

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
April 29, 2021
Via Zoom**

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:

Mr. Frank Epifano	Ms. Tina Nixon	Mr. Albert Rivera
Mr. Thomas Grayuski	Ms. Tameko Patterson	Mr. Pat Ross
Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter	Mr. John Pekarovsky, III	Mr. Paul Shemansky

The following members were not present:

Mr. Edward Abraham	Mr. Bruno Klaus
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3. **Public Comment:**

Dr. Nancy Van Arsdale, faculty member and Local APSCUF President, thanked Mr. Long for his leadership during the year and also thanked Provost Bruno for her leadership with the ACT Committee. The faculty have felt they can contribute to all the decisions being made in the difficult year and thanked Mr. Long and Provost Bruno for letting the faculty voice be strong.

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Trustee Patterson made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2021 meeting; Trustee Rivera seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

5. **President's Report:**

Good Afternoon. Since the Council's last meeting in February, much has happened at both ESU and within the Pennsylvania State System.

It would be an understatement if I said this year has been challenging for everyone in the university community, both professionally and personally. But we have made the most of the circumstances and when the pandemic is over, I am confident we will look back and see that we are a much better and stronger university.

Let me first start with an update on COVID-19. The university continues to provide weekly testing of all students on-campus for contracting COVID-19. This expensive protocol has proven to very beneficial regularly identifying asymmetric students and potentially preventing campus widespread. We will resume this process in the summer and fall and will have to maintain this activity until we are able to have most students protected from contracting and spreading the coronavirus. Unfortunately, as a public university in Pennsylvania we lack legal authority to require students be vaccinated.

Several faculty and staff have been vaccinated over the past several weeks, most 65 and older are fully vaccinated and a large number faculty and staff under 65 are fully or partially vaccinated. Thanks to one our alum, we were able to host a vaccine clinic at ESU that provided vaccinations for approximately 110 faculty and staff.

With the expansion of vaccinations to all adults, the university is moving forward to have all employees that are primarily working remote to their pre-COVID work schedule.

The University wraps-up classes this week, with exams occurring next week. Despite the virus, the last few weeks of the semester is a little crazy; faculty, administrators and staff are extremely busy with exams, housing and course registrations for summer and fall, new students' events, six commencements ceremonies and a host of other end of semester activities. Just because many of the events are virtual, it has not reduced the amount of preparation required.

Spring Commencements:

As most of you are aware, this year it is going to be very special for our students who are graduating. For the students who graduated in 2020, they have all been invited back to campus to take that final walk across the stage that they were looking for, in most of their cases, almost a year ago. In total there are 1431 graduates from the 2020 classes.

	College of Arts and Sciences	College of Health Science	College of Business Management	College of Education
Undergraduate	147	55	61	25
Graduate	11	25	12	31
TOTAL	158	80	73	56

And our Spring 2021 graduates, they will also participate in a formal commencement ceremony. There are 986 graduates for the May and August 2021 class.

	College of Arts and Sciences	College of Health Science	College of Business Management	College of Education
Undergraduate	381	185	171	63
Graduate	23	114	29	49
TOTAL	404	299	200	112

All undergrad and graduate commencement ceremonies will be held in our Eiler-Martin Stadium, which has not happened for over 30 years. So, for our graduates, faculty, and staff, we will all be part of ESU history. The doctoral commencement program will occur in Abeloff.

Athletics:

In the area of Athletics, it was great to have intercollegiate competition this Spring after nearly a year in hiatus.

Men's & Women's Track and Field

- The men's team finished second at the Millersville Metrics with 164 points and the women's team was third with 130 points.
- At the Bill Butler Invitational, the men's team earned 14 top-5 finishes and freshman Elizabeth Makar broke a 42-year-old school record in the shot put.
- The PSAC Track & Field Championships begin next week at Shippensburg on Thursday, May 6.
- Baseball
- 13-14 overall, 11-11 PSAC East
- Sixth in the PSAC East standing with the tournament getting underway on Wednesday, May 12.
- Football
- Wrapped up spring practice by holding their annual Red vs Black Game on April 24
- Softball
- 26-12 overall, 17-11 PSAC East
- Third in the PSAC East standings with the tournament getting underway on Wednesday, May 5

- Set program record for home wins with 20, 26 wins is tied for the third most in a single season
- Lead all of Division II with 110 stolen bases
- Jamie Wolbach earned her 100th career win at ESU on April 20

Women's Lacrosse

- 9-2 overall, 8-2 PSAC East
- The Warriors are set to begin the PSAC Tournament as the two seed on Saturday against Bloomsburg at 1 p.m. from Whitenight Field.
- ESU will host the NCAA Division II Atlantic Region Championship at Eiler-Martin Stadium on May 14 & 16.

For Summer and Fall:

We are planning for somewhat normal operations. Classes will be offered in a variety of modes including, face-to-face, on-line, flex. The university is using funds received from the most recent federal stimulus to install air purifying within the ventilation system throughout campus. We are also upgrading the technology in classrooms to give faculty the most flexibility to conduct their courses. It is expected that mask wearing, frequent handwashing, social distancing and other preventative measure will be necessary for the foreseeable future.

Fall and Winter Athletic competition, Homecoming, Family Weekend, and Presidential Gala are all expected to occur.

And in closing, I would like to recognize all the faculty and staff that are retiring. I have had the pleasure to work with many of them during my eight years at ESU and I know the university will not be quite the same next fall them. I especially want to recognize, my colleague and partner, Jo Bruno. Jo and I have worked closely together for the past six years and during that time much has been accomplished under her steadfast leadership as Provost.

With that, I conclude my report.

6. **Chair's Report:**

Trustee Ross thanked Trustee Albert Rivera for his services as Student Trustee and wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors. Trustee Rivera will be graduating in May. Trustee Rivera expressed his appreciation for the opportunity and the experience he had communicating and advocating for the students. Trustee Ross introduced the next Student Trustee, Mr. William Green. Mr. Green is excited for the opportunity to work with the Council of Trustees and ensure the student prospective continues to inform the Board in their decision making.

Trustee Ross attended the PACT Virtual Spring Conference and feels that all Trustees have a good idea of what is going on with Integration and would like to see everyone get more involved with the meetings and be advocates for East Stroudsburg. We have ammunition to continue to fight for ESU and our students. We need to show everyone what we are up against and we need to make ourselves known. Sustainability reports have to work or Integration will not happen. We need to advocate and not be penalized for being successful.

7. **Secretary's Report:**

Trustee Shemansky indicated there is no report.

8. **Committee Reports**

A. **University Affairs Committee:**

Interim President Long reported that Senator Haywood invited the 14 Presidents of the PASSHE Universities to a Town Hall on April 8th and after reviewing the agenda and discussing of proposed plan with the Senator, five Presidents agreed to represent the group as a whole at the meeting and each President addressed questions at the meeting. The Senator was pleased with the response and offered to be a

participant to help addresses diversity, equity, and inclusion on our college campus. President Long looks forward to the Senator's advocacy in the area and looks forward to fulfilling our mission, goals, and objectives as we set-forth as it relates to DEI.

Dr. Santiago Solis, Vice President of Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence reported on the three initiatives working around DEI. The first being the DEI certificate program for faculty and staff which includes participation in a host of workshops and training on DEI. A cohort of 20 participants has opportunity to focus on a topic and will work with faculty and staff on the project. This is a working model for the rest of PASSHE. Another initiative is the D&I workshop and trainings which are offered to the staff and faculty on campus. Third initiative is the DEI mentoring program for faculty and staff of color by pairing a new faculty or staff of color with an academic mentor who provides support around research and tenure, how to navigate politics, and how work with chairs and deans. Another mentor is a social mentor to make sure they are feeling welcomed around campus and the community.

Discussed President Long's 10-point plan. Will provide quarterly updates 1st was April 2, followed by July 1 October 1st, and January 3rd followed by an annual report to share with campus community by early January. More information can be found on the ESU DEI website.

Presentation on Criminal and Disciplinary Admissions policy question on admission form which has been moved to housing application. Process started earlier this year and has been completed and provided to other PASSHE institution and will now be a shared policy across the system with modifications to be added to specific institution. New title is Housing Policy for Discipline and Justice Involved Students.

Athletic Update included the Key highlights, long 14 months and after a lot of planning, 9 sports are competing this semester with 21 of 22 teams practicing.

Presidential Search Committee will convene on May 21st to resume the search.

Also discussed the PASSHE integration and redesign plan.

B. Strategic Initiatives Committee:

Trustee Lingenfelter asked Provost Bruno to present the slate of Emeritus/Emerita for approval as presented to the President and the Council of Trustees for approval.

(1) Provost Bruno presented the following retired faculty for emeritus/emmerita status:

Allan Benn, Ph.D., English, 35 years of service

Michael Doherty, Ph.D., Chemistry, 31 years of service

Douglas Lare, Ed.D., Professional & Secondary Education, 22 years of service

Robert McMullin, Ed.D., Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism Management 33 years of service

Joseph Miele, Ph.D., Psychology, 30 years of service

Carol Miller, MBA, Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism Management, 30 years of service

Ann Millet, M.S., Communication Sciences and Disorders, 33 years of service

Alan A. Shaffer, Ph.D., Chemistry, 21 years of service

Martin Wilson, Ph.D., History and Geography, 20 years of service

Trustee Shemansky made a motion to approve the faculty recommended for faculty emeritus/emmerita, seconded by Trustee Grayuski; no abstentions. The motion carried.

(2) Trustee Lingenfelter asked Trustee Chair Ross to read Resolution 21-01 Joanne Bruno Service as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at East Stroudsburg University. **Trustee Shemansky made a motion to approve Resolution 21-01 Joanne Bruno Service as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at East Stroudsburg University as read, seconded by Trustee Ross; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Provost Bruno was very surprised and pleased with the Resolution from the Council of Trustees and always enjoyed working with them particularly with Chair Ross.

Trustee Lingenfelter stated that page 232 of the Integration Plan which is available on the PASSSHE website details the inflows and outflows of the institutions, subsidizing, and those that are receiving. \$150 million did not go to West Chester University but instead went to others as well as \$30 million which did not go to East Stroudsburg University but instead went to others. Trustee Lingenfelter encouraged student leaders to take hold of this.

C. Finance Committee:

Trustee Pekarovsky indicated the session was started with discussion of current state of the Foundation and despite difficult times there is some resiliency currently in this period. There has been a slight uptake of the number of individuals making donations and some decrease in financial donations. Also discussed specific campaigns nearing successful conclusions.

Updates on enrollment with high level of concern in this area given the current atmosphere and the various challenges we see in the fall numbers. Looking at prudently deploying various forms of aid and focusing on growing our graduate programs. Creating and enhancing our curriculum in the manner in which we make available to various prospective students.

Moved to reviewing proposed fees in the upcoming year and given the current circumstances we are holding everything steady for the next year.

- (1) The Committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for February 01, 2021 through March 31, 2021 and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Patterson made a motion for the approval of the Cash Disbursement Reports for February 01, 2021 to Mach 31, 2021; Trustee Ross seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (2) The Committee reviewed the listing of non-bid purchases made under authority of Act 57 from January 16, 2021 through April 06, 2021 and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Grayuski made a motion to approve the Act 57 purchases report from January 16, 2021 through April 06, 2021 Trustee Shemansky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (3) The Committee reviewed the proposed local fees for fiscal year 2021-2022. The Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed fees. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Grayuski made a motion to approve the local fees for fiscal year 2021-2022; Trustee Shemansky seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

Interim President Long stated for the record that the finance committee presentation included the auxiliary fees and budget for auxiliaries; those fees for next year are not changing from the prior year so there is a zero increase in auxiliary fees. This will put additional pressure on the University to control operating costs but the important initiative that the University has taken and the Council has approved was to keep ESU and our tuition affordable for our students. Thanked everyone involved for keeping higher education affordable in Pennsylvania.

9. Old Business:

None

10. **New Business:**

- A. **Nominating Committee:** Nominating committee Chair, Trustee Shemansky presented the nominated slate of officers for the upcoming academic year. The slate is as following:
Chair: Trustee L. Patrick Ross '67
Vice-Chair: Marcus Lingenfelter '95
Secretary: Paul Shemansky '96 M '01 & 04

- B. **Election of Officers:** Trustee Grayuski made a motion to approve the slate of officers and appoint, Chair-Trustee Ross, Vice-Chair-Trustee Lingenfelter, and Secretary-Paul Shemansky for the upcoming academic year; Trustee Patterson seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.

- C. Trustee Ross presented the 2021-2022 Council of Trustees Meeting schedule as follows;
Thursday, September 23, 2021 Thursday, December 2, 2021
Thursday, February 4, 2022 Thursday, April 28, 2022

11. **Executive Session:**

Trustee Ross called for Executive Session to discuss legal matters at 5:10pm utilizing a separate zoom link. Regulars session was called back to order at 5:42pm

12. **Adjournment:** Trustee Ross adjourned at 5:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Shemansky
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar