COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2013

The Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees met in the Assembly Room of Montys at 11:00 a.m. Those in attendance:

In person:
Dr. Robert Dampman, Chair
Mr. LaRoy Davis
Mrs. Ramona Alley
Dr. Joseph Mowad
Mr. Charles Schlegel
Mr. Ken Stolarick
Mr. John Wetzel
Mr. Patrick Wilson
Mr. Marcus Fuller

Absent:
Judge Mary Jane Bowes, Ms. Nancy Vasta

University Personnel
Dr. David Soltz, President
Dr. Ira Blake, Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dr. Dione Somerville, Vice President for Student Affairs
Mr. John Loonan, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mr. Erik Evans, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Brenda Cromley, Executive Assistant to the President
Ms. Jennifer Williams, Administrative Assistant, President’s Office

Council of Trustees Advisors
Dr. Stephen Kokoska, President, APSCUF (not present)
Mr. Shawn Makar, President, AFSCME (not present)
Ms. Gretchen Osterman, Bloomsburg Chapter of SCUPA
Ms. Ashley Wallace, President, CGA (not present)
Mr. David Stover, University Counsel (not present)
Pledge of Allegiance
In accord with House Resolution Number 32, Trustee Dampman requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Call to Order
Trustee Dampman, Chair of the Council of Trustees, called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance. He reported the Council of Trustees met earlier in the morning for an Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel issues.

Minutes of the Council of Trustees
A motion was made by Trustee Schlegel, seconded by Trustee Davis, and unanimously carried that the June 12, 2013 minutes be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Introductions
Trustee Dampman introduced our two newest trustees, Judge Mary Jane Bowes and Mr. John Wetzel, as well as our new Vice President of Administration and Finance, Mr. John Loonan. He also introduced Ms. Melanie Dworsak who was nominated for Non-Instructional Emeritus status. Dr. Sidney McCully spoke on behalf of the English department to express reason for nominating Ms. Dworsak.

Trustee Dampman also recognized those individuals serving on our Advisory panel: Mr. Shawn Maker (not present), Ms. Gretchen Osterman, Dr. Stephen Kokoska (not present), Ms. Ashley Wallace (not present), and Mr. David Stover (not present).

PRESIDENT

Non Instructional Emeritus
On a motion by Trustee Alley, seconded by Trustee Mowad, Non Instructional Emeritus status was unanimously approved for Melanie Dworsak.

President’s Report
President Soltz reviewed his President’s Report with the Trustees. A copy of the report will be appended to the minutes.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Action items:
Dr. Dampman introduced Mr. John Loonan, Vice President of Administration and Finance, to lead discussion of the General Administration section of the agenda.
Resolution for the purchase of 26 acres from BU Foundation
Trustee Davis made a motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Bloomsburg University Foundation, Inc. ("Foundation") purchased 26 acres from PHI Bloomsburg Senior Care, Inc. on November 30, 2011 (the "property"); and

WHEREAS: The Foundation is willing to sell the property to satisfy current and future University needs; and

WHEREAS: The University desires to purchase the property to satisfy current and future University needs; and

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Council of Trustees hereby recommends that the Board of Governors of the State System of Higher Education approve the acquisition of the property by the University; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Council of Trustees authorizes the University to carry out the purchase of the property, upon the approval of the Board of Governors, consistent with all applicable policies and procedures.

Second by Trustee Schlegel. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Purchasing Activity
Trustee Davis made a motion, seconded by Trustee Stolarick and unanimously carried, to approve purchasing activity under Act 188 in excess of $10,000 for May 1, 2013 to July 31, 2013.

Nominating Committee
Trustee Mowad made a motion to approve Mrs. Ramona Alley as Vice Chair for the 2013-2014 academic year. Seconded by Trustee Davis. Unanimous approval.

Information items:
End-of-Year Finance Report
Trustee Dampman introduced Mr. John Loonan, Vice President of Administration and Finance who presented the year end finance report. Mr. Loonan reviewed the E&G Financial History and noted the overall revenue is down from the previous year. Revenues and expenditures were balanced on the Auxiliary Budget. He reviewed the overall budget categories, revenues and expenditures. The trends in tuition and appropriation indicate our revenue is relied more on tuition than the appropriation from the state.
2013-2014 Budget Update
Mr. Loonan continued with the budget update. Although we have a balanced budget, the revenue was dependent upon a modest 3% tuition increase and small enrollment growth has sustained us. BU has had to use $2.4M from our savings account to balance the budget.

There is a slight increase in Undergraduate and Graduate enrollment projected for 2014-15 of 0.3%. Staffing should remain the same.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & STUDENT AFFAIRS

The BU GoodWork Project
Dr. Ira Blake and Dr. Dione Somerville introduced the presenters: Mary Katherine Duncan, Jennifer Johnson, Tom Kresch and Lauren Creasy. The BU GoodWork™ Project will provide an integrated and transformative experience for our undergraduate students using three elements: Excellence, Ethical, Engaged. It is focused on advancing undergraduates' understanding of what it means to do academic GoodWork™ as college students as well as identifying strategies and developing resources to support students' pursuit of GoodWork™. To this end, the BU GoodWork™ Initiative seeks to find ways to integrate GoodWork™ concepts into curricular and extracurricular activities at Bloomsburg University. The team is energized by the positive response we have received from all members of our campus community including support from all Colleges (Business, Education, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology) and several key Offices on our campus (Dean of Students, Diversity and Retention, Student Affairs, Office of Residence Life).

A website has been designed to provide easy access to the students about their role in GoodWork™. The program is designed to provide information and resources related to their three roles as person, student, and citizen. http://reslife.bloomu.edu/goodwork/initiative.php

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Information item:

Fall Enrollment and Housing Update
Trustee Dampman introduced Dr. Dione Somerville, Vice President of Student Affairs who presented. Dr. Somerville reviewed the Fall 2013 Goal/Opening day, indicating we are slightly above the 2013 goal for full time enrollment. We have increased our number of applications and offers while maintaining a steady yield. She reviewed the 2013 Minority Enrollment summary, which also indicates an increase in numbers. Based on the increase in enrollment the total number of triples has increased as well.
OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Dampman called to the attention of the trustees the 2013-2014 committee appointments included in their packets.

Adjournment

With no other items to be presented to the Council, and on a motion made by Trustee Davis, second by Trustee Mowad, and unanimously approved, Trustee Dampman adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Patrick Wilson
Secretary

Jennifer D. Williams
Administrative Assistant
Here is a summary of what our divisions have accomplished since we met in March.

- On Friday evening, May 17, 213 students received degrees during our graduate commencement in Haas Center for the Arts, Mitrani Hall. Six doctorates and 207 master’s degrees were conferred.

Our two undergraduate commencement ceremonies were held on the Academic Quad on Saturday, May 18. Nearly 1,300 seniors took part in the ceremonies. The weather was good for the morning ceremony but we did shorten the afternoon one when rain started about halfway into the ceremony.

Barbara Hudock, CEO and founding partner of Hudock Moyer Wealth Resources, was our speaker at both undergraduate ceremonies. Ms. Hudock is a 1975 alumna and is a former member of the Bloomsburg University Foundation Board. During the morning ceremony she was awarded the Bloomsburg University medallion, the fourteenth individual to receive this honor.

- I am pleased to announce that after a nationwide search, we have selected our next Vice President for Administration and Finance. John Loonan will be joining us in late July.

Since 2007, Mr. Loonan has been at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, SUNY – Albany. He served in several executive level roles including:

- Vice President for Finance and Fiscal Management for the College;
- President of Fuller Road Management Corporation, a property management and holding corporation that provides facilities and services to the College;  
- Research Foundation Operations Manager for the College, where he led the transition of the College to an autonomous research enterprise from the University at Albany including the establishment of all accounting, human resources, award establishment, purchasing and payroll for more than 700 employees; and  
- Treasurer of the US Photovoltaic Manufacturing Consortium, which is a newly created entity dedicated to establishing and growing a research consortium of photovoltaic industry suppliers and manufacturers.

Mr. Loonan graduated from Siena College in New York with an accounting degree and received his MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Lally School of Management and Technology. I believe he is well qualified to join the Bloomsburg University team.

