additional comment that he would like to thank the Council for their continued support and especially for the positive and constructive conversations today.

With no further business, the Friday, March 9, 2007 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:25 p.m. Dr. Marcus moved, Mr. McCaskey seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.