

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
December 10, 2020
Via Zoom**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Council of Trustees was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chair Pat Ross.

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

Mr. Frank Epifano
Mr. Thomas Grayuski
Mr. Bruno Klaus
Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter

Ms. Tina Nixon
Ms. Tameko Patterson
Mr. John Pekarovsky III

Mr. Albert Rivera
Mr. Pat Ross
Mr. Paul Shemansky

The following members were not present:

Mr. Edward Abraham

3. **Public Comment:**

No Public Comment

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Nixon made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2020 meeting; Trustee Patterson seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

Interim President Long reported despite the disruption that COVID-19 has had on our university and community, we remain steadfast in fulfilling our mission and vision.

In mid-July, we made the decision to move most courses to remote for the fall semester; the exceptions were: select labs, clinical assignments, practicums, and student teaching; other than student teaching, most of the face-to-face courses were in our College of Health Science, where the faculty and staff are the most prepared to do safely.

With having Lehigh Valley Health Network -Poconos as our student health service provider, we were able to conduct a robust testing process whereby all students were offered free coronavirus testing throughout the semester. This process has led to the early identification of nearly all the coronavirus cases of students on-campus, minimizing and some cases preventing the spread of the virus.

Using our experience from the Fall semester and learning from the experience of institutions of higher education both within the State System and throughout the country, we developed a plan to increase the number of students able to reside on-campus in the Spring.

For the Spring, all students with a physical presents on-campus will be tested upon their first arrival and quarantined until the test results are received. The university will continue to require anyone in a university building will be required to wear face covering and encourage the campus community to wear it even outdoors. Surveillance testing will be performed through-out the Spring, along with daily symptom monitoring and health check. Provisions have been made to quarantine any student that contracts the virus.

Earlier this semester, the PSAC cancelled Winter and Fall Intercollegiate Athletics. Students athletes can work with coaches and athletic trainers for conditioning and weight-training. Spring sports, which was cancelled last year, is still scheduled to be held but this could change if health conditions warrant it.

On the non-COVID-19 front, the administration and faculty are working collaboratively to further streamline our academic offerings to align with student needs and the financial realities of the university. During the current year, the university made some short-term changes to reduce the faculty compliment. Looking ahead, we are working to identify courses and initiatives that have not demonstrated a contribution to student success. One such area is with our First Year Experience program (FYE). Both faculty and administration question the benefits of this program and initial assessment data has not shown any measurable retention benefits.

The university continues to place an enhanced emphasis on diversity training and education of students, faculty, and staff. As I indicated to the campus community in my opening message in August, it is vital that ESU provide and maintain a campus climate the embrace and supports a diverse campus culture. I personally believe given the significant diversity of our campus and community and the growing diversity of our country, it is necessary that we ensure that everyone in our campus recognize the benefits of this diversity and better able to identify bias and unconscious bias behaviors.

- Next week, ESU will be hosting its Annual Economic Summit,
- In January, the university with host a Virtual Celebration of the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thank you. This concludes my report.

6. **Chair's Report:**

Trustee Ross personally thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to ESU and our students during this most difficult time throughout the COVID pandemic. Administration, faculty, and staff are to be commended for their efforts in keeping us safe and moving forward.

7. **Secretary's Report:**

None

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **University Affairs Committee:**

Trustee Lingenfelter reported the committee discussed several topics including commencement updates, strategic initiatives in regards to realignment of faculty compliment and planned strategic actions provided by Provost Bruno and Robert Smith, an update on athletics provided by Dr. Gary Gray, and Dr. Santiago Solis provided an update on Spring 2021 Housing& Dining and also provided a COVID update. Trustee Lingenfelter also commended the administration, faculty, and staff on their efforts during these trying times.

B. **Finance Committee:**

Trustee Ross presented the following action items:

- (1) A representative of Clifton Larson Allen, LLP made a presentation to the Committee concerning East Stroudsburg University's Audited Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2020. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Patterson made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 2020 Audited Financial Statement; Trustee Grayuski seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The Committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for August 1 to November 30, 2020, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Grayuski made a motion for the approval of the Cash Disbursement**

Reports for August 1 to November 30, 2020; Trustee Nixon seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.

- (3) The Committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under authority of Act 57 from September 12 to November 16, 2020, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Shemansky made a motion to approve the Act 57 purchases report from September 12 to November 16, 2020; Trustee Rivera seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (4) Acting Vice President Coleman presented a summary of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (ESU) and East Stroudsburg University Foundation (ESUF.) All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. After review, the Committee determined the MOU contains all pertinent information between ESU and ESUF and offers Resolution 20-05, which approves the MOU. **Trustee Epifano made a motion to approve Resolution 20-05 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania and East Stroudsburg University Foundation; Trustee Grayuski seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (5) Acting Vice President Coleman presented a summary of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (ESU) and East Stroudsburg University Student Activity Association, Inc. (SAA.) All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. After review, the Committee determined the MOU contains all pertinent information between ESU and SAA and offers Resolution 20-06, which approves the MOU. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve Resolution 20-06 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania and East Stroudsburg University Student Activity Association, Inc.; Trustee Patterson seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (6) Acting Vice President Coleman presented a summary of the University's affiliated organizations for the Committee's review and discussion. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. 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 20-07, which certifies the University's compliance with the requirements of this policy. **Trustee Patterson made a motion to approve Resolution 20-07 Certifying Compliance of all University Affiliated Organizations with BOG Policy 1985-04; Trustee Shemansky seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (7) Director of East Stroudsburg University Foundation Mr. Richard Santoro, presented to the committee naming opportunities for ongoing campaigns which include the soccer stadium, football locker room, and Health Sciences Simulation Lab. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the presented naming opportunities with the proviso that no gift repayment terms to be made longer than 5 years without the approval of the Council; Trustee Grayuski seconded; a roll-call vote was taken with no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Mr. Richard Santoro, Director of the ESU Foundation also provided an update of the foundation goals, fundraising priorities, and progress made to date.

The Vice President of Enrollment Management, Mr. Karen Lucas provided enrollment updates for both Fall & Spring, and financial aid updates including scholarship and CARES Act Funds distribution. Also discussed marketing and LatinX outreach opportunities and the Strategic Enrollment Management Committee initiatives.

Additional Administration & Finance informational items discussed included Facilities Project Status Review update and the Report of Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts.

9. Old Business:

None

10. New Business:

- A. Trustee Nixon, chair of the Presidential Search Committee, indicated her update will be brief due to a meeting scheduled tomorrow with the search committee. Things are moving right along.
- B. The next meeting of the East Stroudsburg University Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2021.

12. Adjournment:

Trustee Ross called for Executive Session at 5:00 pm to discuss personnel issues and attendees to include the Trustees, Interim President, and Chief of Staff Miguel Barbosa. Trustee Ross indicated those in attendance can stay on the current Zoom as they conduct executive business on another Zoom session. Trustee Ross wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thanked everyone for everything they do at the University.

Trustee Ross adjourned Executive Session and returned to regular session at 5:10 pm. Trustee Ross adjourned the regular session meeting at 5:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Shemansky
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar