

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
SEPTEMBER 19, 2013
ROBERT W. RHOADES CENTER AUDITORIUM
VENANGO COLLEGE, OIL CITY, PA 16301

7:00 P.M.

I. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

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

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi
Ms. Milissa Steiner Bauer, Secretary
Mr. R. Lee James, Past Chairperson
Mr. James Kifer, Chairperson (via conference phone)
Ms. Donna Oberlander
Mr. Randy Seitz
Mr. Darren Young

The following trustees were absent from the meeting:

Mrs. Susanne Burns
Ms. J.D. Dunbar, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Howard Shreckengost
Mr. Jeffrey Szumigale

The following members of the University administration attended the meeting:

Mr. Peter Fackler, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration
Mr. Jim Geiger, Vice President for University Advancement
Dr. Ronald Nowaczyk, Provost and Academic Vice President
Dr. Christopher Reber, Executive Dean, Venango College
Mr. Harry Tripp, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Karen Whitney, President

Given Council of Trustees Chairman Jim Kifer's participation via conference phone, the meeting was presided over by Mr. James, Council Past Chairman. Mr. James thanked Venango College Executive Dean Reber and his colleagues for hosting the trustee budget workshop, dinner, and meeting. Mr. James also acknowledged the participation of members of the Venango College Advisory Council.

II. ACTION ITEMS

Mr. James noted that the agenda would be re-ordered to address the following three Action Items prior to other Council business:

A. Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, seconded by Mr. Young, that the minutes of the July 11, 2013 regular meeting of the Council of Trustees be approved as distributed by mail. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of the Annual Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Ms. Bauer, that the following resolution be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the annual budget for 2013-2014 and its submission to the State System of Higher Education.

C. Approval of the Finance Committee Report

A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Dr. Ali-Zaidi, 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 19, 2013.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Comments

Mr. James asked individuals offering public comments to limit their remarks to no more than three minutes. Mr. James further requested that if a group had several individuals speaking on its behalf, that group limit itself to no more than three speakers.

Dr. Ellen Foster, Associate Professor of English, distributed a handout to the Council members. She spoke about the negative impact of the university's proposed workforce plan on the priorities outlined in President Whitney's 500-Day Plan (See Attachment A.).

Mr. Joseph Croskey, President of the African-American Caucus, shared copies of a statement from his group. He indicated that the proposed

workforce plan would have a significant negative impact on the diversity of the university's workforce and adversely affect students (See Attachment B.).

Dr. Herbert Luthin, Professor of the English, presented the results of an online petition mounted by the Modern Languages Department and signed by more than 800 people. He also read a letter to trustees and members of the PA House of Representatives R. Lee James and Donna Oberlander asking them to oppose the proposed workforce plan and to petition Governor Tom Corbett to restore funding for public education (See Attachment C.).

Returning to the podium, Mr. Croskey spoke on behalf of the university's Department of Academic Enrichment, asking that the tutoring and other services provided by the department not be disbursed across the university but retained in the department.

Mr. James thanked those who had provided public comments.

B. Report of Student Senate

1. Venango Campus

Venango Campus Student Senate President Seth Hetrick reported on activities of his group and meetings planned with President Whitney and Executive Dean Reber.

2. Clarion Campus

Clarion Student Senate President Todd Garrett indicated that his group had held elections to fill some vacancies and was working to fill committee slots. Mr. Garrett also shared plans related to November events, including the university's Equity Week and a Board of Student Government Presidents' meeting in Harrisburg.

C. Report of Faculty Senate

1. Venango Forum

In the absence of Venango Forum President Dr. Paul Klenowski, who was attending a conference, Forum member Deb Kelly provided a report on summer and fall activities involving Venango faculty and staff.

2. Clarion Faculty Senate

Dr. Sally Sentner, Chairperson of Faculty Senate, read and presented copies of a resolution opposing the retrenchment of faculty and the elimination of academic programs (See Attachment D.).

D. Council Chairperson's Report

No report.

IV. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President

Information Items

1. PASSHE Update – No report.

2. Workforce Plan Update

Dr. Whitney indicated that she and the Vice Presidents had reviewed all comments about the university's proposed workforce plan that had been submitted during the comments period for the document. She further indicated that she expected the plan to be finalized by October 15, 2013.

3. Presidential 500-Day Plan September 2013 Status Report

Dr. Whitney highlighted outcomes in her September 2013 status report on her 500-Day Plan, Version 2. She spoke about an award of \$350,000 to Venango College from the PASSHE Chancellor's Office to provide training and services for displaced works and others throughout the state's Northern Tier.

4. Venango College Update

Dr. Whitney turned the podium over to Venango College Executive Dean Dr. Chris Reber who provided an update on programs and services at the college, including successful summer activities, special commendation for the Venango College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the development of new credentials, completion of the Venango College strategic plan, completion of a multi-year oral history project, facilities improvements, full occupancy at the

Venango student apartments and full living/learning communities in the apartments in Nursing and Allied Health. Dr. Reber introduced Dr. Joseph Carrico, Chair of the Venango College Advisory Council, who introduced members of the Council who were present at the meeting.

B. Academic Affairs

Information Items

1. Enrollment Management

Dr. Nowaczyk reported that overall headcount enrollment for fall 2013 stood at 6,080. He noted declines in FTIC Freshmen of 16 and Transfers of 20. Regarding retention, Dr. Nowaczyk noted that first to second year retention had increased from 70% in 2012 to 75% in 2013. He attributed the increase to attendance checking, intrusive advising, MapWorks and other software, university housing requirements, and outreach to students via postcards.

2. Briefing on Doctorate of Nursing Practice

Dr. Nowaczyk introduced Dr. Shelly Moore, Interim Director of the School of Nursing and Allied Health, who provided a briefing on the university's proposed Doctorate of Nursing Practice. She described the proposal as a 34-credit collaborative completion program to the jointly offered Clarion and Edinboro Universities' Master of Science in Nursing-Family Nurse Practitioner Program. She noted that the proposal had been submitted to the Chancellor's Office for review.

Dr. Whitney noted that the proposal, Clarion's first for a doctorate degree, was historic and based on successful work at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Dr. Whitney also thanked Trustee and member of the PA House of Representatives Donna Oberlander for her support for the Higher Education Modernization Act, signed by Governor Corbett in 2012, that allowed all PASSHE universities to offer applied or professional doctorates.

C. Finance and Administration

Information Item

1. Status of Facilities Report

Mr. Fackler reviewed projects listed on the Status of Facilities Report that had been attached to the trustees' agenda. In response

to a question from Mr. James regarding the funding of \$399,950 to replace the synthetic turf at the university's stadium, Mr. Tripp noted that savings out of the Auxiliary Reserves over a period of years had been used for the purchase. Mr. Fackler commended Mr. Tripp for planning ahead for the replacement need.

D. Student Affairs

Information Items

1. Opening of the Fall 2013 Semester

Mr. Tripp reported that based on comments he had received from the parents of incoming students, he believed that Move-In Day and other activities associated with the opening of the fall 2013 semester had been a success. He also called the trustees' attention to a list of Points of Pride containing news of student accomplishments that Mr. David Love, Director of Marketing and Communication, had prepared for the trustees' review.

E. University Advancement

1. Fund-raising Report

Mr. Geiger reported that at \$447,169, total private support raised by the Clarion University Foundation, Inc. for July 1- August 31, 2013, was \$12,000 ahead of the prior year for the same time period. He further reported that a meeting of individuals who had been interviewed by the capital campaign consultant, including Council of Trustees Chairperson Jim Kifer, would be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2013, to review the consultants' first report.

2. Branding Initiative

Mr. Geiger indicated that data related to the university's current branding initiative was expected to be available in October.

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Mr. James reported that the Executive Committee had met on September 13, 2013, and that copies of those minutes would be forwarded to the trustees.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

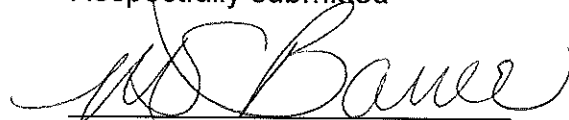
VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Call for Executive Session

The trustees entered into executive session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss personnel issues and returned to public session at 9:08 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. Steiner Bauer".

Milissa Steiner Bauer, Secretary
Council of Trustees