

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
February 21, 2019**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:30 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
Mr. Harry Lee (via phone)
Ms. Tina Nixon

Mr. John Pekarovsky III
Mr. Pat Ross

Mr. Paul Shemansky
Ms. Abigail Soto

The following members were not present:

Mr. Edward Abraham
Ms. Josephine Ferro

Mr. Bruno Klaus

Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter

Chair Ross welcomed our newest members of the COT Board, Trustee Tina Nixon. Trustee Nixon is an alumna of ESU earning her Bachelor's degree in 1989. Trustee Nixon will be a great asset to the council as you've already proven this morning and afternoon at our committee meetings.

3. **Public Comment:**

No Public Comments

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Soto made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 29, 2018 meeting; Trustee Shemansky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

President Welsh began her report notifying the Trustees we received notification from the Office of the Chancellor earlier this week that our new doctoral program, the doctorate in Health Sciences, has received final state system approval. Because it is only our second doctoral program, we are required to submit a substantive change request to Middle States Commission on Higher Education, but we are now actively recruiting our first cohort. I want to acknowledge all of the faculty and administrators worked tirelessly to make this a reality including Provost Bruno, Dean Seigart, and Dr. Shala Davis, who took the faculty lead. Also, thanks you to the Council of Trustees for your tremendous support. Congratulations to all.

The semester started off with our annual MLK Breakfast on January 21. This year, 435 tickets were sold although weather did reduce the crowd size. This was followed by our MLK Day of Service when the campus teamed up with Monroe County Children and Youth Services to make "care bags" to be given to children entering the foster care system, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bridge to raise awareness about the need for mentors in Monroe County.

The campus is quite busy with a lot of regular spring activities including African American Heritage Month events, the end of winter sports and hopefully championships, and the beginning of spring sports. With the beginning of the Spring Sport season, we have a number of coaches and students who are more than excited to start playing on the new baseball and softball fields build in partnership with the Stroud Area Little League and the Stroud Township. The ribbon cutting for those fields is scheduled for Friday April 5 but don't hesitate to drive by to see how incredible this complex has become. We have also renovated the men's and women's basketball locker rooms plus turned the

storage shed on the Whitenight field into a locker room for field hockey and lacrosse. Watching videos of the students seeing these new facilities for the first time is truly incredible.

A new format for open house events will help to welcome visitors and future Warriors to our campus. On March 23 we will be hosting the accepted students' reception for all accepted students and their families. We have a long way to go before we know our enrollment numbers for fall and it is a time when all campus offices, faculty and staff are on alert to help not only recruit students, but ensure that the students we have are well served.

Wednesday March 27 we will continue our President's Distinguished Entrepreneur Speaker series with ESU alumnus Chris Paradysz, Co-CEO/founder of PMX Agency in NYC. Always a great conversation with our students and community.

A lot of energy is going into the State System's System Redesign initiative. The System Redesign process has led us to a place in which we embrace the concept of a "sharing system"—one in which our 14 universities value continued collaboration over competition (except in athletics where we are fierce competitors) in order to put students first. Both the Chief Academic Officers and the Chief Financial Officers of all 14 institutions are meeting and collaborating to determine what we can do differently, or better, to guide the implementation of this shared system initiative. I encourage each of you to stay informed and involved as we work through the changes coming our way. That concludes my report.

6. Chair's Report:

Trustee Ross informed the Trustees the Spring PACT Conference will be held at the Hilton Harrisburg April 11-12, 2019. Will be a great time to attend with our new Chancellor who will be in attendance and an opportunity to discuss the new System Redesign which should be very interesting. If you are interested to attend let Marcy know and she will register those wishing to attend.

7. Secretary's Report:

None

8. Committee Reports

A. Strategic Initiatives Committee: (Trustee Ross)

Trustee Ross presented the following action items:

- (1) The committee was presented with documentation concerning the new Master of Science in Accounting by Dr. Sylvester Williams, Dean of Business and Management. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Pekarovsky made a motion to approve Resolution 19- 01 Master of Science in Accounting and forward to the Board of Governors for consideration and approval, Trustee Shemansky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The committee was presented with a recommendation from President Welsh to approve the following retired faculty for emeritus/emerita status:
 - Robert Ackerman, Communication Sciences and Disorders, 34 years of service
 - Mary Tod Gray, Nursing, 32 years of service
 - Patricia Hannon, Nursing, 28 years of service
 - Peter Hawked, English, 41 years of service
 - Mary Ann Matras, Mathematics, 30 years of service
 - Kim McKay, English, 30 years of service

All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Pekarovsky made a motion to approve the faculty recommended by the President for faculty emeritus/emerita, seconded by Trustee Soto; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

B. Finance Committee: (Trustee Lee)

Trustee Lee asked Mr. Ken Long, Vice President for Administration and Finance to report on the Finance Committee Meeting.

VP Long reported on the following action items:

- (1) The Committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for October, 2018 to December, 2018, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Nixon made a motion for the approval of the Cash Disbursement Reports for October, 2018 to December, 2018; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The Committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under authority of Act 57 from November 2, 2018 to January 25, 2019 and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Pekarovsky made a motion to approve the Act 57 purchases report from November 2, 2018 to January 25, 2019; Trustee Shemansky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Other information items discussed included an update on the ESU Foundation by Mr. Richard Santoro, Director of ESU Foundation on the happenings of the organization over the past several months and a report on their progress in fundraising and positive movement in the current fiscal year. The ESU Foundation plans on meeting all financial goals and targets for the year.

Mr. David Bousquet, Vice President of Enrollment Management presented an enrollment update trends for the spring semester indicating we are slightly down for this spring semester compared to last year but overall moving in a positive direction compared to the slight down turn from the fall term to now and are looking at positive numbers to come. Application numbers are up for recruitment for fall 2019 and continue to work to enroll a very strong class for this coming fall.

Facility group provided an update on facility projects status that are ongoing. One key projects that was discussed is the Keystone Information Commons Project and the progress that is being made between the University, the East Stroudsburg Borough, and the Department of General Services to keep the project moving. The Trustees were updated on the development of the small water agreements being put into the final stages and all information necessary to complete the documents have been submitted. Other projects identified are the student health services area project in the lower level of Sycamore Suites has commenced and will take about three to four months to complete and will be a great addition to our student services for the University. No construction projects for notices to proceed.

C. Campus Environment Committee: (Trustee Pekarovsky)

Trustee Pekarovsky reported the session primarily focused on Title IX. Dr. Doreen Tobin, Vice President of Student Affairs provided a very comprehensive summary of changes that are pending.

10. Old Business:

None

11. New Business:

- A. Trustee Ross presented the Nominating Committee for the 2019-2020 Trustee Elections as follows; Trustee Lee, Trustee Abraham, and Trustee Shemansky. The Nominating Committee will bring a slate of nominees before the board at the next meeting scheduled for April 25, 2019.

B. Trustee Ross presented the Academic Year 2019-2020 Council of Trustees Meeting Dates as follows:

- Thursday, September 19, 2019
- Thursday, December 05, 2019
- Thursday, February 20, 2020
- Thursday, April 23, 2020

12. **Adjournment:** Trustee Ross adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Ferro
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar