

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

December 4, 2009

The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held in the Watson Family Conference Room of the Alumni House, Friday, December 4, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Mr. Robert S. Taylor, Esq., chairperson.

Recording of Attendance

Trustees present: Dr. John Hicks, Ms. Suzanne Vessella, Ms. Jessica Cosme, Dr. Robert Marcus, Dr. Dennis Murray, Mr. Joshua Young, Mr. Eric Holmes, Mr. Robert Taylor

Trustees absent: Mr. John Thornburgh, Ms. Grace Hawkins, Mr. Nick DeRosa

Approval of Meeting Agenda

President Smith requested an Executive Session with Council prior to adjournment of the meeting for informational purposes, no action will be required.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Holmes that the meeting agenda of December 4, 2009 be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix A)

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Hicks moved, seconded by Dr. Murray that the meeting minutes of October 2, 2009 be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (TAB 1)

Public Comments

Chairman Taylor announced there were no scheduled public comments. Chairman Taylor acknowledged in the audience today Dr. Jace Condravy, chairperson of the English Department and president of SRU APSCUF. Dr. Condravy commented that it is a pleasure to see Council on campus and offered that everything is going well -- APSCUF and the Administration are maintaining a good working relationship. Dr. Condravy thanked Council for being here today and wished the group a happy holiday season.

Presentations

Student Government Association

Mr. Nick Barcio, president of the Student Government Association, provided a highlight of activities of the Board over the past few months.

We are proud to announce that we have adopted a policy within the Student Government Association's constitution to incorporate diversity training for executive positions.

The SGA Student Affairs Committee completed an electronic random survey to 1,011 students that addressed various student concerns on campus. The committee is reviewing the students' comments and will meet with the segments on campus to address the questions and concerns revealed from the survey.

Building Bridges

Mr. Justin Brown, president of Building Bridges, informed the Council of the activities of the student organization. The purpose of Building Bridges is to promote diversity and cultural awareness in all aspects of life to the students, faculty, and staff on the University campus through active engagements and active discussions on social issues and ideas. In only its second year of existence, the group has grown to approximately 150 members meeting every Tuesday evening throughout the academic semester.

Commendation to Ms. Kimberly Greco

The Council of Trustees presented a commendation resolution to Ms. Kimberly Greco, former director of internal audit. (Appendix B)

Ms. Greco was recognized for her distinguished service, advice and counsel to the administration related to the internal auditing processes. The resolution cited her for her proven abilities to analyze current internal practices and construct helpful strategies to improve efficiencies of fiscal operational activities in campus offices, departments, and student organizations, and for expending a substantial amount of time providing expertise to the area of athletics to ensure compliance with NCAA reporting requirements.

In a realignment of internal auditors, Ms. Greco has recently been moved to a new position within the Pennsylvania Auditor General's Office and will continue to handle internal audits at SRU and other western Pennsylvania PASSHE universities.

Commendation to SRU's McLachlan Student Health Services

SRU's Health Services staff was cited for its dedication and caring nature while providing exemplary care to the students of Slippery Rock University. The University has benefited from the MSHS team of professionals who have experienced a dramatic influx of traffic to the health center due to the arrival of H1N1 to the community. Thanks to preparedness by the staff and implementing strategies to keep the campus informed, we have experienced significantly less incidents of H1N1 carriers on campus in comparison to other educational facilities in the area.

The Resolution also cited the staff for effectively and efficiently responding to the University community by administering a community meningitis alert and providing education and/or preventative treatment to hundreds of students affected by a student death from bacterial meningitis. Ms. Laura Hawkins, nursing supervisor, accepted the resolution on behalf of McLachlan Student Health Services. (Appendix C)

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

(Appendix D)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Audit Committee

Mr. Young, chairman provided a report of the Finance and Audit Committee. The Finance and Audit Committee met Thursday afternoon in the Marcus Conference Room (108 Old Main) to discuss items for Council Action.

The following action items were recommended for approval: Contracts, Fixed Assets, Service and Supply Purchase Orders, Fire Department Contributions, and approval of the FY 2009-2010 Budget. A resolution was reviewed and approved to undertake a joint Commonwealth capital-financed and private-financed capital facilities project to construct a new Performance and Classroom Laboratory Facility.

Items reviewed as information included the Facilities and Planning Active Project List and Quarterly Budget Report.

A few highlights in the area of Buildings and Grounds:

Overall the ESCO project is on schedule, the new sculpture studio is complete, Vincent Project is underway and ahead of schedule, the Harmony House renovation is complete, and the Intramural Sports Complex is very near completion.

It is important to note that under the leadership of President Smith and Dr. Charles Curry, vice president for Finance and Administrative Affairs, Slippery Rock University made the commitment to pay our vendors during a time when we did not have a budget. I believe this speaks volumes to the integrity of our organization and is a commendable act of good business sense.

University Advancement Committee

Mr. Eric Holmes, chair of the University Advancement Committee, provided the following report of activities.

Two \$25,000 scholarship endowments were recently established: one from David Taylor, professor emeritus, for the Elaine B. Taylor Memorial Scholarship; and one from Mary Lou Auffman, class of 1953, for the College of Education.

The Campus Family Campaign has raised \$138,806 to date, exceeding last year's total, with 465 SRU employees participating. The campaign continues through December 31st.

Gifts received and Campaign Reports

- As of November 20th, gifts for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 totaled over \$537,000.
- The Campaign for Slippery Rock University's gifts and pledges totaled \$31.8 million representing 96.3% of the \$33 million Campaign goal.

The Celebration of Giving scheduled for tomorrow evening in the multi-purpose room of the University Union has a record number of over 150 donors attending. Following dinner, students from the College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts' departments of music, dance and theatre will perform.

In a collaborative effort between Alumni Relations and Career Services, the first-ever "Backpacks to Briefcases" reception was held at Stonepeppers Grille in Mars, PA. Nearly 40 students and 20 alumni were brought together at the event on November 20th.

Plans are progressing for the 2010 Gala in the Garden, which is scheduled for May 15th in North Hall. The rooms and courtyard will feature American regional themes in decorations, cuisine and auction items. Please mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this special event.

Student Life Committee

Ms. Jessica Cosme, co-chair of the Student Life Committee, provided a highlight of activities within the area of student life over the past few months.

Friends and Family Weekend was a huge success with 324 families registering for the weekend (last year 205 families registered). Villagefest, an annual event which brings the campus and Slippery Rock community together, was a highlighted activity for family and friends to attend during their visit to campus.

Food Services – Four food service contractors attended the pre-bid meeting for the Dining Services contract that was held on October 20. Proposal submissions are due January 18, 2010. The new contract will be awarded in early March and become effective June 1, 2010.

University Union – Bid packages for the new student union project are available for contractors, and a pre-bid meeting was held on October 29, 2009.

The Compass Leadership Program - Held two Leadership Summits for the SRU student population with 153 students participating this fall. The Compass Leadership Program also partnered with Jump Start, Residence Life, and many other departments to infuse leadership into their programs.

Women's Center – The Women's Center was awarded a \$251,222 federal grant to address violence against women on campus, and a scholarship to a two-year course for advocacy programs funded by the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW).

We also talked about changes to the Student Code of Conduct and in particular re-evaluating sanctions for furnishing. It is important to be understanding, but at the same time ensure that students are cognizant of the rules.

We would also like to acknowledge Dr. Jessamine Montero, Diversity Officer for Inclusion, for her impressive presentation to Council this morning. Dr. Montero provided a plan of action in her role as campus ambassador to promote a diverse and inclusive campus.

Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. John Hicks, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, provided the following report based on information provided by Dr. William F. Williams, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Performance - Slippery Rock University met or exceeded the PASSHE June 30, 2009 performance goals in 11 categories including **student graduation rates, faculty diversity, faculty productivity** and **faculty with terminal degrees**. Within the PASSHE universities, Slippery Rock University finished third in total amount of performance monies received (\$4,396,829) and second in the amount of performance dollars per student (\$550). Slippery Rock received performance funding in the following categories:

• Degrees Awarded (Bachelors and Masters)	\$579,172
• Second Year Persistence	\$485,137
• Four- and Six-Year Graduation Rates	\$565,350
• Faculty Productivity	\$951,640
• Employee Diversity	\$906,591
• Personnel Ratio	\$159,494
• Instructional Costs	\$488,588
• Terminal Degrees	\$260,856
Total	\$4,396,828

Programs - To address issues of budgetary concerns and low enrolled program concerns, Academic Affairs reviewed enrollments in all graduate programs at Slippery Rock University. As a result, the master programs in Physical Education and Sport Management have been placed on moratorium. The programs in History and English were required to create a plan to increase enrollments. Also the Principalship Certification program was placed on moratorium.

