

**Pennsylvania Western University  
Council of Trustees Regular Quarterly Meeting**

Thursday, April 13, 2023  
3 p.m.  
PennWest Clarion Gemmell Student Center  
840 Wood St., Clarion, PA 16214

**Meeting Minutes**

The Council of Trustees at Pennsylvania Western University met in regular session on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the PennWest Clarion campus at 840 Wood St., Clarion, PA, and via Zoom. The meeting began at 3:00 p.m.

At the direction of Chair Pape, roll call attendance was taken. A quorum of Trustees was present:

**ATTENDING**

Mark Bellini	Representative Donna Oberlander
JD Dunbar	Kathy Pape
Danny Jones	Larry Pickett
Patricia Kennedy	Kathryn Robinson (late arrival)
Barbara Logue	Sarah Seader
Commissioner Larry Maggi	Neil Weaver
Barry Niccolai	Sonia Yost

**ABSENT:** N/A

*Also in attendance: Lorraine Bernotsky, Acting President; James Geiger, Vice President for Advancement; Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Student Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness; Brenda Fredette, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Daniel Engstrom, Deputy Provost; Fawn Petrosky, Vice President for Finance; Sarah Freed, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management; Kelly Moran-Repinski, Chief of Staff; Eric Guiser, Senior Associate Vice President for Human Resources; Molly Passmore, University Legal Counsel; Robin Weaver, PennWest Faculty Senate; Jackie Knaust, PennWest Faculty Senate; Peter Kuvshnikov, PennWest Faculty Senate; Mario Majcen, Local APSCUF President, PennWest California; Barry Sweet, Designee for Local APSCUF President, PennWest Clarion; Lee Williams, Designee for Local APSCUF President, PennWest Edinboro.*

Upon calling the council to order, Chair Pape announced that the proceedings of the PennWest University Council of Trustees are recorded, therefore, public disclosure to those in attendance via verbal announcement and written public notice avoids any violation of the Pennsylvania Wire Tapping Act. The meeting was also being livestreamed over YouTube for the public.

**COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT** (Full report in video archive)

Chair Pape provided a report highlighting internal governance structuring; establishment of committees, and defining mission, vision, and goals; building formal lines of communication and partnerships with PennWest staff for enrollment-driven outcomes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**APSCUF COMMENT** (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Mario Majcen, local APSCUF President, provided comment on behalf of PennWest California.  
Dr. Barry Sweet, designee for local APSCUF President Joyce Overly, provided comment on behalf of PennWest Clarion.

Dr. Lee Williams, designee for local APSCUF President Samuel Claster, provided comment on behalf of PennWest Edinboro.

**FACULTY SENATE REMARKS** (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Jackie Knaust provided remarks on behalf of Faculty Senate.

**STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS** (Full report in video archive)

Student Trustees Sarah Seader (California) and Sonia Yost (Edinboro) provided reports on the status and activities at PennWest California and PennWest Edinboro.

No report from Trustee Robinson for PennWest Clarion.

**PACT/BOG UPDATE** (Full report in video archive)

Trustees Bellini, Nicolai, and Oberlander provided a PACT update.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- Meeting Minutes 1-19-2023
- Capital Spending Plan

Trustee Bellini requested the Capital Spending Plan be considered outside of the Consent Agenda.

**MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Pape requested a motion to approve meeting minutes as drafted. Trustee Weaver moved to accept as drafted. Trustee Nicolai seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**

**Nays: None**

**Motion Carries.**

**CAPITAL SPENDING PLAN**

Motion to approve the Capital Spending Plan as presented. Trustee Nicolai moved to approve as presented. Trustee Bellini seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: Trustees Dunbar, Jones, Kennedy, Logue, Maggi, Nicolai, Oberlander, Pape, Pickett, Seader, Weaver, Yost**

**Nays: Trustee Bellini**

**Motion Carries.**

**UNIVERSITY REPORTS** (Full reports in video archive)**1. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Dr. Brenda Fredette presented action items and provided an update on division activity.

**Action Item: New Online Graduate Certificates**

Motion that the Council of Trustees approve six new online graduate certificates as presented: Accounting Essentials, Assurance, Taxation, Post Master's Counseling, Superintendent Letter of Eligibility, and Reading Specialist Preparation. Trustee Nicolai moved to approve as presented. Trustee Pickett seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

*Note: Trustee Robinson arrived.*

**Action Item: Academic Colleges Reorganization**

Motion that the Council of Trustees approve the reorganization of the existing six academic colleges into three newly created colleges renamed: the College of Science, Technology, and Business; the College of Education, Arts, and Humanities; and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Trustee Kennedy moved to approve as presented. Trustee Weaver seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

**2. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Fawn Petrosky presented action items and provided an update on division activity.

**Action Item: External Financial Support and Resolution**

Motion that the Council of Trustees approve the resolution certifying compliance with Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A: *University External Financial Support*. Trustee Dunbar moved to approve as presented. Trustee Jones seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

**Action Item: Meal Plan Rates**

Motion to approve adjustments to the meal plan rates as presented. Trustee Niccolai moved to approve as presented. Trustee Maggi seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

**Action Item: Room Rates**

Motion to approve increases, as presented, to the single room rate at the California campus, and Reinhard Villages apartment-style suites at the Clarion campus, to align rates. Trustee Dunbar moved to approve as presented. Trustee Maggi seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: Trustees Bellini, Dunbar, Jones, Kennedy, Logue, Maggi, Niccolai, Oberlander, Pape, Pickett, Seader, Weaver,**  
**Nays: Trustees Robinson and Yost**  
**Motion Carries.**

**Action Item: Tuition and Fees**

Motion to approve tuition and fee adjustments, as presented, effective for the fall 2023 semester. Trustee Weaver moved to approve as presented. Trustee Kennedy seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

VP Petrosky also reported on the quarterly contracts and purchases for the period of November 21, 2022, through February 20, 2023. Further division activity reported on includes Accounting, Financial Planning and Analysis, Student Accounts, Information Technology, Human Resources and Administration. VP Petrosky announced PennWest won the Ellucian Impact Award for cross-campus technology implementation.

### **3. UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

James Geiger presented an action item and provided a division update.

#### **Action Item: Building Name Request**

Motion that the Pennsylvania Western University Council of Trustees, in recognition of the prominent and devoted commitment of John S. Shropshire to Clarion University and his significant impact on the Clarion community, as well as his immeasurable impact on the recruitment, retention and graduation students, hereby renames Egbert Hall to John S. Shropshire Hall, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Western University Policy for Naming Facilities and Programs. Trustee Pickett moved to approve. Trustee Jones seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

**Yays: All**  
**Nays: None**  
**Motion Carries.**

VP Geiger also reported updates on the inaugural PennWest Annual Day of Giving on April 28, fundraising and giving targets, realignment of Enrollment Marketing, and upcoming important events.

### **4. UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (Full report in video archive)

President Bernotsky gave the President's Report, expressing the honor and commitment to lead on an interim basis the community of educators serving students and PennWest.

### **5. UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS**

Kelly Moran-Repinski provided an update on University Affairs to include efforts underway in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, Multicultural/Student Support access hubs, national search for a Chief Diversity Equity and Inclusion Officer, and the status of the five Presidential Commissions launching fall 2023.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Pape called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Jones moved to do so. Trustee Nicolai seconded. **Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Meeting webcast available [here](#).

**Respectfully submitted by,**

*Anna Stewart, Executive Staff Associate and Trustee Liaison  
Office of the President*