Until Mr. Loonan arrives, Claudia Thrush will continue her appointment as interim Vice President of Administration and Finance. I want to thank Claudia for accepting this challenging role during the past six months.

- Our College of Education recently received a seven-year, full reaccreditation for the bachelor’s-level teacher preparation program and accreditation for the master’s degree program. These important designations are through the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education, known as NCATE.

Bloomsburg University has approximately 1,600 students enrolled in undergraduate programs in education and more than 400 are enrolled in graduate-level programs.

- Our Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC) received thirteen faculty or staff initial proposals for the 2013-14 President’s Strategic Planning Grants. Seven individuals or teams have been selected to proceed to the next step of preparing full proposals for their projects. Those projects focus on:
- Creating community based hydrologic monitoring and flood forecasting for Fishing Creek, Pennsylvania
- Researching and education of local ecological sites
- Establishing the Bloomsburg University sustainable food systems outdoor classroom
- Expanding STEM curricular offerings in the Central Susquehanna Region
- Strategically organizing an outreach campaign with the most diverse school systems within central PA to recruit future teachers for the College of Education
- Establishing an ‘Aging Center of Excellence’
- Engaging new freshmen in learning experiences which focus and prepare them for career-path planning and decisions.

- Two College of Science and Technology professors have received large National Science Foundation grants.

Dr. John Hranitz, professor of biology, received $316,000, for his project on “Behavior of honeybees and solitary bees in natural pollination systems and their responses to environmental stressors,” (Partnership with the University of Central Oklahoma). Researchers on the eight-week project in Turkey and Greece during summer 2013 will include faculty from six universities in three countries, as well as undergraduate student researchers.

Dr. Karl Kapp, professor of instructional technology, received $250,000 for his project, “Development of an open source, online virtual tensile strength testing stimulation,” (Partnership with Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio, and the National Office of Project Lead the Way). Materials created from this three-year project will be used by undergraduate engineering technology students and pre-engineering high school students in the Project Lead the Way network of 4,215 schools nationwide.

- Bloomsburg University hosted the annual Greater Susquehanna Keystone Innovation Zone (GSKIZ) Venture Plan competition in April. A total of 9 student teams from BU, Bucknell and Susquehanna Universities, and Luzerne County Community College, entered the competition to present their business models. Bloomsburg’s student team of Paul Rosa and Sean Roth was selected
as the first-place winner of the Venture Plan competition. Their business concept, "Sploops," focuses on providing sports fans the ability to upload 15-second video rants related to recent sporting events and favorite teams.

Additionally, Rosa and Roth competed with over 200 student teams from across PASSHE, as part of the annual PASSHE Business Plan competition. Their business was concept was selected as the third-place award winner across PASSHE.

- Twenty-five rising high school seniors in the Allentown School District will experience college’s academic and community life during the first “Bloomsburg Experience”, June 30 to July 19. The three-week residential experience will offer students the opportunity to engage in classroom and community activities and service projects designed to attract these high-achieving students to Bloomsburg University’s science, technology, engineering and math majors, known as STEM.

Participants were selected based on academic achievement, desire to learn and letters of recommendation. This partnership is supported by a 2012 Presidential Strategic Planning grant.

- Our Career Development Center produces an annual report of graduates earning a bachelor’s degree to determine their status in the year following graduation. Information is gathered via online survey, phone, email, social media and in-person interviews. The 2012 report has just been completed with a 91% response rate from that year’s graduating class.

1605 students graduated in December 2011, May and August of 2012 with 1,466 students providing placement information. A total of 1,257 graduates or 89% are considered “placed”, meaning they are permanently employed or continuing their education. You have a copy of the report at your place; here are the overall results by College:

College of Business: 94%
College of Education: 77%
College of Liberal Arts: 89%
College of Science & Technology: 92%

- Alumni Duane and Susan Basar Greenly, members of the Class of 1972, have donated $1 million to establish The Greenly Center, the new home of the Bloomsburg University Foundation in downtown Bloomsburg. The project on the site of the former Coles Hardware is scheduled to begin with razing of the current structure in August; completion of the $8.2 million project is expected in June or July 2014.

The Foundation’s move to downtown Bloomsburg may open the door for other university offices or university-affiliated functions to relocate to the business district.

- A $520,000 donation from alumni Edward J. Breiner ’77 and his wife Julianne Breiner ’77 will endow a new scholarship program at Bloomsburg University. The funds will be divided equally between the College of Business and College of Science and Technology, with first preference within the College of Science and Technology given to the School of Health Sciences. Edward Breiner is president of Schramm, Inc., a West Chester-based manufacturer of mobile rotary drill rigs, including two that were used in the August 2010 rescue of 33 Chilean miners.

Four scholarships will be awarded in fall 2013 to freshmen with demonstrated financial need. The scholarships are recurring for four years as long as the students maintain a high academic standing.

- On Saturday, April 6 the Community Government Association sponsored the fourth annual Big Event for the Town of Bloomsburg. More than 1,500 student volunteers representing Greek Life, athletics and many student organizations visited more than 140 individual homes and community locations to assist in various clean up and repair projects.

- We were notified that Bloomsburg University was, for the fifth time, named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2012. This designation recognizes our commitment to bettering the community through community service and service learning. BU was honored for three specific projects: The Big Event,
Flood Relief and The BU Toy Library.

The Big Event: As I just mentioned, this annual, one-day volunteer event brings large numbers of students together to clean up, help out and give back to the town of Bloomsburg.

Flood Relief after Tropical Storm Lee: In September 2011, students, faculty and staff members helped local residents deal with the effects of record flooding, providing relief as the waters rose and receded and helping with cleaning and repairs. Volunteers logged a total of 2,542 hours.

The BU Toy Library: Resources of the first play and literacy resource center in Central Pennsylvania include art supplies, classic games and toys, trains and vehicle sets, wooden puzzles, puppets, dollhouses and sets of magic, coin and card tricks. All supplies can be used by BU faculty, staff and students while working with various age groups.

The SOLVE volunteer office coordinates BU students as they contribute to community service. During 2012, our students tallied a total of 85,770 hours of community service including service learning.

- In Athletic news, the wrestling team finished another successful season by sending six wrestlers to the NCAA Division I championship, the women’s basketball team earned its second consecutive trip to the NCAA championship playoffs and the Husky softball team made their 31st straight NCAA championship playoff appearance this spring.

In early May, approximately 150 people attended the Husky Awards Banquet. The event honored 19 student-athletes with team MVP awards along with awarding the top male and female senior scholar-athletes, the top male and female senior athletes and the and top male and female underclass athlete for the 2012-13 year.

- The Athletic Department launched a new online ticketing site which allows fans to purchase football individual and season tickets for games this fall. The ticketing site will be expanded this fall to include men’s and women’s basketball as well as wrestling.
Components of BU’s emergency notification system – e-mail, voice mail, text messages and campus sirens - were tested on March 27th and worked effectively.

All students and registered faculty and staff, who opted to receive notification in these formats, received a test e-mail message and text messages. The sirens, installed on Elwell Hall, McCormick Center for Human Services and on the upper campus, are designed to alert the campus community when vital emergency information is available via e-mail, voice mail and text message. BU tests the emergency notification system once each semester.

The first meeting of the Greek Alumni Advisory Council was held in April. The Council was created to facilitate Greek alumni involvement by working with the Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Affairs and the Alumni Office. Council members will assist by being a reference source of Greek historical data, promoting Greek membership benefits and character development and promote and develop scholarship opportunities.

Bloomsburg University held its semi-annual “Trash to Treasure” event in this past weekend to support the Columbia County United Way. Although the total dollar figure is not yet finalized, I’m proud to report that to date, donations are just over $6,000. The January event raised $10,315.

It is my pleasure to report that 26 faculty earned promotions effective the fall semester of 2013; 13 from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor and 13 from Associate Professor to full Professor. Additionally, 10 faculty received tenure.

We recognized two retired staff and faculty this morning and since the president officially grants faculty emeriti status, I want to congratulate Dr. Eileen Astor-Stetson. My congratulation also goes to our newest non-instructional emerita, Monica Howell.