

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
September 15, 2016  
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. Kifer, Chairperson, with the following Trustees present:

Mrs. Milissa Steiner Bauer, Secretary  
Mrs. Susanne Burns  
Ms. JD Dunbar  
Mr. James Kifer, Chairperson  
Ms. Donna Oberlander (via conference call)  
Mr. Randy Seitz

The following Trustees were absent:

Dr. Syed Ali-Zaidi  
Mr. R. Lee James  
Mr. Howard Shreckengost

The following members of the University administration attended the meeting:

Mr. Len Cullo, Vice President, Finance and Administration  
Dr. Susanne Fenske, Vice President, Student Affairs  
Dr. Phillip Frese, Dean, College of Business Administration  
Mr. James Geiger, Vice President, University Advancement  
Dr. Roxanne Gonzales, Executive Dean, Venango Campus  
Dr. Todd Pfannestiel, Interim Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs  
Dr. Bruce Smith, Interim Dean, Arts Education & Sciences  
Dr. Karen Whitney, President

Chairman Kifer indicated that since Trustee Oberlander was participating via conference phone, the meeting agenda would be reordered to consider all Action Items first. He further indicated that at the conclusion of the Action Items, Trustee Oberlander would be excused from the meeting.

## II. ACTION ITEMS

### A. Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mrs. Burns that the minutes of the July 21, 2016 regular meeting of the Council of Trustees be approved as distributed by mail. The motion carried unanimously.

### B. Approval of the Proposed Proclamation and Resolution to the Clarion Borough.

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

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University and Clarion Borough together celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Clarion Borough; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University and the Clarion Borough unite college students and community members to build dialog, partnerships, and action plans for community development in the area; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University has gained distinction in creating partnerships with local businesses, hospitals, and organizations while allowing college students to gain knowledge and experience in their selected areas of study; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University brings a diversity of cultures, perspectives, backgrounds and experiences to the local community; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University brings agriculture, arts, and economic growth and development to the local community; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University strives to improve the business climate and livability of the local community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Trustees of Clarion University recognizes and celebrates the past, current, and future contributions

of the Clarion Borough to the university, the region, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and beyond; and,

**WHEREAS**, Clarion University embraces the Clarion Borough and community constituents and leaders;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED** that the Council of Trustees of Clarion University commemorates the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and the cultural, historical and spiritual heritage of the Clarion Borough and that this matter should be of formal record in the Minutes of the Council of Trustees for September 15, 2016.

C. Approval of the Annual Budget

Mr. Cullo provided copies of the information about the university's proposed FY16-17 budget that had been reviewed in detail with the trustees at their budget workshop that afternoon. Mr. Cullo read the resolution asking for Council of Trustees' approval of the budget.

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

RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees, Clarion University, approve the annual budget for FY16-17 and its submission to the State System of Higher Education.

Chairman Kifer asked Dr. Fenske to come forward for the awarding of the plaque to Mr. Collin Vest. She introduced Interim Athletic Director, Dr. Wendy Snodgrass. Dr. Snodgrass first introduced Diving Coach, Dave Hrovat who just completed his 26th year as diving coach at Clarion. He now coached 45 national champions in his tenure and 273 athletes that have achieved All-American recognition. Coach Hrovat presented Mr. Vest a plaque from the Board of Governors recognizing Vest for his third national championship of his career and his first in the 3m Dive, with the junior diver earning NCAA Men's Diver of the Year honors at the 2016 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Public Comments - None
- B. Report of Student Senate
  - 1. Venango Campus

Venango Campus Student Senate President Joshua Volchko outlined activities of his group including its leadership retreat and participation in Discovery Weekend. He noted they promoted the anti-bullying program. He noted other activities he has planned for the semester, such as the Club Resource Fair to make students aware of clubs on campus, the Pittsburgh Pirate's game and concert, transportation to and from Clarion athletic events and ALF homecoming and festivities. He also mentioned the Equestrian Club will be hosting an event.

2. Clarion Campus

President Devon Vallies reported the Senates' activity in August, including participation in Discovery Weekend. They are holding Student Senate elections this week. Also, they have planned a retreat and breakfast with the state senators. They took the anti-bully pledge. He noted he is very grateful to have participated over the summer with COB Study Aboard in Italy.

C. Report of Faculty Senate

Dr. Jamie Phillips, Chairperson of Faculty Senate, reported that his group participated in Moovers and Groovers for move in day in August. As a faculty member, he traveled with the Clarion Chamber Singers to London over the summer. Dr. Phillips concluded his report by noting that his goal for the year is to restructure some of Faculty Senate's committees.

D. Council Chairperson's Report

Mr. Kifer thanked the Executive Dean Dr. Roxanne Gonzales and the Venango College staff for hosting the Council of Trustees dinner and meeting.

Mr. Kifer reminded the trustees of the upcoming Fall 2016 PACT Conference to be held in Harrisburg October 7, 2016.

IV. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

A. President

Information Items

1. PASSHE Update

No Report.

2. Presidential Plan

Dr. Whitney called the trustees' attention to copies of the Presidential Plan, which had been attached to their agendas. She noted the fundraising campaign that is underway to fund student scholarships, improve facilities, and operational priorities. The campaign is under way with a planned completion of fall 2018.

3. Points of Pride

Dr. Whitney called the trustees' attention to the list of university faculty and student achievements at their places. She also pointed to copies of the Fall 2016 report on the University's Strategic Directions that had been distributed.

4. Venango College Update

Dr. Whitney turned the podium over to Dr. Roxanne Gonzales, Executive Dean, who introduced the advisory committee and provided an update on Venango College initiatives. She reviewed the campus's summer activities including the community breakfast, "What Will Clarion University's Venango Campus Look Like in 2046?" which was the focus of the event.

In other news, Dr. Gonzales, reported the development of new academic programming, increased partnerships across Pennsylvania, and the expansion of outreach to assist adult, veteran and online learners.

5. Other Items

Dr. Karen Whitney announced that we will be celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Clarion University September 10, 2017 through September 10, 2018. A taskforce has been appointed and will begin discussions on a variety of activities for this year-long event.

B. Academic Affairs

Information Items

1. Enrollment Management Update

Dr. Pfannestiel stated that the enrollment numbers are looking positive. The census date is September 19<sup>th</sup> and we will have a full enrollment report at that time. He reported that our online degree program enrollment numbers are up, as well as, our graduate enrollment. He announced that we are in full recruitment for fall 2017.

He reported on the summer activities stating 496 students visited our campus over the summer. He further noted we reached out to the ITT Institute and DuBois Business College to see how we can assist those students. He indicated that faculty are developing programs to help these students finishing their certificate programs.

C. Finance and Administration

Information Item:

1. Status of Facilities Report

Mr. Cullo reviewed the elements of the Status of Facilities Report attached to the trustees' agenda including the renovations to the Gemmell Student Center and announced that a grand opening will be scheduled.

D. Student Affairs

Information Item

1. Student Affairs Update

Dr. Fenske reported that August move in day was very successful. She directed the trustees' attention to the Student Affairs Point of Pride handout that was available at their place and she noted some highlights such as 171 (49%) of student-athletes maintained a 3.2 QPA or higher; 976 residence life programs were provided on campus; 29,225 hours of community service were reported; and 451 student appointments were completed by the wellness student support assistant.

E. University Advancement

Information Items

1. Fund-raising Report

Mr. Geiger directed the trustees' attention to the fundraising report at their places. He reported that we are growing our staff and recently appointed an Interim Director of Alumni Relations.

2. Marketing Report

Trustee Dunbar expressed her appreciation to Mr. Geiger and his staff for the "Clarion Magazine" that she received in the mail. Mr. Geiger reported that David Love, Director of Marketing, and his staff create the magazine, the commercials, and all the marketing material.

V. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

Mr. Kifer noted that the trustees Executive Committee met on September 9, 2016 and copies of the minutes will be sent to the trustees.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

VII. NEW BUSINESS – None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Dunbar made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Seitz. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Milissa Steiner Bauer, Secretary  
Council of Trustees

