

**East Stroudsburg University  
Council of Trustees Minutes  
December 03, 2015**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:11 p.m. by Trustee Patrick Ross.
  
2. **Roll Call:** Completed by the Recording Secretary Marcy L. Cetnar, the following members were present:

Mr. Edward Abraham	Mr. Bruno Klaus	Mr. Pat Ross
Dr. Vincent DeFranco	Mr. Harry Lee	Hon. Mario Scavello
Ms. Josephine Ferro	Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter	Ms. Amy Welch

The following members were absent:  
Ms. Nancy Perretta

3. **Public Comment:**  
None
  
4. **Approval of Minutes:**  
**Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 04, 2015 meeting; Trustee Abraham seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

5. **President's Report:**  
President Welsh made note that the Keystone Project has finally been approved by the East Stroudsburg Borough Council after more than a year of conversations and meetings. Part of the challenge was granting the Borough the easement on two borough wells that are on ESU property. Easements must be legislatively granted and so ESU has had to work with our legislators to get the appropriate legislation ready for submission to the PA Senate. ESU has made considerable progress with only a couple other issues to be resolved but neither are ESU issues but will be handled by DGS. It is a DGS building and our goal is to continue to reduce any barriers to the construction of this building. Again, phase one will be a new student center, and phase two will be a new information commons which will replace Kemp Library. ESU is also in the process of getting approval for a new UPI project, Phase IIA of the suites which need to be constructed so that other residence halls can be taken off line for renovation or demolition.

President Welsh mentioned PA still has no Commonwealth budget and as long as we get no unexpected large ticket items we'll be fine for a while, however, literally hundreds of our students are dependent on funding from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). Many of these students have been facing hardships and have had no money to pay rent, pay for transportation, or even buy food. The budget impasse has had a tremendously negative effect on many of these students. At the beginning of the term, ESU suspended any balances due from students that would have been covered by the PHEAA grants and provided bookstore credit to allow them to purchase books and course materials. A couple of weeks ago ESU went ahead and disbursed institutional funding for the PHEAA grants for all eligible students. A logical question would be what if the budget isn't passed by the beginning of the Spring term and all I can say is let's hope that isn't the case, but if it is, ESU will deal with it the best we can for our students.

President Welsh informed those in attendance there is a team of faculty, staff, and administrators currently attending the Annual Middle States meeting in Philadelphia to continue our preparation for our decennial Middle States report and visit which is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2017. The Self Study team will be writing the ESU Self-Study throughout the 2015-2016 academic year. The Self-Study will be discussed by all of the campus community in Fall 2016. Based on campus input, the revised Self-Study will be submitted early in Spring 2017 followed by a Middle States team visit in Spring 2017. The team will most likely be presenting a report from the Middle States meeting at one of our next All University meetings.

In the area of Points of Pride, ESU Greek organizations took up the challenge of raising money for the purchase of turkeys for needy families in Monroe County. This started as a challenge to the different chapters to have every member donate \$2 each to get the fund raising started and after many events and fund raising activities, the students had a goal to raise \$7500 and ended up raising over \$8000, enough to purchase 800 turkeys. The students then spent the day at the Salvation Army handing out the turkeys. That is just one of many, many service projects happening on this campus each and every semester. Saturday the Student Senate will be hosting their annual Teddy Bear Drive. They have been collecting donations of new toys or gently used (and many new) teddy bears to hand out to community children who may not otherwise get much for Christmas. In offices all over campus faculty and staff are collecting items for animal shelters, for school children who need coats and boots, raising money for student scholarships...the list is huge and quite impressive.

President Welsh reported that our field hockey team won the NCAA championship a couple weeks ago when they defeated Merrimack at Bloomsburg, and our women's soccer team became the PSAC Tournament champions for the 2nd year in a row, and made it to the NCAA DII Elite Eight before losing to Bridgeport at Bridgeport. Allison Decker placed in the top 100 finishers at the NCAA DII Cross Country Championships at Missouri Southern University. And Matt Soltes again has been named as one of eight finalists for the 2015 Harlon Hill Trophy.

President Welsh noted there are too many events scheduled in the next few days to mention, from music concerts, robotics contests, final projects, art sales, athletic competitions...no one will be bored, but hopefully not distracted from studying for finals! Also, commencement is now less than 2 weeks away. A total of 411 undergraduate and 51 graduate students, 5 of which are doctoral students are completing their degree requirements this term with 384 undergraduates and 41 graduate students, 4 of which are doctoral students actually attending the ceremony with robing beginning at 8am Saturday December 12. The procession will begin about 8:45 a.m. Our speaker will be Cynthia (Lori) Boddie-Willis, the granddaughter of Mary Gertrude Smith Boddie, the first student of color to graduate from ESU in 1904.

President Welsh ended her report wishing everyone a wonderful Holiday Season!

6. **Chair's Report:**

Trustee Ross again mentioned the 2015 Winter Commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> with procession starting at 8:45 a.m.

7. **Secretary's Report:**

None

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **Administration & Finance:**

Trustee Lee reported on the following;

- (1) Mr. Long presented a summary of the University's affiliated organizations for the Committees review and discussion. After review, the Committee determined that the University is in full compliance with the requirements of Board of Governors Policy 1985-04. The Committee offers Resolution 15-06, which certifies the University's compliance with the requirements of this policy. **Trustee Abraham made a motion to approve Resolution 15-06, Certifying Compliance of all University Affiliated Organizations with Board of Governors' policy 1985-04-A. Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for October, 2015 and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Welch made a motion to approve the cash disbursement journals from October 2015; Trustee Abraham seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

- (3) The Committee reviewed a proposal for a revised non-Pennsylvania resident tuition rate program. The current design of the program poses retention and recruitment challenges for students and the University. Discussion was had on changing the program and all questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. The Trustees requested additional data as to the non-financial reasons why students are leaving campus. It was requested that this report be available at the April meeting of the Council of Trustees. **Trustee Lee made a motion to approve the new reduced non-Pennsylvania resident tuition rate program; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

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

Trustee Lingenfelter noted as the President mentioned, the first student of color graduated from ESU in 1904 and as of this fall class over 40% of our students are students of color, a tremendous success for ESU. Trustee Lingenfelter congratulated the President and senior management because on their proactive strategic actions we were one of only three institutions in PASSHE who actually had an increase in class size for the fall semester. Trustee Lingenfelter wanted to remind everyone of who our student are, 48% remain first generation students and 43% are PELL eligible recognizing significant financial difficulties. Trustee Lingenfelter again thanked the President and her Senior Management team members of Enrollment Management for bringing in this class and we continue to work on the persistence and to completion for all of those students.

**C. Research & Economic Development:**

Trustee Abraham noted the DNA Wildlife forensic lab will be doing fur testing for Ralph Lauren. The G3Design Lab is doing very positive work and with a new printing machine to arrive soon it will bring along many partnership opportunities. Trustee Abraham also discussed the Student Business Plan Competition and how Blaise Delfino, a graduate student in speech language pathology, created a new type of ear piece called fader plugs that will enhance hearing, removing loud background noises.

**D. Student Affairs:**

Trustee Welsh shared that Dr. Rob McKenzie, College Radio Station Advisor and Jill Deiley, Radio Station Manger-WESS Radio provided an update on the programming and purpose of the radio station. ESU is top notch in the Unites States being awarded the 2014- MTVU Woodie Award for Best College Radio Station. WESS radio station now has a podcast where you can pull up any broadcast that was aired in the previous two week span. Trustee Welch also shared that the bookstore is helping our students save money as professors are selecting their books early so students can budget their expenses for the semester. Also discussed was safety on campus and the importance of teaching everyone about Title IX. The University is also looking into App's for smartphones which can be used in an emergency situation and notify campus police and surrounding police if they feel unsafe or threatened in any way.

**9. Old Business:**

None

**10. New Business:**

- A. Trustee Scavello noted there will be a forum with PHEAA for all graduating seniors in the area school districts in March.
- B. Trustee Lingenfelter noted the Spring PACT Meeting will be held March 31- and April 1 in Harrisburg.
- C. Trustee Ross stated the next Council of Trustee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 18, 2016. Trustee Ross on behalf of the Council of Trustees thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication this past year and wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.
- D. **Executive Session:** Trustee Ross called for Executive Session at 4:45 p.m. The Trustees reconvened at 5:00 p.m. As required by PASSHE Policy 2002-03-A: Evaluating Presidents, Trustee Ross appointed the Council of Trustees 2016 President Evaluation Committee consisting of Trustee Ross, Trustee Lee, and Trustee

Abraham. **Trustee Welch made a motion to approve the appointment of the 2016 President Evaluation Committee; Trustee Ferro seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was called back to order and adjourned at 5:05 p.m. by Trustee Lee.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S. Welch  
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar