

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021  
VIA ZOOM  
PUBLIC MEETING  
4:00 P.M.**

**I. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE**

Chairwoman, JD Dunbar called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following Trustees present:

Mrs. Susanne Burns  
Ms. JD Dunbar, Chairwoman  
The Honorable R. Lee James  
Mr. James Kifer, Secretary  
Ms. Kaitlyn Krupa, Student Trustee  
Mr. Brendan Shepherd  
Mr. Howard Shreckengost  
Mr. Neil Weaver

ABSENT: Ms. Milissa Steiner Bauer, Vice Chairwoman  
The Honorable Donna Oberlander  
Mr. Larry Pickett

The following members of the University administration attended the meeting:

Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, President  
Mr. Len Cullo, Vice President, Finance and Administration  
Dr. Laura Delbrugge, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences  
Mr. David Dollins, Vice President, Enrollment Management  
Dr. Susanne Fenske, Vice President, Student Affairs  
Dr. Phillip Frese, Dean, College of Business and Information Sciences  
Mr. Timothy Fogarty, Associate Vice President, Administration  
Mr. James Geiger, Vice President, University Advancement  
Dr. Pam Gent, Provost and Academic Vice President  
Mr. Rogers Laugand, Director, Diversity, Equity & Multicultural Affairs  
Ms. Hope Lineman, Dean, Career and Workforce Development  
Dr. Gwen Price, Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Services

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

III. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairwoman Dunbar presented the Consent Agenda and asked if any items needed removed for further discussion.

1. Approval of the November 19 & December 22, 2020, meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Trustee Weaver, seconded by Trustee Krupa, to approve the February 18, 2021, Consent Agenda.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Mrs. Sue Burns	YES
Ms. JD Dunbar	YES
Mr. R. Lee James	YES
Mr. James Kifer	YES
Ms. Kaitlyn Krupa	YES
Mr. Brenden Shepherd	YES
Mr. Howard Shreckengost	YES
Mr. Neil Weaver	YES

The motion carried.

IV. COVID-19 UPDATE

Tim Fogarty reported that we now are four weeks into the semester and have more activity on campus. The classrooms are being cleaned and sanitized between classes. Ionizing units were installed in the campus buildings. They are working on getting vaccines for employees and students. The COVID-19 Response Team meets regularly and plan to open as fully as possible in the fall while at the same time monitoring the CDC guidelines to be sure we are in line with the regulations and guidelines.

V. STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Trustee Krupa reported on the COVID-19 Student Taskforce led by a team of student leaders who work to encourage and educate fellow peers to follow CDC and state guidelines in preventing the spread of the Coronavirus infections. She introduced the six subcommittee chairs who attended the meeting.

VI. REPORT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Pam Gent reported that students are participating in clinicals, externships and student teaching this semester. Face-to-face and multi-mobile classes are in session. She is working with CalU/EU to coordinate the academic calendars for next year. This will allow additional course sharing and provide more

opportunities for faculty and students. She noted that Clarion nursing students are volunteering to give vaccines at Butler Health Systems, the U.S. News and World Report ranks Clarion University online nursing program 32<sup>nd</sup> best in the entire USA, and the SBDC assisted 1000 clients with small businesses CARES ACT funding.

VII. REPORT OF THE CLARION UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC.

Trustee Kifer reported that the Board met on February 4 and approved the donation to the University in support of scholarships and the purchase of gifts for graduates during the pandemic. The donation comes from the sale of the Barnes Center. Max Smith and Trustee Kifer are representing the Clarion University Foundation on the integration subcommittees. They are working on restructuring the Board's subcommittees.

VIII. REPORT OF FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES

Mr. Cullo reviewed the contract and grant awards that was noted in the agenda. He indicated the equipment for the Tippin Gymnasium weight room will be installed by March 9. He received allocations from DGS for the renovations of the Tippin Gymnasium. They are working on plans for the renovation of Egbert.

IX. REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, SOCIAL EQUITY, & MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

Rogers Laugand mentioned the upcoming events for Black History Month and the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. His office is providing Title IX and DEI training for students and employees.

X. REPORT OF STUDENT SENATE

Chelsea Mason reported that Senate elections took place with 124 voters which was more than in past elections. They are working with the Center for Career and Professional Development for resume building. That event will be offered in April. Senate is looking into a scholarship to help students pay activity fees who do not attend events to which fees are allocated.

XI. REPORT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE

Trustee Krupa introduced her fellow student trustees from Cal and Edinboro Universities who attended the meeting. She provided an update on the Student Trustee search that will be completed mid-March and submitted to the BOG for their approval at their April meeting.



## XII. REPORT OF FACULTY SENATE

Dr. Jackie Knaust reported that Senate has been working on General Education programs and Inquiry Seminars, participating on integrating Faculty Senate for NewU, and reviewing curriculum changes.

## XIV. REPORT OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Jim Geiger reported they would not be hosting an Alumni weekend this June due to COVID-19 but are planning events for homecoming weekend in the fall. He announced the Fans in the Stands campaign where you can purchase a Fan Cutout in Tippin Gymnasium and Memorial Stadium for spring athletic competitions. Donations go toward the Golden Eagle Athletic Partners Fund. Trustee James challenged all trustees to participate in this campaign.

## XV. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Trustee Weaver reported that the BOG transformed some of their policies that were outdated. Act 50 of 2020 empowers the BOGs to make the appointment of students to serve on the Council of Trustees for the universities. They approved the appointment of Lock Haven University Interim President and the extension of appointment of Cheyney University President. The Board approved the State System to enter into a contract with SERS for \$825 million to prefund unfunded liability through the issuance of bonds to create positive cash flow.

## XVI. REPORT OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

David Dollins reported that it has been a challenging year for recruiting students with the out-of-state travel restrictions by the Pennsylvania Governor. They are trying to increase student engagement using social media and text messaging. They are working with students to complete their FASFA forms. They are working toward moving to one enrollment team for the admissions process for NewU.

## XVII. REPORT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dr. Susanne Fenske reported that they are performing surveillance testing in the residence halls and for other volunteer students. They received a very low positive rate, only one percent. The Greek Life Office is reactivating two student organizations. All athletes are competing this spring with the exception of football. Students are signing up for fall 2021 housing. They reported record number, 65 percent, scholar athletes who obtained a 3.2 GPA or above this semester. They are collaborating campus programming with CalU/EU. They received several donations for items for the Resource Room. The Foundation implemented a sponsor match your gift that raised \$20,000 for the Resource Room.

## XVIII. REPORT OF PACT

Trustee Burns provided the PACT report in Trustee Bauer's absence. The spring conference will be held on April 28 and will include topics on Diverse, Open and Inclusive Campuses presented by Dr. Denise Pearson, PASSHE; training for trustees; and students' interaction to help understand from their perspective.

## XIX. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Pehrsson is working with the State System on retirement incentives. The integration working groups will have their final recommendations for the Chancellor by April 1. The Presidents recently made their recommendation to the NCAA to maintain three athletic programs for the integration process.

## XX. REPORT OF COUNCIL CHAIR

Trustee Chairwoman Dunbar noted Shakespeare's famous line, a line later borrowed by author John Steinbeck, "The Winter Of Our Discontent," as it might be said this was everyone's "Winter of Our Discontent." She referenced the change endured this past year not only with the pandemic but with State System sustainability and integration. Chair Dunbar cited her list of meetings, and indicated that she calls trustees who often have the perspective to 'read the sea.' She selects a book at each "Chair's Report" to acknowledge extraordinary service and suggested that VP Jim Geiger earned this book and will provide it to him not to suggest a change in any behavior by VP Geiger, who has been exemplary, but to ratify what he has been doing all along."

## XXI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

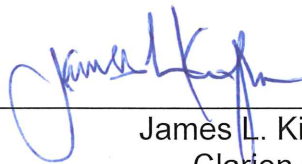
## XXII. NEW BUSINESS – None.

## XXIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

A motion was made by Trustee Kifer and Krupa simultaneously, seconded by Trustee Shreckengost to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. The next meeting of the Council of Trustees will be Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Respectfully submitted



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James L. Kifer, Secretary  
Clarion University  
Council of Trustees