

MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY
June 15, 2012

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

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The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held Friday, June 15, 2012 in the Alumni House and Conference Center. The meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Mr. Joshua Young, chairperson.

Recording of Attendance

Trustees present: Dr. John Hicks, Mr. Eric Holmes, Dr. Robert Marcus, Mr. Brandon Maharaj, Mr. Joshua Young, Dr. Dennis Murray

Trustees absent: Ms. Suzanne Vessella, Mr. Robert Taylor, Ms. Grace Hawkins

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Dr. Hicks approval of the June 15, 2012 meeting agenda. **(Appendix A)**

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Maharaj moved, seconded by Mr. Holmes, approval of the April 27, 2012 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. **(TAB 1)**

Public Comments

Mr. Brandon Maharaj introduced Mr. David Wolfe, incoming President of Slippery Rock Student Government Association, Inc., who provided brief comments to the group. Dave is a member of the honors program, pursuing a double major in Sport Management and Communication/minor in Business. Dave looks forward to his new post and is excited to work with the student body. His work this summer will focus on preparing plans for the fall semester.

Brandon introduced Ms. Courtney Baker-Schroat. Courtney is the nominee for the position of student trustee. In the coming weeks, Courtney will be interviewed by the Chancellor's Office and her name forwarded for appointment by the Governor. Courtney's home town is Pittsburgh, PA. She is a triple major, Accounting, Finance, and Health Services Administration. She is involved in numerous activities and leadership positions on campus. She is honored to be selected as student trustee and looks forward to this leadership experience.

Chairman Young shared with the audience that Dr. Patrick Burkhart, APSCUF President (SRU) was not able to be here today. Dr. Burkhart is presenting as a guest lecturer to lunar and planetary interns at NASA Space Flight Center in Washington, DC. Dr. James Hathaway was present as designee for Dr. Burkhart and offered brief remarks to the group. Chairman Young thanked Dr. Hathaway for joining us today.

PRESENTATIONS

Resolution – Honoring the Achievements of Mr. Brandon Maharaj (TAB 5)

Mr. Holmes presented to Brandon Maharaj, a “Resolution of Achievement” and offered congratulations on behalf of Council. Mr. Maharaj will graduate in August with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science. Mr. Maharaj was commended for his outstanding service as student trustee and serving as the voice of the student body on Council since June 2010. He will be missed, but we know he will continue to be an active alumnus and go out into the world with his ROCK Solid education and do great things. **(Appendix B)**

Resolution – Honoring the Service of Ms. Cynthia A. Dillon (TAB 5)

Dr. Hicks presented Ms. Cindi Dillon with a “Resolution of Service” and offered congratulations on behalf of Council. Ms. Dillon has served as a valuable member of the Slippery Rock University community for 25 years. Her many accomplishments include serving as co-chair to the Middle States process, providing her guidance and leadership to the strategic planning efforts, and serving with distinction as the Assistant to the Provost. Cindi and her spouse, Dr. George Force, professor emeritus, Political Science, make their home in Slippery Rock. Cindi is a driving force with Slippery Rock Community beautification efforts “Slippery Rock in Bloom.” We know Cindi will continue to engage in campus community activities. Council extended thanks and appreciation to Cindi for her exemplary service and offered best wishes in retirement. **(Appendix C)**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee

Institutional Research: Slippery Rock University was invited to participate in a pilot of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)—NSSE 2.0—which will launch with the 2013 administration. The update is the first in ten years and will provide necessary improvements while preserving NSSE’s signature focus on diagnostic and actionable information related to engagement in effective educational practice.

Accreditation: The School of Business received accreditation approval from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). Liberal Studies had its 5 Year review and received a strong exit report from the external reviewer.

BISS: The Business, Information, and Social Sciences College is developing agreements with a school in Budapest for business and communications students. BISS will meet with the Budapest school at the ACBSP conference in mid-June.

PROGRAMS: The Department of Physical Education and Health has developed a track in *Leadership in Physical Activity*. Employment trends suggest a need for personnel preparation in this area. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts 30% increase in employment in the area of physical activity, fitness and health. The growth in employment in these particular areas relate to the aging of the baby boomers, the percentage of individuals with a disability, and public demand and interest in health and well-being. The School of Business has developed a Management Pre-MBA minor for non-BSBA students. The intent here is to offer a pre-MBA minor that will allow non-business students to prepare for the MBA program without changing their major to business administration.

Health, Environment, and Science is organizing a Center for Undergraduate Research STEM Committee which will develop a PASSHE Self-Study and a Pre-Conference Inventory (prior to our team attending a September PASSHE training conference).

Enrollment Services: TWG Plus, the firm hired to create the undergraduate, transfer, graduate, and international recruitment and marketing materials, presented the results of the communications audit this past week. Recommendations for the future focused on publications, website development, online communications and social media communications.

Enrollment for Fall 2012 comparing similar date to 2011

Type	2012	2011	Difference
First year student applications	6076	6315	(-) 239*
Offer rate	63.7%	61.7%	(+) 2%**
First year deposits	1551	1549	(+) 2
Transfer student deposits	475	552	(-) 77
Graduate student headcount	513	561	(-) 48***

*The decrease in applications is not from Western PA. Eastern PA applications decreased by 209 and out-of-state applications decreased slightly by 21 applications.

** Diversity deposits are up as compared to the same time last year. Out of state deposits are also up.

*** The largest decreases are evidenced in the education certification programs.

Dr. John Hicks, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, provided a report of divisional activities shared by Dr. William F. Williams, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Dean of the College of Education

Dr. Keith Dils has been selected as the Dean of the College of Education and will arrive on campus on July 1.

School of Business

Dr. Diane Galbraith, assistant professor in the School of Business, has been named the recipient of the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs 2012 Teaching Excellence Award for the Eastern Council of Business Schools and Programs in Region 2.

Program Reviews and Accreditation Visits for Spring 2012

The College of Business, Information and Social Sciences hosted the ACBSP accreditation site visit team for the School of Business.

The following departments went through five-year reviews:

- Communication
- Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Geography, Geology and the Environment
- Library
- Mathematics

STEM

PASSHE will be emphasizing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) undergraduate research beginning Fall 2012 and have broadened the STEM definition to include health-related fields. Each PASSHE university has identified a team of five people to be trained in this area in Fall 2012. Slippery Rock University is already in the forefront with the number of students currently presenting and publishing. Six undergraduates travelled to Ogden, Utah in March and presented their

research at the Council of Undergraduate Research National Convention. They were selected from over 3,500 applicants. On-going quality research not only brings great recognition to Slippery Rock University, it opens doors and helps students as they apply to graduate and professional schools.

Enrollment for Fall 2012

- First year student applications are at 5952 compared to 6192 for last year at this time.
- The offer rate is currently at 63% as compared to 60% last year.
- First year deposits are at 1386 compared to 1411 for last year at this time.
- Transfer student deposits are at 362 compared to 446 for last year at this time.

Slippery Rock University is running slightly behind last year's numbers primarily as a result of lower enrollments in education.

Finance and Audit Committee

Dr. Dennis Murray, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, shared a report provided by Dr. Charles Curry, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs.

New Student Center is nearing completion. Contractors have all requested substantial completion and punch list is being addressed. New Performing Arts Center Design Development approved at DGS May 8, 2012. Patterson Renovation Phase II under construction. Project is on schedule. Completion scheduled for September 2012. Student Center west parking lot and path to bridge has been bid, awaiting contracts. Lower campus steam line replacement is underway, no delays anticipated.

Items for Council Action

- Contracts, Fixed Assets, Service and Supply Purchase Orders

Items for Council Information

- Personnel Items, Monthly Budget Report, and the Facilities and Planning Active Project list

Student Life Committee

Mr. Brandon Maharaj, chair of the Student Life Committee, deferred to Dr. Constance Foley, vice president for Student Life to provide the report of activities in the area of student life.

Athletics: SRU Athletics had another successful spring sports season. The women's tennis team competed in the NCAA Division II Atlantic Regional. The women's lacrosse team completed another successful season by breaking the school record with 12 wins in a season. The Rock Baseball team qualified for the PSAC Tournament. At the PSAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships the Rock Men's team finished 2nd and the women's team finished 3rd. Many SRU student athletes won PSAC and NCAA post-season honors during the spring sports season. SRU also successfully hosted PIAA high school playoff baseball games, PA West Soccer Tournaments, and AAU Basketball tournaments bringing hundreds of visitors to SRU. SRU came in fourth in the PSAC Dixon CUP rankings.

Office of Campus Services: The OCS won a \$5,000 grant from the Butler County Tourism and Convention Bureau. The money will be used for a video that is part of a marketing plan that will be launched this fall. The award was announced at the Taste of Tourism dinner held on May 17th.

Office of Multicultural Development (OMD): This quarter, OMD recognized the achievement of underrepresented student graduates through its Spring 2012: Graduation Celebration held on Thursday, May 10th. There were 46 students from various races and ethnicities who participated in this event.

Residence Life: The Office of Residence Life continues to make housing assignments for 2012-13 academic year. To date 2,490 students have been housed, and we remain on track for 100% occupancy. We are also proud to report that 880 (32%) residence hall students earned a 3.5 or higher GPA for the spring semester, 271 (105) of which earned a 4.0 GPA.

Student Health Services: The electronic medical record streamlined the data capture for the collaborative *Exercise is Medicine* initiative. SHS staff recorded data about exercise habits and interventions (education and program referral). Aggregate data was released to Exercise Science faculty for grant projects and student research. SHS is a core member of the university's Wellness Committee – *Exercise is Medicine* is one of the initiatives of the committee.

University Union: Construction of the Robert M. Smith Student Center continues. Events in May and June, including summer orientation sessions, will continue to be hosted in the University Union as the contractors work to complete the Student Center and obtain an occupancy permit.

University Advancement Committee

Ms. Barbara Ender, Vice President for University Advancement shared a report of activities in the absence of Mr. Robert Taylor, chair of the University Advancement Committee

Gift income received to date for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 totals \$1,911,690. The Women's Athletic Golf Outing (event is happening today) includes 31 foursomes and \$11,000 in sponsorships.

The Annual Fund Office has launched an alumni giving e-challenge in conjunction with Edinboro University's Annual Fund Office as a way to increase alumni participation.

The SRU Alumni Association and the Slippery Rock University Foundation, Inc. will hold board orientations/retreats in conjunction with their upcoming quarterly meetings in July.

The Alumni Engagement Office is hosting regional corporate alumni networking events, including a Bank of New York Mellon (Pittsburgh) event held on April 19th, and a University of Pittsburgh event on June 8th. An additional new Alumni Office initiative in collaboration with Career Services is a series of career webinars.

The PennDOT preliminary final inspection of traffic signals and roadwork construction for the Route 173/108 project has been completed. Final inspection and approval should take place within the next two weeks.

Upcoming events for which planning is underway include:

- SRU Alumni and Friends Golf Outing (August 10)
- Homecoming 2012 (Oct. 19-20)
- Sunset Serenade (Oct. 6)
- Variety of initiatives to introduce President Norton and to promote additional fundraising in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of the University (2014).

Governance Committee

Mr. Eric Holmes provided a report as chair of the Governance Committee. He reaffirmed that presidential search materials are archived and housed in the Office of the President for future reference.

The Governance Committee under Council of Trustees by-laws serves as the nominating Committee, and is comprised of five members, Mr. Eric Holmes, Ms. Grace Hawkins, Dr. John Hicks, Mr. Robert Taylor, and Ms. Suzanne Vessella. It is noted that Mr. Holmes and Dr. Hicks did not participate in the recommendation process for the slate of officers this year.

