

COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES
March 8, 2017

The Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees met in the Assembly Room of Montys at 10:45 a.m. Those in attendance:

Present in person:

Mr. Patrick Wilson, Chair
Judge Mary Jane Bowes, Vice Chair
Mrs. Ramona Alley
Dr. Robert Dampman
Ms. Katherine Mullen
Dr. Brian O'Donnell
Secretary John Wetzel

Present by phone:

Mr. Ed Edwards

Absent:

Dr. Joseph Mowad
Mr. Charles Schlegel
Ms. Nancy Vasta, Secretary

University Personnel

Dr. David Soltz, President
Dr. Ira Blake, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Dione Somerville, Vice President for Student Affairs
Mr. John Loonan, Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mr. Tom Fletcher, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment
Mr. Erik Evans, Vice President for University Advancement
Ms. Brenda Cromley, Deputy to the President
Ms. Jennifer Williams, Administrative Assistant, President's Office

Council of Trustees Advisors

Dr. Stephen Kokoska, President, APSCUF
Mr. Shawn Makar, President, AFSCME
Ms. Gretchen Osterman, Bloomsburg Chapter of SCUPA
Mr. John Caserta, President, CGA
Ms. Jill Fluck, Legal Counsel

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Call to Order

Trustee Wilson, Chair of the Council of Trustees, called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance. Jennifer Williams conducted a roll call vote of those in attendance.

Minutes of the Council of Trustees

A motion was made by Trustee Alley, seconded by Trustee Dampman, and unanimously carried that the December 7, 2016 minutes be approved. Trustee O'Donnell abstained from the vote.

Comments from the Public

Dr. James Brown, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, attended a class Bloomsburg University offers at the Mahanoy State Correctional Institution. Dr. Brown presented and offered discussion to the students on a poem written by Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken." He wanted to offer thanks and give gratitude on behalf of the students we are serving to those on campus who made the Certificate in Rehabilitative Justice possible and made the enrollment of these students possible (particularly Financial Aid and Admissions). He offered thanks to our visionary leadership for supporting this program: Provost and Senior Vice President Dr. Ira Blake, Mr. Tom Fletcher, Vice President of Strategic Enrollment Management, our President, Dr. David Soltz, the Council of Trustees and particularly Secretary John Wetzell in order to make this possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Introductions

Trustee Wilson recognized Dr. James Tomlinson, who was nominated and granted Faculty Emeritus status by Dr. David Soltz.

Also introduced were those individuals serving on the Advisory panel: Mr. Shawn Makar, Ms. Gretchen Osterman, Dr. Nakul Kumar (representing APSCUF), and Mr. John Caserta (not present).

TRUSTEES

President's Report

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

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Trustee Wilson called on Dr. Dione Somerville, Vice President of Student Affairs, to lead discussion on the Student Affairs section of the agenda.

Room and Board Fees

Trustee Bowes made a motion to approve a room fee increase of \$172 /semester; \$224 for apartments and board fee increase of \$85/semester (\$35 plan, \$50 flex) for the 2017-2018 academic year. Seconded by Trustee O'Donnell. Unanimous approval.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Trustee Wilson recognized Mr. John Loonan, Vice President of Administration and Finance, to lead discussion of the General Administration section of the agenda.

Approval of Purchasing Activity

Trustee Dampman made a motion, seconded by Trustee Bowes and unanimously carried, to approve purchasing activity under Act 188 in excess of \$10,000 for November 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017.

Delinquent Student Accounts

Trustee Dampman made a motion to write-off delinquent student accounts, seconded by Trustee Bowes. Unanimous approval.

Proposed Fee Schedule 2017-2018

Trustee Dampman made a motion to accept the fee schedule for 2017-2018. Seconded by Trustee Bowes. Unanimous approval.

Bloomsburg University Foundation Fundraising Contract

Trustee Dampman make a motion to renew the Bloomsburg University Foundation fundraising contract for five years effective July 1, 2018 for \$1,900,000 per year with escalation consistent with the consumer price index. Seconded by Trustee O'Donnell. Unanimous approval.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Certificate of Medical Genomics and Counseling and Certificate of Pre-Medical Science Studies

Trustee Alley made a motion to accept a Certificate of Medical Genomics and Counseling and a Certificate of Pre-Medical Science Studies in the College of Science and Technology. Second by Trustee Wetzel. Unanimous approval.

Certificate of Digital Rhetoric and Professional Writing

Trustee Alley made a motion to accept a Certificate of Digital Rhetoric and Professional Writing in the College of Liberal Arts. Second by Trustee Wetzel. Unanimous approval.

Academic Presentation: “The BU Financial Literacy Initiative”

Dr. Jeffrey Krug, Dean of the Zeigler College of Business, presented information related to Bloomsburg University’s Financial Literacy Initiative. One of Bloomsburg University’s objectives is to help elementary, middle, and high school students achieve some skills of financial management in the area of starting a small business. Bloomsburg University has initiated a stock market simulation in elementary, middle and high schools throughout PA. Approximately 501 school districts were contacted to participate in the program. A database was purchased and BU is operating more than 2,000 classes across PA. Bloomsburg University is running almost 1,200 classes in 34 high schools in 16 counties, more than 700 classes in 25 middle schools in 14 counties, and more than 200 classes in 13 elementary schools in 10 counties throughout PA. Bloomsburg University’s goal is to introduce the stock market simulation in all 67 counties in PA by the fall 2017 and spring 2018.

Thirty outstanding BU finance students (Bloomsburg Investment Group) actively managing a \$50,000 mutual fund in the Benner-Hudock Center for Financial Analysis lab meeting on a weekly basis to discuss results. These students engage in wide range of activities to learn the software.

This year, Bloomsburg University is hosting the Husky Dog Pound. It is a Shark Tank competition being held on April 18 and was originally designed for BU students. We are giving \$50,000 in prize money in four areas: Entrepreneurship in Business; Social Entrepreneurship (Microsoft); Science & Technology and Education. High schools, alumni and local businesses are invited to participate. Microsoft is a sponsor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Student Trustee Resolution

Trustee Alley made a motion and read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Katherine D. Mullen served as a student member of the Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees for the 2016-2017 academic year, and

WHEREAS, she has served responsibly and with integrity on various committees representing Bloomsburg University, and

WHEREAS, more importantly, she has been a positive role model for all other students,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees of Bloomsburg University express its gratitude and appreciation for her dedicated service to Bloomsburg University.

Seconded by Trustee Dampman, and unanimously approved.

Adjournment

With no other items to be presented to the Council, Trustee Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Mary Jane Bowes
Vice Chair

Jennifer D. Williams
Administrative Assistant

BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE
BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**

March 8, 2017

Here are a few university highlights since our last meeting in December.

- Our fall commencement was held on December 16 and 17. On Friday evening, 83 graduate students received their master's degree during the ceremony. On Saturday 494 undergraduate students received their degrees during the two commencement ceremonies held in Haas Auditorium.
- The University has a new guaranteed admissions agreement with Bucks County Community College that will enable students at the community college, Bucks County Technical High School, Middle Bucks Institute of Technology and Upper Bucks County Technical School to complete their bachelor's degrees through our BAS-TL program.
- A nursing degree from Bloomsburg University is ranked by *College Choice*, an independent online publication, as the most affordable nursing degree in Pennsylvania. Schools were ranked in each state by increasing value of the sum of the published in-state tuition and mandatory fees. The rating places BU's nursing program above six sister institutions: West Chester (second), Edinboro (third), Slippery Rock (fourth), California (fifth), Indiana (sixth) and Clarion (seventh).
- Since my last President's Report, the *It's Personal* Campaign total now stands at \$60.9M exceeding the \$50M goal with four months left in the campaign. This includes securing more than \$20M in documented estate intentions. The *We Make It Personal* Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign began on Monday, February 20th and concluded last Friday, March 3rd.

Planning is underway for the Campaign Celebration Event that will take place on Friday, October 6.

- The Zeigler College of Business has initiated a Shark Tank-type competition among high schools across Pennsylvania. All 501 high school superintendents

have been invited to participate. The competition, called the Dog Pound, will take place in the high schools this month. The winner of each district will be invited to compete on our campus on April 18th. Prize awards total \$10,000.

- The Pennsylvania High School Speech League held its first Drama Festival at BU in January where drama clubs from eight high schools performed 25-40 minute plays in Mitrani Hall of Haas Auditorium. Five Drama judges, including one of the founders of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, adjudicated the event. Approximately 150 students, teachers, and parents attended the Drama Festival on January 7th. Dr. Neil Strine, Chair of Political Science, is the new Executive Director of the PA High School Speech League.

- The College of Education's STEM programs are busy this spring semester.
 - Five (5) STEM Magnet Program juniors participated in the PA Governor's STEM Competition in February in Milton. Their project, "The Coal Refuse Block", a five-by-nine-inch block used to recycle coal refuse, was selected to advance to that stage of the competition through a judged campus competition. By placing third at the Milton regional, the team is able to go onto the State Governor's STEM competition.

 - A STEM Night was held in conjunction with Warrior Run Elementary School last month. 47 Bloomsburg University students from the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) organization provided hands-on science stations for the elementary students.

 - The third GI-STEM (Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Day was held on campus last Saturday. The event was expanded to include Brownies (2nd and 3rd grade) and girls in 2nd through 8th grade from six local school districts resulting in 235 participating girls. The Girl Scouts move through hands-on STEM stations facilitated by our education and nursing majors to learn about STEM principles.

 - The Regional STEM Education Center received a \$25,000 grant from the PPL Foundation which supports the GI-STEM Day along with the Great STEM Adventure Camp held in June on campus.

- Alumnus David Williams, President and CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, was the keynote speaker for the 11th annual Husky Student Leadership Summit.

The Summit is sponsored by Alumni & Professional Engagement, the Center for Leadership & Engagement (CLE) and the Community Government Association (CGA).

Approximately 350 BU students attended various CLE leadership certification program workshops, roundtable discussions with alumni, a leadership networking luncheon and participated in mock interviews and resume review sessions.

- We have implemented a Military Mentee Program, which is designed to assist new incoming military students during their time at Bloomsburg University. Through this program, they are able to learn about programs, majors/minors, get help with any classwork, as well as, have any questions the mentee might have in general. Thus, providing more networking opportunities for both the mentee and the mentor.
- Understanding the origins of our solar system will be the focus of a NASA mission and Dr. Michael Shepard, professor of environmental, geographical and geological sciences has contributed his research to the project. He studied 16 Psyche, an asteroid selected for the mission that has potential to open new windows on one of the earliest eras in the history of our solar system. Dr. Shepard developed the 3D model the spacecraft's mission team is using. The mission, now in the formation stage, will provide a look into how planets may have formed. It will launch in 2023 arriving at the asteroid in 2030.
- The National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) has recognized Bloomsburg University as an institutional participant in the SARA initiative.

SARA is a voluntary agreement among its member states and the U.S. territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. It is intended to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based on another state. It also allows students to participate in many types of field experiences in other 47 SARA-member states and the District of Columbia.

- Our annual Kids Fun Carnival, themed Surf and Turf, was held on Saturday afternoon, February 11 in Nelson Fieldhouse. More than 130 BU student volunteers helped the children learn about and explore animals of the land and the sea through interactive hands-on activities. Even though the event is designed for children 12 and under, older youth and adults that attended enjoyed the activities. The free event was attended by 270 children and adults.

- Five study abroad experiences will be conducted this summer by faculty members. The study abroad trips will include the following excursions:
 - London –Students will explore and tour the city of London, and will visit museums, attend plays, and participate in a tour of Shakespeare’s home. Students will earn six BU credits while participating in the trip by completing courses in British Literature and Contemporary Moral Problems.
 - Italy – This trip is specific to The College of Education and The Department of Teaching and Learning. It takes place at the Loris Malaguzzi International Center, where students participate in a unique practicum for education majors within the Reggio Children’s Schools in Italy. Other excursions include exploring the cities of Reggio Emilia, Venice and Rome, touring St. Mark’s Basilica and the Guggenheim Museum in Venice. Students will earn six academic credits.
 - Norway – The trip is organized by The Department of Environmental, Geographical and Geological Sciences (EGGS), Students will explore Norway’s physical and cultural landscapes, hike along the Arctic Circle, visit a glacier, and see the artifacts from the Viking world, including a 1000-year-old ship. Students will complete the BU course, Regional Geography Abroad.
 - Morocco – This is an intensive and fast-paced 4-week program to learn Arabic and travel the country. Students can earn 6 academic credits to complete either their language requirements or apply towards an Arabic major or minor. Students will see Fez and also visit the imperial cities of Meknes and Volubilis, an ancient Roman city, ride camels during an overnight trip to the desert, and spend a weekend at a beach.
 - Beijing – Students will visit major cultural and historic sites including the Forbidden City, Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the National Museum, and traditional and modern neighborhoods. Students will complete six BU credits, including Foundations of Chinese Civilization, as part of the trip.
- Students participating in the above trips may have received funding through our Professional Experience Grants, or what we refer to as “PEGs”. These are a monetary award, similar to a scholarship, to assist students with expenses associated with a professional experience related to a student’s academic major and career field of interest. The PEGs are significant because they support faculty/student collaboration and are funded by philanthropic gifts through the BU Foundation and the student success fee.
 - Through the 2015-16 and 2016-17 pilot years, 54 applications were received, 31 awards were given and the average award was \$1600.

- Students used the professional experience grant for study abroad experiences, internships, conference papers/presentations and undergraduate research.
 - Students in majors within all four colleges have been awarded grants.
- The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) as a 2016 Division II All-Academic Team honored the men and women cross-country teams for their academic success. Additionally, three members of the men's team, junior *Daniel Neiswender*, sophomore *Eric Heatwole*, and sophomore *Nick McGuire* and three from the women's team, senior *Keelan McDonald*, redshirt junior *Marina Eberhart*, and junior *Hannah Boudreau* were honored individually as All-Academic honorees from the USTFCCCA.
 - For the third consecutive year, the Bloomsburg University women's swimming team finished second overall at the 2017 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Championships at the Graham Aquatic Center. The Huskies placed second to West Chester, which won its 11th consecutive title.
 - The Bloomsburg University men's swimming team earned its second consecutive second place finish at the 2017 Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Championships at the Graham Aquatic Center. It was a two-school race for the league title but West Chester was able to pull away in the end for its 19th consecutive conference championship.
 - Bloomsburg University Athletics celebrated National Girls and Women in Sports Day for the sixth consecutive year on February 4 at Nelson Field House. Nationally, it marks the 31st Anniversary of National Girls and Women in Sports Day. The highlight of the day was a free clinic hosted by the members of the Bloomsburg women's basketball team. Attendees had the opportunity to interact with student-athletes from other women's sports during an all-sports fair.
 - The Hungry Huskies initiative is a combined University and community effort to help students in need of food by providing access for students to the local food bank on Monday nights. The initiative also provides access to emergency food bags in several campus locations. On average, about 20 students each week have benefited from the student food bank since it began in the fall semester. Approximately 75% of these students are repeat users. The students who attended have been very appreciative and are beginning to build some relationships with the Food Bank volunteers. Faculty and Student Affairs staff have volunteered more than 50 hours at the Monday evening 'student' food bank.

- Our Center for Visual and Performing Arts hosted its annual Taste of the Arts event at the Caldwell Consistory in downtown Bloomsburg. This event is free and open to the public. A Taste of the Arts features art exhibitions and demonstrations as well as live performances from the music, theatre and dance department. Mass communications students displayed their video editing projects as well as creative writing students read their original works throughout the afternoon. .Bloomsburg University departments involved include art and art history, English, mass communications, music, theatre and dance.
- The Bloomsburg University Finance Team, under the guidance of Dr. Victoria Geyfman, Gillespie Faculty Fellow, is one of 44 student teams from colleges and universities around the U.S. participating in the 2017 Community Bank Case Study Competition. The competition is an opportunity for students to gain valuable first-hand knowledge of the banking industry, and the opportunities and challenges facing today's 21st century community banks. Each student team must develop an original case study that evaluates bank leadership succession planning and provides succession-planning recommendations based on research.

The student teams are competing for a chance to get their work published in an academic journal, an opportunity to attend the fifth annual CSBS-Federal Reserve Community Banking Research Conference, and an academic scholarship. Competition finalists will be announced in early May.

- The student newspaper, The Voice, have received six individual awards for their articles, photos and page design from Columbia Scholastic Press Association. Their work was selected from among the 6,420 entries submitted by colleges and universities from across the United States. Among the individual awards were first place in entertainment reviews, a first place in page design, a third place in personal opinion writing and the staff as a whole also shared a third place award for headline writing.
- All components of BU's emergency notification system – sirens, email, voice, and text messages – were tested last month. All BU students and registered faculty and staff received a test email, voice, and text message if they opted to receive notification in these formats.

The sirens, installed on Elwell Hall, McCormick Center for Human Services and Nelson Field House, will alert the campus community when vital emergency information is available via email, voice, and text message. We test the emergency notification system once each semester.

- I was honored to receive the President's Award from the Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education (PBCOHE) two weeks ago at their meeting in Pittsburgh. We have increased enrollment of under-represented minority students from 10 percent to more than 17 percent. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of administrators, faculty, and staff of color hired and retained at the university during my tenure. I have also supported student participation in the PBCOHE Student Leadership Development Institute as well as faculty and staff participation in the Educational Management and Leadership Institute.
- Since the president officially grants faculty emeriti status, I want to congratulate Dr. James Tomlinson, Department of Communication Studies.
- Finally, the Trustee meeting for June will not be held at Monty's as the facility is being renovated. There will be a new front entrance, lobby renovation, servery and storage improvements for Aramark at the dining section of the building.

Our meeting will be held in the Kehr Union Building.