

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 17, 2009
ROBERT W. RHOADES CENTER AUDITORIUM
VENANGO CAMPUS, OIL CITY, PA 16301

7:00 P.M.

I. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

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

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi
Mrs. Susanne Burns
Mr. James Kifer
Mr. Kyle McMunn
Mr. Larry Pickett
Mr. Howard Shreckengost, Secretary

The following trustees were absent from the meeting:

Mr. Ross Cioppa
Ms. JD Dunbar
Mr. R. Lee James, Chairperson
Ms. Donna Oberlander
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
Dr. Christopher Reber, Executive Dean, Venango Campus
Mr. Harry Tripp, Vice President for Student and University Affairs

II. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF July 16, 2009

A motion was made by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, seconded by Mr. Shreckengost, that the minutes of the July 16, 2009 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

1. Venango Student Senate

Venango Student Senate representative Cheyenne Kuzma reported on activities of her group, including programming for new students, a Phi Theta Kappa leadership program, establishment of five new special interest clubs, and the development of a new intramurals, recreation, and club sports program.

2. Clarion Student Senate

Clarion Campus Student Senate President Heather Puhalla reviewed activities of her organization, including elections held to fill seven slots on Senate, a planning retreat in Cook Forest, and ongoing planning for a Day of Service and the Senate's new Good Neighbor program.

C. Report of Faculty Senate

1. Venango Faculty Forum

Reporting for Venango Faculty Forum Chairperson Dr. Ellen Foster, Assistant to the Executive Dean Kay Ensle highlighted news of the campus, including progress in achieving accreditation of academic programs, the creation of a Venango Campus Department of Arts and Sciences, and the granting of promotion and/or tenure to Venango faculty.

2. Clarion Faculty Senate

Clarion Faculty Senate Chairperson Dr. Laurie Occhinpinti reported that her organization had been busy making appointments to several university searches and councils and filling vacancies on Senate committees. She noted also the participation of Senate in mentoring new faculty and in the

upcoming 2008-2009 performance evaluation of President Grunenwald and formation of the Presidential Search Committee to conduct a national search for his replacement.

D. Council Chairperson' s Report

On behalf of Council Chair James, Mr. Kifer thanked trustees Ali-Zaidi, McMunn, Pickett, and Shreckengost for their participation in the August 30th Freshman Convocation. He also reminded Council members that the Fall 2009 Conference of the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees (PACT) would be hosted by Bloomsburg University on October 14-15. Mr. Kifer call the trustees' attention to PACT surveys at their places and asked them to complete the surveys and return them with two weeks to Ms. Linda Min in the Chancellor' s Office per survey directions.

V. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President

Information Items

1. Enrollment Management

Dr. Grunenwald reported that the university' s overall headcount for Fall 09 was 7,391, an increase of almost 4% over the prior year' s record total. He indicated that FTE had risen over 3% to 6,108, an important figure for budget preparation. In breaking down the enrollment growth, Dr. Grunenwald reported a 6% increase in new students for a record new class of 1,460, 1% increase in graduate enrollment, and 15% increase in distance-only students. He thanked Admissions and Financial Aid staff and, in particular, faculty for their contributions toward the enrollment success.

2. State System Update

Dr. Grunenwald noted general frustration over the lack of a state budget and uncertainty about the size the cut in appropriation to the State System. He indicated that the budget the trustees would review this evening would be tentative pending an agreement on the state budget.

3. Venango Campus Update

Dr. Grunenwald turned the podium over to Executive Dean Chris Reber, who noted that Venango Campus had been pleased to host a visit by PASSHE Chancellor John Cavanaugh earlier in the day. Dr. Reber also provided an update on progress at the Venango Campus, including the completion of two new student apartment buildings, restoration of West End Pond, and renovation of Rhoades Center locker rooms and Frame Hall restrooms; successful accreditation site visits for Industrial Technology, Respiratory Care, and the A.S. in Rehabilitative Services; new cohorts and grants in Nursing; availability of the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies at Venango through a combination of traditional and online coursework; new faculty and administrators; creation of the Venango Department of Arts and Sciences; and a number of community outreach endeavors. Dr. Reber announced that enrollment at Venango Campus had increased 9.9% over the prior year. He then introduced Mrs. Libby Williams, President of the Venango Campus Advisory Council, who discussed the 2009-2010 Venango Campus Cultural Series, Harvey Center lecture, Cahal Dunne holiday concert, and other planned events.

B. Academic Affairs

Action Item

1. Approval of Proposed 2010-2011 Academic Calendar

A motion was made by Mrs. Burns, seconded by Mr. Pickett, to approve the following resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University approve the 2010-2011 Academic Calendar pending review by APSCUF at the September 18, 2009 Meet and Discuss session.

Information Items

1. Program Reviews

Dr. James reported that five-year program reviews had been completed for Academic Enrichment and Advising, Admissions

and Financial Aid/Scholarships, Allied Health, Honors Program, International Programs, Psychology, and Theatre.

2. Memorandum of Understanding

Dr. James indicated that MOU' s or affiliation agreements had been signed during 08-09 with Sanda University of Shanghai, China; Beijing Forestry University of Beijing, China; and Dongguk University of Seoul, South Korea.

3. Exploring Study Abroad in Africa

Dr. James distributed brochures on the National Summit on Africa, an effort to explore opportunities for cooperation and mutually beneficial relationships between the U.S. and African countries and on study abroad in sustainable development in western Africa. He asked Dr. Jocelind Gant, Assistant Vice President for International Programs, to discuss study abroad opportunities in Africa for Clarion student s and faculty. Dr. Gant explained that for the current year, the focus would be on the country of Ghana. She noted that study in Africa would have particular relevance for minority students and for scholars of slavery.

4. Approval of New Programs in Education

Dr. James noted that the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) had approved the university' s new programs in Special Education, PK – 8th Grade; PK – 4th Grades; and Mid-Level 4th – 8th Grades.

5. News from the Colleges

Dr. James highlighted news from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Business Administration. He cited new programs in Women and Gender Studies and Public Relations, the renovation of the Still Hall computer lab and trading room and installation of financial trading system and Compustat software, and the scholarly efforts of College of Business faculty who had 32 articles published or accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals and who produced 90 other peer reviewed intellectual contributions during the period of January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

C. Finance and Administration

Action Items

1. Annual Budget

In follow up to the presentation of detailed information at an afternoon budget workshop for trustees, Mr. Bylaska highlighted elements of the university' s FY09-10 budget. In discussing assumptions on which the current-year budget had been built, Mr. Bylaska noted that the budget, designed to address an expected \$1.3 million deficit, was tentative pending passage of the Commonwealth budget.

A motion was made by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, seconded by Mr. Pickett, that the following resolution be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the annual budget for 2009-2010 and its submission to the State System of Higher Education.

Information Items

1. Status of Facilities Report

Mr. Bylaska reviewed elements of the Status of Facilities Report attached to the trustees' agenda. He noted that the renovation of Becht Hall into a student success center had moved into the design phase, a chiller was being replaced in Gemmell Student Center, a feasibility study on the renovation or replacement of Tippin Gymnasium was underway, and that projects at Venango Campus related to improvement of the main campus entrance and the expansion of the Nursing lab were in design.

D. Student and University Affairs

Information Items

1. Fall Semester Opening

Mr. Tripp thanked the over 200 volunteers who assisted with the move-in of 2,150 students at the beginning of the Fall semester.

2. Fund-raising Report

Mr. Tripp announced that the university had met and exceeded the fund-raising requirements to receive a Kresge Challenge Grant. He also reported a total of \$570,000 in private support to the university for the fiscal year to date.

VI. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Mr. Kifer reported that the Executive Committee had met on September 8, 2009, and that copies of the minutes from that session were at the trustees' places.

B. Finance Committee

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

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the Finance Committee Report for June 9 through August 11, 2009.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Trustee Representatives to the Presidential Search Committee

Mr. Kifer noted that per Board of Governors' policy guiding Presidential Searches, the Council of Trustees needed to elect three members to serve on the Presidential Search Committee. He reported that Chairman James had been in consultation with Council members to determine their willingness to serve on the committee and that, as a

result of those discussions, Chairman James had put for a recommendation that the following members be elected to the 2009-2010 Presidential Search Committee:

Sue Burns
Lee James
Howard Shreckengost

A motion was made by Mr. McMunn, seconded by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, that the Council of Trustees accept the recommendation of Mr. James regarding the appointments to the Presidential Search Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kifer relayed that Mr. James had asked Mrs. Burns to serve as Chairperson of the Presidential Search Committee and that she had agreed to assume those duties. On behalf of Mr. James and the Council, Mr. Kifer thanked Mrs. Burns for her leadership for the search process.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Shreckengost, seconded by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Howard Shreckengost,
Secretary
Council of Trustees