

**East Stroudsburg University  
Council of Trustees Minutes  
February 16, 2017**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Trustee Chair Patrick Ross.

2. **Roll Call:** Completed by the Recording Secretary Marcy L. Cetnar, the following members were present:

Dr. Vincent DeFranco	Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter	Hon. Mario Scavello
Ms. Josephine Ferro	Mr. John Pekarovsky	
Mr. Harry Lee	Mr. Pat Ross	

The following members were absent:

Mr. Edward Abraham	Ms. Mariam Juya	Mr. Bruno Klaus
--------------------	-----------------	-----------------

3. **Public Comment:**

None

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

**Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 01, 2016 meeting; Trustee Lee seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

5. **President's Report:**

President Welsh indicated we will be hosting a Middle States Site Visit team April 9-12 for our 10 year reaccreditation review. Copies of the self-study have been distributed to the Trustees and Trustees will be invited to meet with the team during their time on campus. A successful visit is critical for our campus and ESU looks forward to showing off all we have done in the past 10 years. We have come a long way and the campus has done an excellent job with the self-study and in preparing our campus for the visit.

Since the last meeting the University unveiled the new logos, both the institutional logo and the athletics logo, along with the introduction of our new Warrior mascot. Currently using social media to solicit name suggestions for the new mascot. A committee of 7 students (4 SAAC and 3 Student Senate) will narrow the list down to 3-5 names and the campus will then chose the name, again using social media. It is a fun process and I look forward to calling the new Warrior mascot by some catchy, Warrior appropriate name!

System Advocacy days are April 17-18 in Harrisburg and we are in the process of selecting students and faculty who will go with us to not just advocate for funding for the system, but also to continue to inform our representatives of all that our 14 campuses do for the Commonwealth. President Welsh invited the Trustees to attend as well.

President Welsh also shared that Governor Wolf was in town January 27<sup>th</sup> for roundtable discussions. She and Ken Long were able to get some facetime during which they presented EUS's budget shortfall and the issue of deferred maintenance. Later in the week Governor Wolf presented his budget which contained a third straight year of increased funding for the State System. Unfortunately, the increase is \$8.8M for the 14 campuses, which we sincerely appreciate and hope at least that amount stays in the budget, but keep in mind that our deficit for FY 2017, after all of the union contracts were signed, is now about \$7M. So we have a lot of work to.

One initiative is the Strategic Review of the System which the Chancellor discussed in his state of the system address a couple weeks ago. He did note that other states have been merging campuses and closing campuses, and the System has to look at everything going forward. Once a consultant is selected for the Strategic Review, they will have four months to identify organizational and operational changes designed to provide a more effective and efficient use of resources available to the System and the 14 universities. The goal is to find ways to sustain the system campuses to ensure they continue to offer a quality affordable education for our citizens.

ESU's strategic plan, Students First: Innovate ESU is in its 3rd and last year and so we are working to roll the plan for another 3 years. Keep in mind that the plan needs to be flexible to accommodate any recommendations coming from the Strategic Review of the System, while at the same time maintaining the momentum we have seen in the past 3 years. We may decide to keep or change the 4 main goals of the plan, while moving forward with those initiatives that are critical to the success of the University and our students. In the end, we know we will look quite different in 3 to 5 years and that we will be better...that is our goal.

The campus sustained 2 fires in the past couple of weeks. One was in an employee's locker in Dansbury Commons that damaged 3 employee lockers and resulted in closing the dining hall for one evening, but was back up and running the next morning. The second fire occurred at the Ridge Apartments that resulted in the need to vacate buildings 9 and 10. No one was hurt and most of the damage was water damage, so in many ways we were very lucky. Students from building 9 were relocated to other residence halls or rooms in the Ridge and demolition of the damaged areas has already begun. Students are now back in Building 10 which is now up and fully functioning. UPI set up an emergency fund to help those students who didn't have apartment insurance plus gave \$50 Walmart gift cards to those students who may have lost food because of the resulting power outage. The campus really came together to help the students which really shows what Warrior Spirit is all about.

February is African American Heritage Month with many programs in all genres. And on Tues April 4, Dan Dizio, the ESU alum who founded Philly Pretzels, will kick off our new Entrepreneurship Lecture series.

6. **Chair's Report:**

None

7. **Secretary's Report:**

None

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **Administration & Finance:**

Trustee Lee reported on the following action items;

- (1) The committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for November and December, 2016 and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Ferro made a motion to approve the cash disbursement journals from November and December 2016; Trustee Ross seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The Committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under authority of Act 57 from November 4, 2016 through January 20, 2017, and found all purchases were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Ferro made a motion to approve Act 57 Purchase Report from November 4, 2016 through January 20, 2017; Trustee Scavello seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Trustee Lee noted all paperwork has been filed for the Keystone Project and waiting for the state to approve. Trustee Lee also noted the following which was covered during the committee meeting;

- Mr. Long updated the committee on the recent fire at University Ridge. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- Mr. Long updated the committee on the Action Plan and Budget. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- The Committee reviewed the Project Status Review Report dated January 30, 2017. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.

- The Committee reviewed the Report of Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts dated January 30, 2017. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.

**B. Academic Affairs & Enrollment Management:**

Trustee Lingenfelter reported Mr. David Bousquet, Vice President of Enrollment Management provided an update on Spring and Fall enrollment and noted the competitive environment the University is currently in. With the declining high school market the University needs to diversify efforts to attract more students and one of the efforts includes the Test Optional Pilot to expand the pool.

Trustee Lingenfelter also reported Dr. Thomas Tauer, Co-chair of the Middle States Self Study Committee presented the Trustees with a update of the upcoming Middle States visit schedule for April 9 thru 12, 2017. The self-study was presented to the Trustees for their review and all questions and were answered satisfactorily.

**C. Economic Development & Entrepreneurship:**

Trustee Abraham indicated Ms. Mary Frances Postupack, Vice President of Economic Development and Entrepreneurship and her team provided an update on programs including the J-1 Visa International Program which supports individuals with visa's to complete research here at ESU. This is being done through a \$10,000 Discover and Develop PA DCED grant.

**D. Student Affairs:**

Dr. Tobin, Vice President of Student Affairs provided the following update from their committee meeting; Ms. Sewell-Allen, Dean of Students provided an update on new student programs including Warrior Induction Committee and Mentoring Programs and also discussed African-American Heritage month activities, Ms. Pomales provided a Student Senate report on the open forums "The More You Know" and a post-election forum, a meeting held with parking director Lynn Heimbach, the University Ridge fire, and student hunger on campus and plans to help. Other topics discussed by VP Tobin included Starbucks service contract, a fire in the dining hall and University Ridge, and informed the committee Juanita Jenkins was hired as the new Director of Multicultural Affairs and Maria Hackney, Director of University Health Services retired.

**9. Old Business:**

None

**10. New Business:**

A. Trustee Lee

**B. Nominating Committee for Election of Officers:** Trustee Ross indicated Trustee Ferro, Trustee Lee, and Trustee Pekarovsky will be on the Nominating Committee and will present a slate at the next meeting.

C. Trustee Ross again informed the committee on the importance of their presence at the upcoming Spring PACT Conference in Harrisburg April 19 and 20. Trustee Ross would like to see as many member as they can attend to be there in the hope the Board of Governors will explain to the Trustees what they need to do to balance the budget at their perspective Universities.

D. Trustee Ross also indicated the meeting dates for next year as follows: September 21, 2017, October 26, 2017, December 7, 2017, February 15, 2018, March 22, 2018, and April 26, 2018.

**E. Next Meeting:** Trustee Ross stated the next Council of Trustees Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26, 2017.

- F. **Executive Session:** Trustee Ross called for Executive Session at 4:37 p.m.
- G. The Trustees reconvened at 5:14 p.m. Trustee Ross reported the President's evaluation for the 2016-2017 performance year was completed and Trustee Ross recommended President Welsh be renewed and the Chancellor and Board of Governors consider an appropriate adjustment in compensation within Board guidelines for the great job she has done. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motioned to approve the contract renewal for Marcia G. Welsh, Ph.D., President; Trustee DeFranco seconded, no abstentions. The motion carried.**

12. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m. by Trustee Lee.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Ferro  
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar