

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
September 17, 2015**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:09 p.m. by Chair Pat Ross.

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

Dr. Vincent DeFranco
Ms. Josephine Ferro
Mr. Bruno Klaus

Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter
Ms. Nancy Perretta
Mr. Pat Ross

Ms. Amy Welch

The following members were absent:

Mr. Edward Abraham

Mr. Harry Lee

Hon. Mario Scavello

3. **Public Comment:**

None

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Welch made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2015 meeting; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

Trustee Welch made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2015 special meeting; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

Trustee Welch made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 07, 2015 special meeting; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

Classes began on Monday, August 24, after what by all appearances was a very successful freshman orientation. One of the orientation events, the Warrior Walk, was based on the new pledge called "The Way of the Warrior" and had about 700 students, faculty and staff walk from the quad to what has been recently called Stroudhenge at the corner of Normal and Prospect carrying votive candles and banners representing each of the 7 virtues of a Warrior. With the success of the program it is a hope that this event become an annual ESU tradition.

Monday, September 14th was the 15th day of classes, what is called freeze day for purposes of data reporting, and we are delighted to report that enrollment is slightly up with the second largest entering class in ESU history with a total of 1318 students. Over 39% of the entering class are underrepresented minorities which is also historical. We also increased in the number of transfer students, graduate students and international students. Out of state student numbers are down, most likely due to increased competition in recruiting because of the changes in high school demographics. The number of returning undergraduates declined by about 80 students, which is an area where we need to focus. We are working to ensure that every student progresses to completion of their degree, something that will require a lot of thought, data, and collaboration across campus.

We again did what we call the Neighborhood Walk where a total of 11 groups made up of 31 faculty, staff and administrators and 15 students knocked on the doors of 470 households that are in the areas immediately surrounding the campus. The Good Neighbor brochure we handed out as well as a summary of our visits are in your packet of materials. We listened to our neighbors and determined about 3 streets/neighborhoods where homeowners have more difficulty with student neighbors, but for the most part our neighbors love living close to

the university and sincerely appreciate the students. The biggest complaints were littering, loud noise and disrespect, but in talking with our neighbors, those problems general surround parties and students coming and going from the parties, not from the students who live in the neighborhoods. We will work to determine how to address the issues raised by our neighbors and will go out again next year to see if they see improvements.

Again on the topic of working with the community, we held the 3rd annual ESU Economic Outlook Summit with a record crowd of about 220 individuals. The committee put together an incredible program and everywhere I go in the community, people are talking about the summit and what they took away from it. Of greatest interest was the Economic Scorecard that was the result of work done by our own ESU Economics faculty....Todd Behr, Pats Neelakantan, and Faculty Emeriti Gus Christofides. The scorecard compares Monroe County with our 7 neighboring counties in 6 economic indicators: Employment, earnings, business climate, healthcare, housing, and education. The results aren't what people want to see, but will hopefully be a call to action encouraging a stronger focus on economic development in our county. The summary of ESU's economic and employment impact on the Commonwealth shows that ESU is a vital resource to the local community and makes a profound economic impact on our regional economy, generating \$14.64 in the economy for every dollar invested by the Commonwealth. We are a great investment for Commonwealth dollars.

A lot is happening on campus including a new calendar on our website that makes it much easier to see what is going on and to find events/activities that interest you. Our one book one campus book this year is *Your Face in Mine* by Jess Row who will be on campus October 27 to talk about the book. We are having presentations and discussions regarding the book both on campus, and, new this year, we actually have faculty going into the community to lead discussion groups.

This weekend is Family Weekend, a very busy weekend for our students and their families. There will be a number of athletic events and of course all of the schedule Family Weekend events. Of note, our Football game against Edinboro University will be Coach Denny Douds' 500th game at ESU.

6. **Chair's Report:**

Trustee Ross also shared the Economic Outlook Summit was a tremendous success and the Monroe County Economic Scorecard which was presented was one of the highlights of the event. The panel discussions were very good and commended Dr. Welsh in leading the forces to work together.

Trustee Ross will be attending a Chairs meeting on October 7 with the Chancellor and BOG to discuss the State System and contract negotiations.

Trustee Ross also noted his concern and disappointment that our Student Trustee position has yet to be approved by the Governor and the lack of Student representation on the Board.

7. **Secretary's Report:**

None

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **Administration & Finance: (VP Long)**

- (1) Vice President Long presented on the fiscal year 2015/2016 Budget. The Committee's questions and concerns were satisfactorily answered. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2015/2016 Budget; Trustee Perretta seconded; no abstentions. The motion Carried.**

- (2) The committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for April to July 2015, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the cash disbursement journals for April to July 2015; Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (3) The committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under the authority of Act 57 from 04/07/15 thru 08/26/15, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the Act 57 purchases report from 04/07/15 thru 08/26/15; Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (4) VP Long presented the ESU Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Committee. After review and discussion, the Committee offers a resolution to adopt the plan as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of East Stroudsburg University and directs the respective officials and departments identified in the implementation strategy of the University's HMP to implement the recommended activities assigned to them. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Ferro made a motion to approve Resolution 15-03 ESU Hazard Mitigation Plan; Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

The committee also reviewed the Project Status Review Report dated September 2, 2015 and the Report of Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts dated September 2, 2015. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.

B. Academic Affairs & Enrollment Management: (Trustee Lingenfelter)

Trustee Lingenfelter thanked Provost Bruno and VP David Bousquet for their presentations during the committee meeting in which VP Bousquet presented highlights of the characteristics of the ESU student body and freshmen cohort in terms of diversity and Pell eligibility and Provost Bruno presented highlights of the academic growth in enrollment areas and first year retention and strategies to improve retention. Trustee Lingenfelter specifically noted on the increase of enrollment with a 51.2% diversity increase and is impressed to see the 89% increase in enrollment in the computer science program.

C. Research & Economic Development: (VP Postupack)

Vice President Mary Frances Postupack reported the committee spent the meeting reviewing the Research & Economic Development Annual Report for 2014-2015. The Business Accelerator program was also discussed which now houses 19 organizations: 15 early-stage companies, one mentoring company, two University initiatives, and one social entrepreneur. Another item of interest discussed was the J-1 Visa which will allow ESU to issue J-1 Visas to international entrepreneurs interested in establishing business in the U.S. Also discussed was PASSHE's Student Business Plan Competition.

D. Student Affairs: (Trustee Welch)

Trustee Welch noted that as Chair of the Student Affairs committee for almost 19 years, this is the 3rd time reporting without a Student Trustee and is very disappointed in the lack of student representation on the Board and hopes this situation is rectified soon by the Governor's office. Trustee Welch reported Orientation was a huge success and the programs and presentation for the students leading up to the first week of class were well attended and received. One of the events that touch many was the Walk of the Warrior. Trustee Welch also reported on the new initiative from SAA, The Campus Third Space Project, where open space on campus will be utilized to have areas for students, staff, and faculty to be able to come together and communicate in a relaxed and open setting. The results of the Good Neighbor walk completed by the President, Campus Police, Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students were reported. And the sad news was shared of the passing of two students and a young alum.

9. **Old Business:**

None

10. **New Business:**

- A. **PACT Conference:** Trustee Ross encouraged Trustee members to attend the Fall PACT Conference being held on November 8th at the State System Center City Facility in Philadelphia. The PACT Conference is being planned in conjunction with the AGB Conference.

- B. **Appointing Interim and Acting Chief Executive Officers:** Trustee Ross asked for a motion to accept the Appointing of Campus Interim and Acting Chief Executive Officers as required by the PASSHE BOG. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the list of executives; Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

- C. **Next Meeting:** Trustee Ross stated the next Council of Trustee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2015.

11. **Executive Session:** Trustee Ross called for Executive Session at 4:39 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

12. Meeting called back to order at 5:06 p.m.

13. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m. by Trustee Ross.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S. Welch
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar