

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

**June 15, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held in Conference Room 304 of Old Main on Friday, June 15, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Ms. Suzanne Vessella, chairperson.

Chairperson Vessella welcomed new Trustees, Dr. John Hicks and Mr. Joshua Young to their first meeting. On behalf of the Council, Chairperson Vessella also welcomed new Vice President for Advancement, Dr. Barbara Ender.

### Attendance

Trustees present: Ms. Grace Hawkins, Dr. Robert Marcus, Mr. Scott McCaskey, Dr. Dennis Murray, Mr. Nick DeRosa, Mr. Robert Taylor, Dr. John Hicks, Mr. Joshua Young, Ms. Suzanne Vessella.

Trustees absent: Mr. Richard Christofer and Mr. John Thornburgh

### Approval of Minutes

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Mr. Young that the minutes of the March 9, 2007 meeting be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

### Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

## **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., committee chair for University Advancement, provided the following report to Council.

Mr. Taylor welcomed Ms. Barbara Ender, Vice President for University Advancement, who was present at the meeting and will assume her new duties July 1. Ms. Ender is currently vice president for development at Morehead State University in Kentucky and CEO of the Morehead State University Foundation. Prior to her seven years at Morehead, she served as executive director of the Foundation for Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

As of May 23, the Campaign for Slippery Rock University gifts and pledges totaled \$27.9 million, representing 85% of the \$33 million goal, and gifts received totaled \$2 million. The System Accountability Performance indicators for University Advancement are total charitable giving less the top three gifts and the value of the endowment. Total charitable giving less the top three gifts was \$1.56 million. The value of the endowment as of April 30 was \$21.1 million. The endowment represents the combined totals of the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc., and the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association endowments. As of April 30, the assets totaled close to \$27 million – an all-time high total and a 36% increase over the July 1, 2006 asset total of \$19.8 million. Revenues for this fiscal year total \$10.3 million and expenditure total \$2.9 million.

Mr. Taylor also reminded Council that we are nearing the end of the fiscal year, and we hope to fulfill our goal of 100% participation from our Trustees as part of the Campaign initiative.

The President's Scholarship Gala is scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2008 at the Marriott in Cranberry. Dr. Robert Watson, co-interim vice president for university advancement, and Dr. Jace Condravy, English department faculty member, will serve as co-chairs of the Gala Executive Committee. The theme is "Swing Time at the Rock."

The Advancement Division hosted the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Advancement Conference on the SRU campus on May 20-22, 2007. Over 150 advancement professionals, exhibitors, and presenters were in attendance. Chancellor Judy Hample presented remarks at the conference luncheon.

### Student Life Committee

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

Student Life continued to work on the Vision/Mission/Values statement and the integration of Student Learning Outcomes into the framework for Student Life. This information was presented, along with 2007-2012 strategic goals to the Strategic Planning Committee. Student Life staff members in conjunction with Academic Affairs faculty will be attending a “Learning Reconsidered” conference in June. “Learning Reconsidered” focuses on student learning outcomes. Information from this conference will be presented at the Student Life Retreat in July and on Professional Development Day in October.

Student Health Services is proud to announce their continuing accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC/Accreditation Association). Status as an accredited organization means that Student Health Services has passed a series of rigorous and nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care set by the Accreditation Association. Only ten Pennsylvania university health centers have met these standards.

Numerous activities were held in April to recognize outstanding students and staff. Among those activities were Rising Star Awards, co-sponsored by AVI; the Office of Intercultural Programs Spring Graduation and Awards Ceremony; PSAC Top-Ten Award winners, and the Residence Life student staff banquet.

Student Leader/Student Staff selection processes were conducted for 2007-2008. The following is a listing of those selection activities:

- SGA elections were completed. The following students were elected – Larry Brink, President; Carol Waters, VP Student Life; Meghan Olfinger, VP Academic Affairs, Michael Combs, VP Financial Affairs; Stephanie Kresge, VP Administration; and Justin Lubecki, VP Advancement.
- Students were selected for the following leadership positions – Welcome Team, Orientation Team, Leadership Peer Mentors, University Program Board, and a Board of Governors scholarship for leadership.
- Student staff were selected for Community Assistant and Desk Assistant positions.

The 2006 year end PASSHE Report ranked the Slippery Rock University Police second with a 72% crime clearance rate.

The final mediation hearing regarding the Athletics gender/equity case was held March 2, 2007. The mediation addressed issues related to the “laundry list” of items associated with Gender Equity including coaches’ salaries, equipment, recruitment and equipment budgets, facilities, etc. The final settlement was agreeable to both the Women’s Law Project and to Slippery Rock University.

The Virginia Tech incident has had a significant impact on Student Life, one that is impacting all areas but most specifically the University Police, Health Services, the Counseling Center, Judicial Affairs and Residence Life. Student Life has begun to

examine its various emergency operational policies and procedures including supplying requested information to the Chancellor's Office. The University Police have addressed the following: reviewed the preparedness of their equipment; updated the contact/notification list; conducted tactical movement trainings; and drafted an Active Shooter Incident Policy. We are reviewing current practices regarding felony and mental health information on housing documents; judicial sanctions for mental health incidents; and how we implement FERPA. It is expected that discussion will be conducted on campuses across the United States, at conferences, and within our legal system. We will need to ensure that our policies and procedures respect students' rights while keeping them safe.

#### 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, Resolution – Demolition of Facility at 125 Kiester Road (*the facility was originally built in 1957 as a private residence, is at the end of its life cycle, and would require a substantial investment to be reused, therefore, the University does not foresee a viable use for the abandoned facility at this time*), and the Annual Inspection of Facilities (*a campus tour is available to Trustees following the meeting*).

Facilities projects include: Renovation of Vincent Science – design complete with building systems being replaced and upgraded, all departments to be relocated during construction. McKay Auditorium upgrade begins in June 2007 and will be completed over the summer. A space analysis required by PASSHE will be conducted over the summer/early fall.

Implemented a background check for new faculty members beginning with the fall 2007 hires; continue to work on the new clerical and custodial pools. The pools have been used to fill 15 clerical and 13 custodial positions in 2006-2007; saved approximately \$12,000 in advertising costs. Training sessions were conducted March – May 2007 with 16 classes and 130 employees participating in various Professional Development workshops.

*\*Trustee Robert Taylor asked that the minutes reflect a request from Council to have Dr. Curry provide a financial analysis report of university expenditures and financial impact on the university related to Gender Equity for discussion at the September 14, 2007 morning session of the Council meeting.*

#### 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.

The College of Business, Information and Social Sciences has created a new department, The Department of Professional Studies, beginning July 1, 2007. The department came about from the request of Dean Russell to restructure the Applied Science major into a high quality degree that meets the needs of students wishing to customize their degree programs. The new department also helps meet the concerns of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) for accrediting Slippery Rock University's School of Business.

The initial accreditation committee of the AACSB has accepted Slippery Rock University's School of Business Accreditation Plan and faculty are now proceeding to complete the full accreditation – a five-year process.

Enrollments are strong for Fall 2007. Compared with last year at this time student overall enrollments are up by 2.6%.

- Currently 1308 new students have registered as compared to 1084 last year at this time.
- 1522 deposits have been made as compared to 1469 last year.
- We have denied admission to over 1000 applicants who are being referred to local community colleges.
- Due to increased enrollment of first year students, new offers of admission for undergraduate students ceased during the week of May 1, 2007, the earliest in recent SRU history.

While increasing the size of the new class we have maintained the quality of the students who have an average SAT score of 1002. Our transfer student deposits are 3.1% ahead of last year. Small increases are also evidenced in non-resident, international, and students of color for both first year and transfer student groups. New graduate student acknowledgements are ahead of last year by nearly 50 students as compared to the same time last year.

For Fall of 2007 Slippery Rock University has hired 16 new faculty into tenure track positions. Seven of the new hires are female, five are minority and by August 25, 15 of the hires will have terminal degrees. The final hire will finish her terminal degree by August 2008.

## **ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

### Contracts (TAB 2)

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Ms. Hawkins that the Contracts be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix B)

Fixed Assets (TAB 3)

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

Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TAB 4)

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

Resolution – Demolition of Facility at 125 Kiester Road (TAB 5)

Mr. McCaskey moved, seconded by Dr. Hicks that the Resolution – Demolition of Facility at 125 Kiester Road be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix E)

Annual Inspection of Facilities Report (TAB 6)

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Ms. Hawkins that the Annual Inspection of Facilities Report be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix F)

SRU Council of Trustees – Nomination of Officers (TAB 7)

The following individuals are presented for nomination for a one-year term (June 2007 – June 2008) and submitted as follows:

Ms. Suzanne Vessella	Chairperson
Mr. Robert Taylor, Esq.	Vice-Chairperson
Ms. Grace Hawkins	Secretary

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Dr. Hicks that the slate of officers be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix G)

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date of the Slippery Rock University Council of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, September 14, 2007.

Quarterly Internal Audit ReportFacilities & Planning Active Project ListInstructional Appointments Summer 2007

Substitute Instructional Appointments

Instructional Appointments Effective the Second Semester, 2006-2007

Instructional Appointments Effective the First Semester, 2007-2008

Strategic Leadership Appointments

Tactical Leadership/Senior Professional Appointments

Operational Leadership/Professional Appointment

Support Staff Appointments

Retirements

Resignations

Dismissal

Non-Renewal of Faculty

Professor Emeritus Status

Visiting Faculty Leave

Tenure Effective Fall Semester 2007-2008

Promotions Effective Fall Semester 2007-2008

Adjunct Faculty 2007-2008

Memo – Department Name Change (Professional Studies)

Quarterly Division Reports

Budget Quarterly Report

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Scott McCaskey – Welcomed Dr. Hicks and Mr. Young to the group, and also welcomed Dr. Ender to her new position. Mr. McCaskey also informed Council that he accompanied President Smith to his budget presentation in Harrisburg recently and would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate President Smith, administrators, and staff who put together a most impressive presentation to the Board of

Governors. Thank you for representing Slippery Rock University in such a positive and outstanding manner.

Dennis Murray – Welcome John, Josh, and Barbara. Dr. Murray complimented Dr. Smith on the wonderful job that he continues to do and hopes that he takes a long, well deserved vacation. Also, congratulations to the officers.

Nick DeRosa – Great to have our new Council members here – welcome to Barbara!

John Hicks – Happy to be here. Thank you for the warm welcome.

Josh Young – It is a pleasure to be here and serve the university in this role.

Grace Hawkins– Welcome to the new Trustees and to Barbara Ender. Grace indicated she served on the search committee and is excited that Barbara is here with us.

Robert Taylor. Mr. Taylor welcomed our new Trustees and Dr. Ender. He also extended congratulations to President Smith. Mr. Taylor commented that he attended his second Convocation in April and found the event to be highly inspiring – “this is an important event for this university.” Mr. Taylor publicly thanked Interim Co-Vice President’s Dr. Robert Watson and Dr. Robert Aebersold for leading the Advancement division during this transition time. Both are to be commended for their efforts and their willingness to provide their expertise and leadership to the Advancement Division.

Robert Marcus – Extended welcome wishes to our new Council members and Dr. Ender. Indicated how much he enjoys being here among friends and colleagues, and extended congratulations to President Smith’s team on a job well done. Dr. Marcus wished everyone an enjoyable summer.

President Smith – Thanked Scott for his comments about the BOG presentation. This was the first time institutions were invited to speak to the Board and we all felt some level of apprehension about this opportunity. Dr. Smith believes we set a tone that will cause the other institutions to think. We brought the Provost and our Student Trustee – this is an important stand on what Slippery Rock University values.

With no further business, the Friday, June 15, 2007 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 1 p.m. Dr. Murray moved; Mr. DeRosa seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.