CONFERENCE CALL/SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS STUDENT FEES
APRIL 14, 2004

The Council of Trustees conference call/special meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the Gathering Place of the Andruss Library. Those trustees attending in-person or via the audio bridge:

Council of Trustees
A. William Kelly, Chair
Steven Barth, Secretary
Robert Gibble (audio bridge)
Ramona Alley (audio bridge)
Joseph Mowad (audio bridge)
Richard Beierschmitt (audio bridge)
Lee Davis (audio bridge)
Robert Dampman (audio bridge)
David Petrosky (audio bridge)
Marie Conley-Lammando (audio bridge)

University Personnel
Dr. Jessica Kozloff, President
Dr. Patrick Schloss, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Preston Herring, Vice President for Student Life
Dr. Richard Rugen, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Dr. Michael Vavrek, Vice President for University Relations
Ms. Lisa Hemrick, Administrative Assistant, President's Office

Call to Order
Mr. A. William Kelly, Chair of the Council of Trustees, called the special meeting to further discuss student fees for 2004-2005 to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance
In accord with House Resolution Number 32, Trustee Kelly requested that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Discussion of Student Fees
Trustee Kelly recognized Dr. Preston Herring, Vice President for Student Life, to discuss the original and alternative recommendations for the room and board rate increase for fiscal year 2004-2005. Trustee Kelly reminded everyone that the original recommendation was presented at the quarterly meeting on March 3, 2004 with the matter being tabled until this meeting.

Dr. Herring reviewed the room and board fee increase discussion from the quarterly meeting of March 3rd. At that time, a 4.75% overall increase in room and board was presented, resulting in a $122 per student/per semester increase. Most of this increase was related to indirect, overhead charges that residence halls and food service need to pay back to the university for services rendered to those two auxiliary programs. There was a general consensus at the March 3rd quarterly meeting that the board increase was acceptable as presented, however, the trustees asked administration to come back with an alternative recommendation lowering the room rate, resulting in the reduction of the overall increase.

Dr. Herring then reviewed the alternative recommendation which would lower the room rate increase from 5.5% to 4.0%, keep the board rate increase at 4.0%, resulting in an overall combined average of 4.0%. This 4.0% increase in room and board would result in a $100 per student/per semester increase as opposed to the $122 per student in the original recommendation.

The alternative recommendation would be achieved by taking the following steps:

1) Maintain the reimbursement of $437,662 from the Residence Life budget to the University E & G budget for indirect/overhead charges. This would complete the 2-year phase-in for this expense.

2) Transfer (remove) expenses from the Residence Life budget back to the University E & G budget for payment of salary and benefits for staff who provided services to all University students. This transfer will be phased-in over 2 years at $78,614 each year.

3) Increase the fiscal year 2004-2005 revenue projection in summer conference business by $34,760.

Further explanation can be found in attachment 1.
Trustee Conley-Lammando asked if there is a possibility of sharing the cost of the office of Greek Affairs with the Community Government Association. Dr. Herring and Dr. Kozloff responded by stating that because Greek Affairs serves all the students it is an appropriate University/Residence Life expense and therefore those salaries and benefits should be transferred to the E & G budget.

Trustee Mowad stated that he felt the new recommendation was a legitimate alternative. He added that when you look at the comparison to other state system universities, Bloomsburg is still in the lower quartile as far as increases are concerned. Trustee Dampman added that by following the alternative recommendation and the phase-ins as outlined, that next year’s rate increase should be significantly lower.

Dr. Herring also provided a comparison of state system residence hall board rates, assuming the 4.0% increase proposed in the alternative recommendation. This comparison is reflected in attachment 4 and shows Bloomsburg 6th from the top when comparing 2003-2004 board rates. Trustee Davis asked that once all fees and rate increases are settled across the state system, that the trustees be provided with a comparison to see how BU stacks up against the other state system universities. Dr. Herring agreed to provide this information in the fall.

With no further discussion, Trustee Mowad made a motion to approve the student fees for 2004-2005 as outlined in the alternative room and board recommendation. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alley with unanimous approval by roll-call vote.

**Other Business**

Trustee Davis asked for an update on the status of our new student trustee, Jennifer Shymansky. Lisa Hemrick stated that Ms. Shymansky was just approved by Governor Rendell’s office this week and will be signing her oath shortly. She should be on-board as an official trustee next week.

Trustee Kelly asked the trustees to relay their attendance plans for graduate and undergraduate commencement, scheduled for May 7th and May 8th, to Lisa as soon as possible.

**Adjournment**

There being no other business and upon motion by Trustee Kelly, the meeting/conference call was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.