Mr. Robert Taylor served as the chair of the nominating committee. In his absence, Mr. Holmes presented to Council the slate of officers for 2012 – 2013:

Mr. Eric Holmes, Chair
Dr. John Hicks, Vice-Chair
Dr. Robert Marcus, Secretary

Election of Officers

Chairman Young called to amend the COT Agenda to reflect the election of officers. There were no objections to this action. Motion to approve each officer was addressed separately.

Mr. Eric Holmes, Chair – Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Maharaj. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. John Hicks, Vice-Chair – Mr. Maharaj moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Robert Marcus, Secretary – Dr. Hicks moved, seconded by Dr. Murray. Motion carried unanimously.

Pennsylvania Association of Council of Trustees (PACT)

Dr. John Hicks serves as the Slippery Rock University trustee representative and serves on the executive board of PACT. He indicated the board has not met since the last COT Meeting. He informed Council the next PACT Meeting will be hosted by Millersville University, October 17 & 18, 2012. PACT Executive Board members, President McNairy and the Millersville staff are preparing an outstanding program for you.

At PACT Conferences you can:

- Experience the unique nature of another PASSHE university;
- Interact with talented student leaders;
- Benefit from other PASSHE university best practices and challenges;
- Learn more about innovative programs offered at other PASSHE universities;
- Receive updated information on PASSHE policies, programs, and legal issues that impact the work of trustees, and
- Relax and mingle with other trustees, students, presidents, faculty and PASSHE staff.

Comments from President Cheryl J. Norton

Chairman Young welcomed President Norton to her first official meeting of the Council. He offered President Norton an opportunity to address Council and the audience.

President Norton thanked Chairman Young and Council members for their incredible care and support as she transitions into her role as President. She appreciates the very warm welcome from the Slippery Rock University family. "It's been a very hectic ten days, but the phone calls and the gracious comments from all of you have been so appreciated. I feel at home and I am honored and privileged to be here and serve this incredible institution to the very best of my abilities."

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Contracts (TAB 3)

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Holmes to approve the Contracts. Motion carried unanimously. **(Appendix D)**

Fixed Assets (TAB 4)

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

Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TAB 5)

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

INFORMATION ITEMS (TAB # 6 – TAB # 9)

Next Meeting Dates

September 27 & 28, 2012

Personnel Items (TAB 6) (Appendix G)

Monthly Budget Report FY 2010-2011 (TAB 7)

Facilities and Planning Active Project List (TAB 8)

Divisional Reports (TAB 9)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dennis Murray – I would like to extend my thanks to Josh Young. "Josh, you did a tremendous job as Chair of Council during a time of transition, which is not easy. Thank you for your energy and for your

leadership. Dr. Curry, congratulations for a job well done as Acting President. Dr. Norton, we welcome you and very much look forward to working with you. Brandon – thank you for representing the students so well – you will be missed.”

Bob Marcus – I echo the comments of my colleague. Dr. Murray. It’s always great to be on campus. Dr. Norton, we are honored to have you with us.


John Hicks – I will also echo comments, but would like to add one more. Josh, you have done an incredible job throughout your tenure as chair. Congratulations, Eric, on your appointment and we look forward to your leadership.

Brandon Maharaj – It was an honor serving in the role of student trustee. I will miss you all and thank you for a great experience. Welcome Dr. Norton, we are excited to that you are here. Thank you for your leadership, Dr. Curry.

Eric Holmes – Welcome, Dr. Norton! Thank you, Dr. Curry, for your leadership. I am honored to serve as Chair of the Council and look forward to working with all of you. Thank you, Josh, for your hard work and leadership on behalf of Council.

Joshua Young – To Dr. Norton, we welcome you and look forward to working with you. To Dr. Curry and to the Vice President’s, thank you for keeping the ship running during this transition time. It has been a great honor to serve as Chair of Council, and I appreciate the support of the faculty, staff, and students throughout my tenure. Eric, thank you for agreeing to serve as the Presidential Search Chair, you did such an amazing job. I would also like to thank Tina Moser and Kelli Rensel for their support.

With no further business, the Friday, April 27, 2012 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:25 p.m. Dr. Murray moved; Dr. Marcus seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted: 

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