

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
FEBRUARY 16, 2012
108 EAGLE COMMONS
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:

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi
Ms. JD Dunbar
Mr. R. Lee James, Chairperson
Mr. James Kifer, Secretary
Mr. Chris Myers
Ms. Donna Oberlander
Mr. Larry Pickett, Vice Chairperson

The following trustees were absent from the meeting:

Mrs. Susanne Burns
Mr. Ross Cioppa
Mr. Howard Shreckengost
Mr. Jeffrey Szumigale

The following members of the University administration attended the meeting:

Mr. Paul Bylaska, Vice President for Finance and Administration
Dr. Ronald Nowaczyk, Provost and Academic Vice President
Dr. Christopher Reber, Executive Dean, Venango Campus
Dr. Karen Whitney, President

II. Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Dunbar, seconded by Mr. Myers, that the minutes of the November 17, 2011 regular meeting of the Council of Trustees be approved as distributed by mail. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comments - None

B. Report of Student Senate

Clarion Student Senate President Joanna Catalano reported that her group would sponsor a community day on April 14, 2012, to promote the "Good Neighbor" program. She also noted that the Student Senate had held a number of academic forums with the Provost and that its members had attended a conference at East Stroudsburg University for student government representatives and local Clarion Borough Council meetings.

C. Report of Faculty Senate

Chair Mark Franchino outlined the work of several Faculty Senate committees, including the Academic Standards Committee and the Technology Subcommittee.

D. Council Chairperson's Report

Mr. James reminded the trustees that the Council would elect its officers for 2012-2013 at its April 19, 2012 meeting. He also reminded trustees that the Spring 2012 Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees (PACT) Conference would take place in Harrisburg on March 19 and 20. He advised any trustee wishing to attend the event but as yet unregistered to contact Ms. Linda Campbell immediately. Mr. James called the trustees' attention to the Statement of Financial Interests forms at their places and noted a deadline of May 1, 2012, by which to submit the forms to the State Ethics Commission.

Mr. James indicated that the Council's agenda would be re-ordered to have the auditors' report precede the Reports and Recommendations of the President.

Information Item

1. Auditors' Report for Year Ended June 30, 2011

Mr. William Kelly, Audit Senior Manager for the firm of Parente Beard, reviewed his firm's audit of the university's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2011. He noted that the university's assets had increased from \$99 million to \$106 million. He further noted that liabilities had also increased owing in large part to uncompensated absences and post-retirement benefits. Mr.

Kelly commended the university's efforts to hold the line on expenses, noting that expenses had increased 1.3%.

Mr. James requested to see hard copies of the auditors' report. Ms. Jill Spence, Interim Director of Accounting, indicated that she would retrieve copies from her office and distribute them to the trustees. Mr. Bylaska commended Ms. Spence on her efforts resulting in Clarion University receiving an unqualified opinion on the audit.

V. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President

Action Item

1. Approval of Proposed University Mission, Vision, and Core Values Statements

Dr. Whitney presented Dr. Todd Pfannestiel, Faculty Fellow for Planning, Assessment, and Improvement, who summarized the six-month process leading to the creation of the proposed new university mission, vision and core values statements. Dr. Pfannestiel distributed a handout on high-impact educational practices and discussed the remaining steps in the university's strategic directions process, noting the goal of developing 5-7 measurable directions and presenting them to the university community by April 1, 2012.

Dr. Whitney commended the proposed mission, vision and core values as statements that the university could live with and advance. Ms. Dunbar observed that she could see her own Clarion University education in the statements.

A motion was made by Mr. Kifer, seconded by Ms. Dunbar, to approve the following resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the Mission, Vision, and Core Values statements for Clarion University of Pennsylvania as follows:

Mission

Clarion University of Pennsylvania provides transformative, life-long learning opportunities through innovative, nationally-recognized programs delivered in inclusive, student-centered environments.

Vision

Clarion University will be a leader in high-impact educational practices that benefit students, employers, and community partners.

Core Values

Students, faculty, staff and alumni of Clarion University value:

- learning;
- accomplishment;
- encouragement;
- diversity;
- civility;
- civic engagement;
- public higher education.

Information Items

1. State System Update

Dr. Whitney noted that she had just returned from a meeting of the PASSHE Council of Presidents and the Chancellor where the conversation had focused on the continued cuts in state funding and the impact on PASSHE universities and their ability to deliver courses that students need. She further noted that Clarion University had undertaken some serious restructuring via Responsibility Center Management (RCM) and that the RC managers had agreed to a plan for addressing the Governor's request for a giveback in FY11-12 funds should the Board of Governors vote to comply with that request. Dr. Whitney indicated that the RCs were in the process of building their budgets for FY12-13 and that a scorecard for assessing program viability would soon be launched to assist RCs in their decision making. In response to a question from Mr. James about whether or not the budget was forcing greater collaboration, Dr. Whitney indicated that Clarion would be building on its existing strengths in collegiality and collaboration.

2. Middle States Re-Accreditation Update

Dr. Whitney noted that the site visitation team from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education would be visiting the university from March 18-21 and meeting with a variety of constituent groups to review Clarion's compliance with 14 standards of excellence. She introduced Dr. Colleen McAleer, chairperson of the university's Middle States Steering Committee, who noted that the trustees had at their places a copy of the executive summary of the university's larger self-study, which was available on the university's web site at www.clarion.edu/middlestates. Dr. Whitney encouraged trustees who were not planning to attend the Spring 2012 PACT conference to participate in a meeting with the Middle States team. Details will be forwarded to the trustees once the schedule for the site visit is finalized.

3. Presidential 500-Day Plan February 2012 Status Report

Dr. Whitney highlighted outcomes in her February status report on progress in achieving her 500-Day Plan. She noted that responses to the RFP for the Clarion Borough-University Master Plan were due on March 14 and that the PASSHE would invest \$450,000 toward priority efforts to assist dislocated workers. In response to a question from Mr. Pickett concerning whether or not PASSHE would be shifting its focus from traditional teacher preparation to a more business oriented curriculum, Dr. Whitney indicated that universities needed to look at synergies between education and business.

B. Academic Affairs

Action Item

1. Endorsement of Venango College Proposal

Dr. Nowaczyk commended the leadership of Venango Campus Executive Dean Dr. Christopher Reber in guiding the campus to the proposed next step in its evolution—college status. Dr. Reber noted that the campus had reached a critical mass of programs and services and a level of maturity that warranted the proposed change. Dr. Nowaczyk read the resolution for the endorsement of the establishment of Venango College of Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Noting that it was a "historic day," Dr. Ali-Zaidi commented that he was pleased to see that the proposed Venango College had been based on the models of the Pennsylvania College of Technology and The Behrend College. He noted the importance of Venango College in providing employment opportunities and an educational ladder for citizens of the region.

A motion was made by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, seconded by Ms. Dunbar, that the following resolution be endorsed. The motion carried unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Venango Campus of Clarion University was established in 1962 through the vision and leadership of community and university pioneers in order to address a need for higher education in Venango County; and,

WHEREAS, Clarion University–Venango Campus is the oldest regional campus in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and has remained a collaboration of university and community, working together to advance the needs of Venango County, the surrounding region, the Commonwealth, and beyond for over 50 years; and,

WHEREAS, Clarion University–Venango Campus has gained distinction in creating educational partnerships, high-quality programs that address regional and workforce needs, and a growing array of academic degrees that provide an educational ladder for career mobility; and,

WHEREAS, Clarion University–Venango Campus has achieved unprecedented levels of enrollment, program offerings, and out-of-class activities and support services to help students succeed; and,

WHEREAS, over the last decade, community benefactors and supporters have donated more than \$11 million to the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., in support of the Venango Campus to provide students and community members with impressive living, learning, and recreational opportunities including scholarships, student apartments, an endowed center for the study of oil history, and a renovated West End Pond; and,

WHEREAS, new and enhanced programming is envisioned to provide a continuously expanding array of educational milestones and credentials, an innovative curriculum, and comprehensive services that contribute to the university's strategic directions and

comprise a center of excellence for addressing the holistic educational needs of students and the region; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of Trustees of Clarion University of Pennsylvania recognizes and celebrates the past, current, and future contributions of Venango Campus of Clarion University to the university, the region, the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and beyond; and,

WHEREAS, a proposal to create the Venango College of Clarion University has been reviewed and embraced by university and community constituencies and leaders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Trustees of Clarion University wholeheartedly endorses the establishment of Venango College of Clarion University, effective July 1, 2012; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be made a part of the Council of Trustees minutes of the meeting of February 16, 2012, and that a framed copy of this resolution be formally presented at the Venango Campus 50th Anniversary Founders Dinner on April 26, 2012.

Information Items

1. Academic Possibilities for Venango College

Dr. Nowaczyk summarized a presentation that he had made at a recent Venango Campus Advisory Council meeting on the academic possibilities for Venango College. He reviewed the academic landscape in terms of changing population and the impact of technology. He discussed potential credentials and degrees that Venango College might offer through a "degree ladder" approach. He also reviewed the time line for developing a new academic plan for Clarion University.

2. Enrollment and Retention Update

Dr. Nowaczyk indicated that 93% of students enrolled at Clarion University for Fall 2011 had returned for Spring 2012. He noted that deposits for Fall 2012 were running ahead of the prior year, while applications were down a bit, similar to the situation at other PASSHE universities. Dr. Nowaczyk briefly reviewed the Clarion Attendance Initiative for Retention (CAIR) project, noting that of the 297 freshmen and transfers targeted for early intervention last Fall,

43% had GPAs of 2.0 or higher and 83% (106) had returned this Spring. Of the original group, 57% were below 2.0 and only 54% (90) returned in Spring. Dr. Nowaczyk indicated that CAIR was intensely monitoring students who were below 2.0 and also looking at those between 2.0 and 2.5 as the next group for intervention and monitoring.

3. Board of Governors Approval for Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Leadership

Dr. Nowaczyk announced that the PASSHE Board of Governors had approved Clarion's proposed Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Leadership at its meeting on January 19, 2012. The new online degree program will be offered by the School of Nursing and Allied Health at Venango College of Clarion University beginning in Fall 2012.

4. Examination of Faculty Renewal, Tenure, Promotion, and Sabbatical Policies and Procedures

Provost Nowaczyk noted that he and President Whitney had met with faculty to express their interest in opening discussions about faculty renewal, tenure, promotion and sabbatical policies and procedures. He noted the need to align the policies and procedures with the university's new academic plan once it was completed.

5. Search for College of Business Administration (COBA) Dean Replacement

Dr. Nowaczyk reported that a university search committee would be working with search consulting firm Witt/Kieffer to identify a replacement for College of Business Administration Dean Jim Pesek, who will be retiring in August 2012.

B. Finance and Administration

Action Item

A. Approval of Capital Budget Submissions, 2012-2013

Mr. Bylaska introduced Mr. Ric Taylor, new Director of Facilities Planning and Management, noting that Mr. Taylor was responsible for project planning, budgeting, and implementation as well as ensuring campus safety and aesthetics. Mr. Taylor reviewed the list of proposed projects for the university's 2012-2013 Capital Budget

Submissions, noting that only change to the list had been the deletion of the Tippin Gymnasium project, which had been approved and had moved to the designer selection phase.

A motion was made by Mr. Kifer, seconded by Mr. Pickett, that the following resolution be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the 2012-2013 Capital Budget Submissions to the State System of Higher Education.

Information Items

1. Budget Update

Mr. Bylaska indicated that pending the outcome of the Board of Governor's vote on the Governor's request for a mid-year giveback of FY11-12 funds, the university's RC managers had agreed to a plan that would generate the \$1.2 million that was expected to be Clarion's share. He noted that the cut would be spread across all the RCs.

2. Status of Facilities Report

Mr. Taylor reviewed projects on the Status of Facilities Report that had been attached to the trustees' agenda. He noted that after several delays, the conversion of Becht Hall into a comprehensive student success center was expected to be completed and the building ready for occupancy by Spring 2014.

E. Student and University Affairs

Information Item

1. Fund-raising Report

Reporting for Mr. Harry Tripp who was absent from the meeting, Dr. Whitney indicated that private support to the university for FY11-12 stood at \$1.2 million.

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Mr. James reported that the Executive Committee had met on February 7, 2012, and that copies of the minutes from that meeting would be forwarded to trustees.

B. Finance Committee

Action Item

1. Approval of Finance Committee Report

A motion was made by Mr. Kifer, seconded by Mr. Myers, that the following resolution be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the Finance Committee report for September 6 to November 8, 2011.

C. Honorary Degree Committee

Action Item

1. Approval of Honorary Degree Nominations

Mr. James report that the Honorary Degree Committee had met on February 7, 2012, to review nominations for the honorary degree. He further reported that the committee had forwarded to President Whitney the names of Clarion University alumna Jane France and her husband Chris Allison for the Doctor of Public Service and that the committee's recommendation had been endorsed by President Whitney for presentation to the full Council. Dr. Whitney described Ms. France and Mr. Allison as a "terrific team" who were "true champions of higher education." She noted Ms. France's service on the board of directors for the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., and the couple's philanthropy that had benefitted Clarion University students.

A motion was made by Ms. Oberlander, seconded by Ms. Dunbar, that Ms. Jane France and Mr. Christian Allison be approved for honorary Doctor of Public Service degrees. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Action Item

A. Presidential Leadership Review

The trustees entered into executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss President Whitney's performance evaluation and returned to public session at 9:53 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Myers, seconded by Ms. Dunbar, that the following motion be approved. A roll call vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

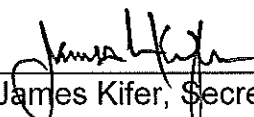
MOVE that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, recommend to the Board of Governors that the Chancellor be authorized to extend the contract of President Karen M. Whitney for one year

Roll Call Vote

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi	Yes
Ms. JD Dunbar	Yes
Mr. R. Lee James	Yes
Mr. James Kifer	Yes
Mr. Chris Myers	Yes
Ms. Donna Oberlander	Yes
Mr. Larry Pickett	Yes

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



James Kifer, Secretary
Council of Trustees