Enrollments - The number of new students joining Slippery Rock for spring 2010 is up from last year at this time. New student applications are at 631 for spring 2010, compared to 570 for spring 2009. New first-time student applications are at 3033 for fall 2010 up 266 over last year.

These numbers assure that we will be able to manage controlled enrollment growth while maintaining the quality of students at Slippery Rock University.

Pennsylvania Association of Council of Trustees (PACT)

Dr. John Hicks shared highlights from the recent PACT Conference held at Bloomsburg University. Dr. Hicks serves as the Slippery Rock University trustee representative and serves on the executive board of PACT.

The PACT Conference was held at Bloomsburg University October 14-15, 2009. Trustees would have received registration materials by mail from Linda Min, conferencing coordinator for PACT. If you have questions, call or email Tina Moser for assistance.

Conference program format was presented in a shorter time frame to reduce time and costs. Following the conference, all trustees were asked to submit perceptions regarding this changed format. All trustees have also been asked to complete a survey re: involvement with civic and service organizations, profit and non-profit board memberships, and political involvement at state, local and national levels. Lastly, trustees are asked to list the three top issues facing our Universities or the State System. The results of this survey will most likely be reported at the next PACT Conference.

At the executive board meeting, Chancellor Cavanaugh reviewed the performance funding program that has been mentioned earlier. As reported earlier, within the PASSHE universities, Slippery Rock University finished third in total amount of performance monies received. This is most commendable and we congratulate President Smith and his team on a job well done.

SAVE THE DATE

East Stroudsburg University will host the next PACT Conference scheduled for April 21-22, 2010.

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Contracts (TAB 2)

Dr. Murray moved, seconded by Dr. Marcus to approve the Contracts. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix E)

*Ms. Vessella abstained from voting on this item.

Fixed Assets (TAB 3)

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Ms. Vessella that the Fixed Assets be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix F)

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 G)

Resolution – Performing Arts Classroom and Laboratory Facility (TAB 5)

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Ms. Cosme that the Resolution to approve Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania’s undertaking a joint Commonwealth Capital-financed, System-financed and Private-financed capital facilities project to construct a new Performance and Classroom Laboratory Facility be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix H)

Fire Department Contributions (TAB 6)

Dr. Hicks moved, seconded by Mr. Holmes that the Fire Department Contributions be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix I)

**Chairman Taylor requested a report of fire department calls to the University at the next meeting.*

Alterations to Student Code of Conduct (TAB 7)

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Ms. Cosme that the alterations to the Student Code of Conduct be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix J)

Approval FY 2009-2010 Budget (TAB 8)

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Dr. Murray that the FY 2009-2010 Budget be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix K)

INFORMATION ITEMS (TAB #9)

Next Meeting Date

**Upcoming Dates for 2010: April 15 & 16, 2010
June 3 & 4, 2010**

Quarterly Budget Report

Facilities and Planning Active Project List

Personnel Items

Instructional Appointments Effective the First Semester 2009-2010

Instructional Appointments Effective the Second Semester 2009-2010

Operational Leadership/Professional Appointment

State University Administrator Appointments

Grant-Funded Program Coordinator Appointments

Non-Faculty Athletic Coach Appointments

Support Staff Appointments

Retirements

Resignations

Professor Emeritus Status

Divisional Reports

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dennis Murray – Happy Holidays!

John Hicks – Recently I attended the ordination of Bishop Hebda, former director of the Newman Center. I attended the event with Dr. Chapman, professor emeritus from SRU. This was an amazing experience and we were so warmly welcomed and received by the group in attendance for this very special event.

Bob Taylor – I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday and we would like to thank everybody that's not a Council member for all that you do on behalf of SRU. This is a special place. You do great work, and we are very proud to talk about SRU. Dr. Smith, you have a great team here who does incredible work and we are all so very proud of this institution. Thank you.

Suzanne Vessella – Happy Holidays!

Bob Marcus – Happy Holidays!

Jessica Cosme – Happy Holidays! I hope to see you all at Commencement.

Josh Young – It's always good to be back on campus. I wish you all Happy Holidays! Safe travels to everyone. Congratulations to our seniors who are about to set out on a new adventure in just a few short weeks. Slippery Rock University has prepared you well.

Eric Holmes – Happy Holidays!

With no further business, the Friday, December 4, 2009 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:40 p.m. Mr. Young moved; Ms. Vessella seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

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