

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
September 20, 2018**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:32 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. Bruno Klaus
Mr. Harry Lee

Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter
Mr. John Pekarovsky III

Mr. Pat Ross
Ms. Abigail Soto

The following members were not present:

Mr. Edward Abraham

Ms. Josephine Ferro

Hon. Mario Scavello

3. **Public Comment:**

No Public Comments

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Lee made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2018 meeting; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

President Welsh indicated students are in their 4th week of classes after a very ambitious and successful opening of the 2018-19 Academic year. Move in day was an exciting time for our students and their families, although the Lenape renovation was not quite complete, the students moved in and both parents and students were very impressed by the renovation and modernization of the hall. It is now complete and in full occupancy and use.

The new Chancellor Daniel Greenstein, started on the job September 4 and has met with the presidents and others as he learns about the system and vice versa. He will be on campus November 2 and will be talking to students, faculty, staff, the community, and the COT...I hope you can join us as we work to educate him on what a gem ESU is.

ESU held the 6th Economic Outlook Summit in the Mattioli Center the Friday after Labor Day with a crowd of about 300 members of our community. There was great discussions and speakers with significant excitement after a Strategic Doing session where we discussed the economic indicators as assessed in the 5th annual Economic Scorecard that was done by BERG. Our goal is to keep the conversations moving forward throughout the year in partnership with the 2030 initiative.

We again did the Good Neighbor Visits, what I call our neighborhood walk about, where 12 different groups made up of a total of 46 faculty, staff, students, the SARP, and one borough representative, traveled through the neighborhoods adjacent to campus to talk about being good neighbors. We visited a total of 673 households over the 2 days. We left information for our neighbors and listened to what they had to say about ESU. We encouraged students to be good neighbors and I know that, after last year's walk and hearing about one large party, a neighbor said he received a lovely plate of cookies from the students. The biggest complaint is students going through neighborhoods in groups and being loud and sometimes inappropriate in their behavior. Something for us to work on.

The new baseball/softball fields are currently under construction in Clearview Creek Park and should be completed the first week of November. As with everything we do, we are behind schedule, this time because of so much rain. The student athletes, coaches and community are excited to finally be on the fields. It is an incredible partnership and opportunity to show what we can do as a community partner.

As you all know, this year is the 125th anniversary of ESU. Founded in 1893 as the East Stroudsburg State Normal School, we have grown in immeasurable ways and are very proud of our heritage. Last Wednesday, Sept 12, we celebrated our Founders' Day with a program in front of SciTech with the Band, the Musical Theatre Organization, and the Monroe County Historical Society entertained and educated the crowd and we celebrated by having cake and ice cream...a LOT of cake that was made by Kitchen Chemistry in the shape of Stroud Hall. An amazing artistic feat! It was a great celebration and one of many such events on campus throughout the year, with more yet to come, including the October 25th Community celebration at the Stroudsmoor.

Our Legislative Fellow for this academic year will be State Senator Judith Schwank who represents the 11th senatorial district. Senator Schwank will be introduced next Thursday, September 27 at the Innovation Center at the Legislative Fellows Breakfast.

Tomorrow, we will be signing a partnership with the Delaware Tribe of Indians with the goal of fostering collaborative and educational initiatives between ESU and the Delaware Tribe. They now have an office in Stroud Hall where they will enable our students, faculty and staff to work with archeologists, historians, and others to learn from the long and proud legacy of Indian tribes that occupied the Pocono Region. The signing is tomorrow at 1pm in Lower Dansbury.

Other events coming up are Family Weekend this coming weekend, Homecoming Weekend starting October 5, and 2 lectures that are part of ongoing lecture series. One is October 17: The President's Distinguished Entrepreneurship Lecture with Ryan McMunn, son of Tony and Pat McMunn, speaking on his entrepreneurial initiatives including his company BRIC. Then on October 18, we will have the Troiani Sweeney lecture where we will hear Rebecca M. Edelmayer, Ph.D. talk about the Past, Present, and New Horizons in Alzheimer's and Dementia Research.

As always, a lot going on and we would love to have you join us for whatever might interest you. That said, I conclude my report.

6. **Chair's Report:**

Trustee Ross informed the Trustees that the PACT Fall Workshop will be held on Friday, October 12, 2018 at the Dixon University Center. Any Trustee interested in attending let Marcy Cetnar know and she will be sure you are registered.

7. **Secretary's Report:**

None

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **University Affairs Committee: (Trustee Ross)**

Extensive discussion on enrollment and how we are going to improve. Great points were brought up by VP David Bousquet and the board. Enrollment is the responsibility of the entire campus community and we have to work together to make enrollment a priority. We have great faculty and staff and it is our responsibility to see that our students get a great education at ESU.

VP Ken Long provided an update on some of the challenges we recently had and informed the committee there have been many safety initiatives implemented on campus including hiring of additional security officers, more cameras throughout campus, and additional staff and new procedures in residence halls.

B. Strategic Initiatives Committee: (Trustee Lingenfelter)

Outstanding briefing was provided from the academic team specifically covering the academic review process, which has evolved into a very thoughtful and rigorous evaluation process which is not only about accountability but is putting continuing process improvement at the center of its mission. Warriorfish is a great new initiative and this case new management system is a game changer and will increase student success outcomes in very dramatic ways and shows incredible promise. Trustee Lingenfelter extended kudos to all who have helped to develop this and encourage all to become involved.

- High School Student Fee Pilot 2019: Trustee Lingenfelter also extended Kudos to Dr. Terry Barry, Dean of Education, for coming up with an innovative approach to address the problems of insufficient teacher preparation pipeline which address retirements and the demands of the country. Trustee Lingenfelter asked for motion to approve the High School Student Fee Pilot 2019: **Trustee Lee made a motion to approve the High School Student Fee Pilot 2019; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Trustee Lingenfelter is excited and enthusiastic about the momentum on Academic Affairs front and the strategy and tactics that are currently playing out under Dr. Welsh's leadership and Provost Bruno and her team including Dr. Weber and Dr. Smith. We can truly make the mission for our students a reality; which is their retention, completion, and successful outcomes post-graduate.

C. Finance Committee: (Trustee Lee)

Trustee Lee reported on the following information topics:

- Mr. Richard Santoro, Director of the ESU Foundation, provided an update of the past fiscal year which the foundation was successful raising \$2.88 million dollars for the university and our students. Donor Alumni participation rate increased 3.8% to 4.2%. Some highlights from the past year included successfully fundraising for the baseball/softball complex, fundraising for the DNA Lab renaming, continue to see strong growth in our scholarship program successfully securing 28 additional annual scholarships and 7 new endowed scholarships. This current fiscal year the Foundation is looking to fundraise in excess of \$3 million dollars and exceed a 5% alumni participation rate. Some initiatives for the next year include continuing to raise money for scholarships, successfully complete a campaign for a simulation lab and also an aquaculture lab.
- The Committee spent a great deal of time on the importance of enrollment and the need to increase enrollment.
- At the beginning of the Spring semester we will see work begin on the Keystone Center.
- The Committee reviewed the Project Status Review Report dated September 6, 2018. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- The Committee reviewed the Report of Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts dated September 6, 2018. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- Dr. Welsh provided an update on athletics indicating the fact that we are the third largest athletic program in our athletic conference as far as student athlete numbers and also with Title IX, and the need to increase some of the rosters on the men's side that it might be appropriate to increase sports teams. She also discussed the possibility of increasing women's athletics with the addition of acrobatics and tumbling and perhaps women's wrestling. Looking at those as two options that we might be able to do will allow us to increase not only the number of women student athletes but also the number of men student athletes, allowing some of our sports to increase the roster sizes. With the addition of shepherd to the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, we agreed as a conference to allow institutions to increase their roster size in football from 90 to 105 and of course our football team would like to do that. We cannot make a decision to do that unless we increase

women's sport. We are also working on a master plan for our athletic facilities to determine what we are going to do moving forward, many of them are in bad shape. We need to plan on where we want to put our resources going forward.

- Trustee Lingenfelter commented on the matter of enrollment and that it is not a surprise that 80 cents of every dollar that is used to operate this institution comes from tuition and fees. We are a public owned institution governed by a public body, our financing model is much, if not dramatically more like a private institution. Enrollment is all hands on deck, everyone from this institution, including alumni. This is a mission for everyone. If we are to continue to serve our student affectively we must have the resources to do so. We cannot rely on one entity to deliver; everyone has to be engaged in this mission. Our ability to deliver and our ability to continue to serve this region relies upon it. Everyone has a role to play in both enrollment on the front end and retention on the back end.

Trustee Lee presented the following action items:

- (1) VP Ken Long presented the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget; Trustee Soto seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The Committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for March through July 2018, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion for the approval of the Cash Disbursement Reports for March through July 2018; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (3) The Committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under authority of Act 57 from April 5 through August 27, 2018, 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 April 5 through August 27, 2018; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (4) ESU-2018-002 Criminal and Disciplinary Admissions Policy, was reviewed and discussed. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. The Committee recommended that the policy be approved as presented. **Trustee Ross made a motion to approve Policy ESU-2018-02 Criminal and Disciplinary Admissions; Trustee Pekarovsky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (5) Mr. Richard Santoro, Director of ESU Foundation presented to the Trustees the naming opportunity for the DNA Lab. The lab would be named The Jane Huffman Wildlife Research Institute after the late ESU Professor Jane Huffman. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve Resolution 18-04 The Jane Huffman Wildlife Research; Trustee Soto seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

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 Soto seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- B. **PACT Conference:** Trustee Ross again reminded the Trustees of the upcoming Fall PACT Workshop on Friday, October 12th and if you are interested to attend contact Marcy Cetnar and she will assist in registration.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Trustee Ross at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Ferro
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar