

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
September 15, 2016**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 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
Ms. Mariam Juya

Mr. Bruno Klaus
Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter
Mr. Pat Ross

Hon. Mario Scavello

The following members were absent:

Mr. Edward Abraham
Ms. Amy Welch

Mr. Harry Lee

Ms. Nancy Perretta

3. **Public Comment:**

Rachel DiStefano, Resident Director of Lenape Hall, is the co-chair of the Homecoming Committee and wanted to bring to the Trustees attention the many events that will take place throughout the weekend of Homecoming and invited them to attend as many as they can. The dates of Homecoming are October 14th thru the 16th.

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2016 meeting; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2016 meeting; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

President Welsh reported a great beginning for the 2016-17 academic year with successful move-in of residential students with a number of alumni joining, meeting commuter students as they arrived searching for parking, and had a 3 day orientation process including again this year the Warrior Walk with about 900 first year students, and the first session for discussion of our One Book, One Campus selection. This year we are reading The Circle by Dave Eggers and last evening an open conversation was held about the new game Pokémon and, using that as an example, tied the conversation back to the book and how technology impacts our lives. Very interesting listening to the students who really know the game and its impact.

On the down side, these continue to be challenging financial times for our university, our system, and higher education in general. We are waiting to learn the full impact of the outcomes of the contract negotiations for the different unions and were extremely disappointed with the faculty vote to authorize a strike. The state system has been negotiating in very good faith and we hope for the best.

We are headed into our second year of a new marketing and branding initiative for ESU. After intensive research among our key stakeholder groups in year one, a new positioning statement has been developed that aligns with our strategic plan, a new tagline has been embraced, and new institutional and athletic logos are on the horizon. We will be rolling out new logos and a new mascot by early spring 2017 and our campus and local communities will refer to ESU as a place Where Warriors Belong.

Work has continued on the strategic plan, Students First: Innovate ESU and thanks to the commitment of our Provost, Jo Bruno, we have had great dialogue and outcomes stemming from the four goal groups that continue to meet on a monthly basis. Ann Duffield will be back on campus to work with us starting next week to roll our plan for 3 more years. We will be having another round table discussion with Ann next Thursday, Sept. 22, at 10 am at the University Center. You are welcome to join us.

Over the summer there have been some improvements to campus, including:

- Installation of handicap ramps, new steps, and new landscaping at the front of Stroud Hall.
- Enhancement of the 'Alumni Walk' on the College Circle.
- Removal of the dilapidated upper tennis courts on E. Brown and Smith Streets
- Installation of vinyl panels in Eiler Martin Stadium

The construction of Phase II of the suites project began over the summer and is scheduled to be completed by August 2017 for the beginning of the fall term. Once completed, the new residence hall will allow us to start taking the older residence halls off line for much-needed life cycle renovation.

Once again we visited our community neighbors by having faculty, students, staff, campus police and administrators go door-to-door and introduce ourselves and ask how ESU can be better neighbors. This year we had a total of 48 volunteers who visited 481 households. We spoke with many people and for those not home we left literature and informational pieces to assist them with questions they might have. Some concerns we could address, others aren't really student issues but we will try to help. We will continue to work to have good relationships with our neighbors.

Representative Karen Boback will be speaking at the Legislative Fellow Breakfast tomorrow. Representative Boback is already busy making plans to be on campus to speak with students in classes and at some student clubs during the academic year. We look forward to having her on campus.

ESU is currently working on our Middle States Self-Study process. I would like to thank Dr. Mary Ann Matras and Michael Sachs who were co-chairing the Self-Study Steering Committee for keeping this process moving along, as well as all of the faculty and staff on the individual workgroups that have volunteered and have been instrumental to the process so far. Michael Sachs left ESU for a position in Manhattan and Dr. Tom Tauer has graciously agreed to take his place as co-chair with Professor Matras. The six Self-Study Workgroups have continued to gather the data relevant to the research questions in the Self-Study Design. Currently, Dr. Leigh Smith along with the co-chairs are finalizing a first draft for campus review. The chair of the ESU Middle States Evaluation Team, Dr. Peter Mercer, President of Ramapo College, will have a preliminary visit to campus November 9 and 10, followed by a visit from the Self-Study Evaluation Team in Spring during the week of April 9.

We have given each of you a card that will guide you to the many cultural events on campus this year. Dates to keep in mind for the next couple of weeks would be Family weekend Sept 30 through Oct 2, and Homecoming October 12 through the 16. And for service, a very fun and impactful entrepreneurial initiative that will allow you the opportunity to participate, ESU students, faculty and staff teamed up with 35 area partners for the 2016 Community Service Fair today. David Mazure, faculty member in the Department of Art and Design, designed two pairs of socks, one in neon colors, and one in black and red, had them produced very cost effectively and high quality, and they are selling the socks today at the Community Service Fair. You can purchase 2 pairs of these socks, keeping one and donating the second pair to charity. It is called "Join the Flock" and is a very creative way to get us to think about the needs of the homeless in our community.

6. Chair's Report:

Trustee Ross reported the 4th Annual Economic Outlook Summit was a great success with attendance surpassing 250 and the event keeps growing each year. This is a great opportunity for people within the community to come together to discuss ways to see that Monroe County's economy moves forward.

Trustee Ross thanked VP Ken Long and his staff for their hard work. The campus looks great and the committee meeting was very informative concerning construction that is and has taken place on campus.

Trustee Lingenfelter noted it is not common of a university to have an alumnus on the Trustee Board who has given two decades of service to the University. Trustee Ross will be receive an award at the upcoming Alumni Awards Dinner next month. Congratulations Trustee Ross.

7. Secretary's Report:

None

8. Committee Reports

A. Administration & Finance: (VP Long)

- (1) Vice President Long presented on the fiscal year 2016/2017 Budget. The Committee's questions and concerns were satisfactorily answered. **Trustee Ferro made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2016/2017 Budget; Trustee Klaus seconded; no abstentions. The motion Carried.**
- (2) The committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for April to July 2016, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve the cash disbursement journals for April to July 2016; Trustee Klaus seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (3) The committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under the authority of Act 57 from 11/20/15 thru 08/22/16, 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 Act 57 purchases report from 11/20/15 thru 08/22/16; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (4) Mr. Long presented a proposal to the Committee to purchase the property located at 184 Gwendolyn Street, East Stroudsburg, PA. The property is contiguous to campus and the purchase would be prudent for long term land control and future University needs. After review and discussion, the Committee offered a resolution to recommend that the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education approve the acquisition of the property by the University. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve Resolution 16-03 Property Acquisition, 184 Gwendolyn Street, East Stroudsburg, Pa; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (5) Mr. Long presented a proposal to the Committee to purchase the property located at 486 East Brown Street, East Stroudsburg, Pa. The property is contiguous to campus and the purchase would be prudent for long term land control and future University needs. After review and discussion, the Committee offers a resolution to recommend that the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education approve the acquisition of the property by the University. All questions and

concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Scavello made a motion to approve Resolution 16-04 Property Acquisition, 486 East Brown Street, East Stroudsburg, Pa; Trustee Lingenfelter seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

The committee also reviewed the Project Status Review Report dated September 1, 2016 and the Report of Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts dated September 1, 2016. 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 current enrollment numbers. Again, ESU has an enrollment increase and areas seeing a double digit increase. This is a show of the tangible efforts of President Welsh and Mr. David Bousquet, VP of Enrollment Management and his team. Provost Bruno presented findings her team gathered after analyzing data on why students are leaving ESU. Trustee Lingenfelter commented on the importance of students to our university and retention is yet another high importance of the University and with this data we can recognize what we need to do to retain our students.

C. Research & Economic Development: (VP Postupack)

Trustee Scavello reported on the success of the Economic Summit and was very impressed with the two young men who did a phenomenal job serving as student speakers at the Summit. Trustee Scavello thanked President Welsh and everyone who worked to make the Summit a success. Also discussed at the committee meeting was the goal for the business accelerator program including four new companies coming in and also the increase of student workers and interns within the program. Also shared during the committee meeting was the receipt of the \$4 million dollar NSF Grant written by faculty members. This is the largest grant ESU has ever received.

D. Student Affairs: (Trustee Welch)

Trustee Juya reported Mr. Joe Akob, director of SAA, presented the SAA Strategic Plan. Points of Pride were discussed including the Women's Center, OASIS, Greek Life, CAPS, Wellness Prevention, University Health Services, Multicultural Affairs, and Career Development. Student Senator Daniel Watson reported on the upcoming Town Hall Meeting, and Student Senate elections were completed today. The recent Club Fair that took place was the largest to date. Fall Orientation for incoming freshman was a success. The One Book, One Campus initiative was discussed and faculty have received positive feedback from students attending the discussions. The 90 minute documentary "The Hunting Ground", about sexual assault on campuses, was shown and a discussion was held after the viewing with over 300 students participating. Family Weekend will be held September 30 and October 1 with numerous activities being held on and off campus. Also approaching is Homecoming which will be held October 14th through October 16th. And the Career Fair will be held September 29th in the Keystone Room.

9. Old Business:

None

10. New Business:

- A. 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 Scavello seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

- B. **PACT Fall Workshop:** Trustee Ross encouraged Trustee members to attend the PACT Fall Workshop being held on Friday, October 7th at the Dixon University Center. PACT is partnering with the Association of Governing Boards of Unvisited and Colleges for the workshop.
- C. **Next Meeting:** Trustee Ross stated the next Council of Trustee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016 which is rescheduled from October 20, 2016.

11. **Adjournment:** Trustee Ross adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Ferro
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar