

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
NOVEMBER 20, 2008  
ROOM 204 CARLSON LIBRARY, CLARION CAMPUS  
CLARION, PA 16214

7:00 P.M.

I. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order by Mr. James, Chairperson, with the following Trustees present:

Mr. Richard Hilinski, Secretary  
Mr. R. Lee James, Chairperson  
Mr. James Kifer  
Mr. Kyle McMunn  
Mr. Howard Shreckengost, Vice Chairperson

The following trustees were absent from the meeting:

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi  
Mrs. Susanne Burns  
Mr. H. John Drayer  
Mr. Jeffrey Szumigale

The following members of the University administration attended the meeting:

Mr. Paul Bylaska, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Dr. Jocelind Gant, Assistant to the President for Social Equity and Assistant Vice President for International Programs  
Dr. Joseph Grunenwald, President  
Dr. Valentine James, Provost and Academic Vice President  
Mr. Harry Tripp, Vice President for Student and University Affairs

Dr. Grunenwald explained that due to the lack of the required quorum, the meeting would be restricted to the presentation of information items. Members agreed to convene a special meeting of the Council of Trustees via conference call on Monday, November 24, at 5:00 p.m. to consider the action items. The meeting will be advertised per the state's Open Meeting Law.

## II. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

Approval of the minutes was postponed until the special meeting of the Council of Trustees on November 24, 2008.

## III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comments – None

B. Report of Student Senate

Student Senate President Brian Perkins reported on activities of his group, including its sponsorship of the annual Social Equity banquet; a voter registration drive; changes to the policy for Recognized Student Organizations (RSO's); review of funding for Recognized University Organizations (RUO's, including Athletics, Marching Band, University Theatre); allocation of approximately \$10,000 for student participation in a national conference on student leadership; and review of the Clarion Student Organization/Campus Life policy and procedures book. Mr. Perkins indicated that Student Senate oversaw a budget of \$1.4 million. Dr. Grunenwald commended the current Student Senate leadership for taking on several important policy issues.

C. Report of Faculty Senate – No report.

D. Council Chairperson's Report

Mr. James thanked trustees Hilinski and McMunn, who joined him in attending the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Equity Dinner and Awards Ceremony on November 12. Mr. James reminded trustees that Winter 08 Commencement was scheduled for Saturday, December 13, at 2:00 p.m. in the Waldo Tippin Gymnasium.

## IV. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President

### Information Items

1. State System Update

Dr. Grunenwald provided an update on State System initiatives, including the development of a governance structure and

procurement process for a new student information system; provision of legal counsel training for campus personnel in matters related to criminal investigation and changes to the state's Right to Know Law; creation of task forces to review class size, professional doctorates, and the System's Performance Indicators; and the vote by the Board of Governors to give back to Governor Rendell 4.25% of the System's appropriation in light of declining state revenues. Dr. Grunenwald indicated that despite the giveback, Clarion University would continue to move ahead with filling mission essential and public safety essential positions.

2. Enrollment

Dr. Grunenwald indicated that applications for Spring 09 were up by 50, while deposits were up by 10 over the prior year. For Fall 09, Dr. Grunenwald noted increases in both applications and deposits of 34.7% and 37%, respectively.

B. Academic Affairs

Information Items

1. International Collaboration and Partnerships

Dr. James shared that he had met with officials of Sanda University in Shanghai, China, and that the university's agreement with that institution was almost finalized. Additional agreements being explored by Dr. James include a partnership with Beijing Forest University and faculty/student exchanges at institutions in Africa.

2. Faculty Appointments and Grants

Dr. James noted faculty appointments and funded grants listed in the agenda.

3. Moratorium

Dr. James reported that the Special Education/Rehabilitative Sciences dual major would be put in moratorium, effective December, 2008, due to new PA Department of Education standards and low enrollment.

4. Amendment to Academic Calendar for 2009-2010

Dr. James introduced Ms. Lisa Hepler, Registrar, to discuss the need to amend the Academic Calendar for 2009-2010 previously approved by the Council of Trustees. Ms. Hepler distributed handouts with the revised calendar information, noting that a change was needed in order to align the university's Mid-Semester Fall 09 break with the new date for Homecoming 09. Approval of the action item will be postponed until the Council's special meeting on November 24, 2008.

C. Finance and Administration

Information Items

1. Budget Update

Mr. Bylaska reported that the university was in a watchful mode regarding its FY09-10 budget. He noted increased enrollment appropriation and reserves in FY08-09 had placed the university in a better budget position than in previous years.

2. Status of Facilities Report

Mr. Bylaska highlighted projects on the Status of Facilities Report, including the South Campus Parking Lot, due to open November 24; the new dining facility slated to open in January 09 and demolition of Chandler Dining Hall during Summer 09; and the completion of the West End Pond and other work at Venango Campus.

D. Student and University Affairs

Information Items

1. Certification of Foundation Compliance with Board of Governors Policy 1985-04, University External Financial Support

Mr. Tripp distributed information providing an accounting of \$277,944 in university support to the Clarion University Foundation, Inc. for FY07-08, along with information on a total of \$4,031,500 in Foundation support to the university for the same time period. Approval of the certification of Foundation Compliance with Board of Governors policy on financial support

was postponed until the Council's November 24, 2008 special meeting.

2. Fund-raising Report

Mr. Tripp reported that a little over \$1.3 million in private support has been raised so far for the fiscal year. The funding includes a \$400,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation and a gift of \$1.2 million from retired faculty member Dr. Gregory Barnes to name a new student apartment building at Venango Campus and the Biotechnology Business Development Center.

VI. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Mr. James reported that the Executive Committee had met on November 11, 2008.

B. Finance Committee

Approval of the Finance Committee's report for September 9 to October 14, 2008, was postponed until the Council's special meeting on November 24, 2008.

C. Naming Committee

Mr. James reported that the Naming Committee had met on November 11, 2008, to review two proposals. He noted that one proposal recommended the naming of the main dining room in the new dining facility the "Paul G. Chandler Dining Room" in honor of former Clarion University President Paul G. Chandler, while the other proposal outlined naming opportunities for the university's new Science and Technology Center. Mr. Tripp reviewed details of both proposals and noted that the Naming Committee had endorsed their presentation to the full Council of Trustees. Review and approval of the proposals was postponed until the Council's special meeting on November 24, 2008.

D. Honorary Degree Committee

Mr. James indicated that the Honorary Degree Committee had met on November 12, 2008, to review five nominations for the honorary degree. He further indicated that the committee had endorsed the nominations of Dr. John Gardner, Mr. Neil Todhunter, and Mr. David Paterson and had forwarded them to President for recommendation to the full Council. The review and approval of honorary degree nominations was postponed until the Council's special meeting on November 24, 2008.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS - None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted

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Richard Hilinski, Secretary  
Council of Trustees