

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

December 3, 2010

The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees of Slippery Rock University was held in The Watson Family Conference Room of the Russell Wright Alumni House and Conference Center on Friday, December 3, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by Mr. Joshua Young, chairperson.

Recording of Attendance

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

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

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Dr. Marcus moved, seconded by Dr. Hicks approval of the December 3, 2010 meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously. (Appendix A)

**Mr. Young added one addition to the agenda – immediately following the presentations there will be a motion to create a standing committee of Council – the Governance Committee.*

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Maharaj moved, seconded by Dr. Murray that the meeting minutes of October 1, 2010 are approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. **(TAB 1)**

Public Comments

Mr. Jeremiah Rosser, president of Slippery Rock Student Government Association, Inc., provided an update of SRSGA activities to Council.

President Rosser provided updates to Council:

- The public relations and grounds committee submitted to SGA a proposal to order high quality, high-resolution bus wraps for campus shuttles for the purpose of promoting a professional look while also promoting excellent marketing exposure.
- Working to develop increased communication among SGA members serving on campus committees
- Reported that a racquetball court was returned to SGA with assistance from President Smith
- Developed a t-shirt fundraising effort
- Added an additional SGA shuttle to serve students on weekends

Chairman Young extended thanks to Jeremiah for hosting him at the Student Government Association meeting yesterday.

Presentations

Check Presentation

A check was presented to the Slippery Rock University Fire Department & Rescue Team. In attendance to receive recognition for the many years of outstanding service provided to Slippery Rock University and the surrounding Slippery Rock community were Mr. Ron Steele, member and past chief, SRVFD and Mr. Al Taggart, vice president.

Faculty Presentation

Dr. Michael Zieg, Associate Professor, Geography, Geology and the Environment, presented his work, "Evolution of Igneous Intrusions: Case Studies from Antarctica and Canada." Dr. Zieg presented a slide show detailing the geology research conducted by his undergraduate students in Canada. Dr. Zieg also detailed his own, award-winning geology work in Antarctica.

-Dr. John Hicks added the comment that Michael and his wife Suzanne are wonderful additions to the Slippery Rock University family.

Sustainability Day

Mr. Chris Stefanides, graduate student from Wellsboro, Pa., majoring in Park Resource Management/Environmental Education, provided an update to the World Sustainable Development Teach-In Day held today in the MPR of the University Union. This effort hosted by the AmeriCorps Office, through the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, provided students and professors the opportunity to examine key sustainability-related issues.

Establishment of Governance Committee

Dr. Hicks moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor approval to establish a Governance Committee. Motion carried unanimously

Governance Committee Members:

Mr. Eric Holmes – Chairperson
 Ms. Grace Hawkins
 Mr. Robert Taylor
 Mr. John Thornburgh
 Ms. Suzanne Vessella
 Dr. John Hicks

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Committee

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

Program Changes: The members of the liberal studies program committee are engaged in reviewing the current liberal studies program based on a change to Board of Governors' policy 1990-06-A: Academic Degrees. The change was from the original policy requiring 40% of 120 credits in liberal arts and sciences to at least 40 semester credit hours focused on competencies consistent with the liberal education learning outcomes as defined in Policy 1993-01: General Education at State System of Higher Education Universities.

Enrollments for Spring 2011 are strong:

- 695 applicants, 464 offers and 330 deposits to date. Last year at this time there were 631 applicants, 427 offers and 306 deposits.
- Students applying at SRU for Fall 2011 are applying using the new Banner system.

International Initiatives:

- SRU will offer a cultural summer program for a group of students from Saga University in Japan. The students will be living on campus and emerged into the culture of the university and the region.
- The Office of International Services is working with academic departments to offer short-term programs in Italy, France, Ireland, The Bahamas, Mexico, Egypt, The Netherlands, England, China and Canada (and others) during spring break and summer. The University also has student-teaching programs in Mexico and Ireland, with 22 students currently in Dublin.

Slippery Rock University has been ranked 10th nationally among masters-degree granting institutions for the number of students participating in short-term study abroad programs. The institute of International Education, which provided the ranking, noted that SRU placed 402 students into study-abroad programs of eight weeks or less in 2008-09.

Many departments in Academic Affairs are publishing brochures, flyers, invitations, and other documents electronically. The office of grants and sponsored research is producing the "Year in Review" online booklet that showcases student and faculty grant activity during the 2009-10 fiscal year. The excellence in teaching, and scholarly and creative achievement publication will be provided online through the office of academic affairs.

Vincent Science Center is scheduled to reopen for the Spring 2011 semester. The classes/labs for Biology, Math, Nursing, Physics and Psychology will be held in this newly renovated facility.

Finance & Audit Committee

Dr. Dennis Murray, chair, shared information provided by Dr. Charles Curry, vice president of Finance and Administrative Affairs. The following action items were recommended for approval: Contracts, Fixed Assets, and Service and Supply Purchase Orders.

Items reviewed as information included personnel items, Facilities and Planning Active Project List, and the monthly budget report.

University Advancement Committee

Mr. Robert Taylor, chair, shared the activities of the University Advancement Division based on a report provided to him by Ms. Barbara Ender, vice president for Advancement.

Plans are in place for tomorrow evening's Celebration of Giving, the annual donor recognition event, which will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the University Union. Over 150 guests are expected to attend. Following the dinner, students from the performing arts departments of music, theatre and dance will perform.

Vice President Barbara Ender and Executive Director of the SRU Foundation Ed Bucha reported yesterday at the Advancement Committee meeting, the Foundation's reorganization process is complete, and it is now independent and in compliance with the Adverse Interest Act. The documents that formalize the new relationship are currently in the Attorney General's office.

Gifts received for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 as of October 31st totaled \$439,000 with the value of the endowment at \$16.5 million. The endowment represents the combined totals of the SRU Foundation and SRU Alumni Association endowments.

The Campus Family Campaign will conclude December 31st. As of November 19th, gifts totaled \$137,600 and the participation rate was 49%. Three units have already achieved 100% participation.

The fall phonathon continues until the end of the semester with student callers requesting support for the Fund for Excellence, which is unrestricted giving that will be used for priorities of the University. As of November 12th, pledges totaled \$102,218, a 7 per cent increase over last year's total during the same time period.

Construction continues at the former Vincent property (now known as Slippery Rock Technology Park) on the infrastructure and the Butler Health System facility, which is scheduled to open on March 1, 2011.

Student Life Committee

Mr. Brandon Maharaj, chair of the Student Life Committee, provided the following report based on information from Dr. Constance Foley, vice president for Student Life.

The SRU Athletic Department had a successful fall season and the winter teams look to be very competitive again this year. The Men's and Women's Soccer teams qualified for the PSAC Playoffs. The women's team also competed in the Division II Women's Soccer Championship Playoffs. In the PSAC Cross Country Championship, SRU Women's team finished third and the men's team finished fourth. The Rock also had several all-PSAC, all-Region, and All-American team selections in cross-country, field hockey, football, soccer and volleyball.

The Compass Leadership Program held the Level One, Two and Three Leadership Summits with a total of 96 students in attendance. We also hosted 4 individual Compass Leadership workshops in conjunction with Residence Life. The First Year Leader Scholar Program selected 101 students to participate in the FLSP program.

The annual Family and Friends Weekend took place on Sept. 17 and 18. A total of 474 families registered for the event. This represents an increase of 148 friends and family members.

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 provided this report.

The last PACT Executive Board Meeting was held October 13 & 14 at Kutztown University. Some of the ideas reported then have now become works in progress. One of the projects is Chancellor Cavanaugh's report sent on December 1. In the missive he was pleased to report a vision that includes four major components, all grounded in the need for transformations: (a) How, when, and where learning

occurs; (b) How the resources necessary to ensure learning are pursued, retained and sustained; (c) How our universities relate to their various communities; and (d) How we partner with the Commonwealth to create and deliver a shared vision for the future.

I have distributed *PASSHE at a Glance* brochures with basic facts to assist trustees in their support of state universities.

President Smith has announced the selection of SRU to be a member of The National Institute for Learning Assessment. NIOLA seeks to make learning outcomes usable and transparent. Dr. Hicks commented that from his experience the instructional programs in the College of Education were predicated on those concepts. As we move forward, it should be comforting to have a seasoned cadre of faculty who understand those concepts and can share them with their colleagues. When considering the prestige of a particular group, those who direct it become very important. One of two key program leaders is Dr. Stan Ikenberry, former highly regarded administrator at The Pennsylvania State University, whom I am pleased to know personally.

SAVE THE DATE – Edinboro University of Pennsylvania will host PACT April 27-28, 2011.

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.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (Appendix B)

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Contracts (TAB 2)

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

Fixed Assets (TAB 3)

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

Service and Supply Purchase Orders (TAB 4)

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

INFORMATION ITEMS (TAB #5 – TAB #8)Next Meeting Date**March 17 & 18, 2011**Personnel ItemsFacilities and Planning Active Project ListMonthly Budget Report FY 2010-2011Divisional Reports**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dennis Murray – Happy Holidays!

Brandon Maharaj – Thank you all for a great meeting. Happy Holidays! Safe travels home.

Eric Holmes – Happy Holidays!

Bob Marcus – I always enjoy my time here at The Rock.

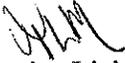
John Hicks – I would like to extend congratulations to Mr. Ed Hess on his retirement. He will be missed.

Bob Taylor – Merry Christmas! This has been a great meeting. Great job, Chairman Young

Josh Young – Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday. We had a great meeting and we look forward to our continued service as a Council to Slippery Rock University.

Suzanne Vessella – Enjoy the holiday season. Congratulations to Bob Taylor, who has been named to the Governor's transition team – education committee. The only Trustee in the Pennsylvania State System appointed to the team.

With no further business, the Friday, December 3, 2010 Council of Trustees meeting at Slippery Rock University adjourned at 2:45 p.m. Dr. Murray moved; Dr. Hicks seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted: 

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