Pennsylvania Western University Council of Trustees, Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 26, 2025 2 p.m. PennWest California – Convocation Center 250 University Ave., California, PA

Meeting Minutes

The Council of Trustees of Pennsylvania Western University met in regular session on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at the PennWest California campus, Convocation Center, Rooms 1-4. The meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

Council of Trustees:

Р	Mark Bellini	Р	Barry Niccolai
Р	JD Dunbar	Р	Donna Oberlander
Р	Aiden Dougan	Р	Kathy Pape (virtual)
Р	Timothy John	Р	Larry Pickett
Α	Danny Jones	Р	Neil Weaver
Р	Patricia Kennedy (virtual)	Р	Tyrique Whitson
Р	Barbara Logue	Α	Mohamed Yamba
Р	Larry Maggi		

Attendance was taken at the direction of Chair Dunbar and established that a quorum of the Council was present.

Also present were:

Jon Anderson, President	Cathleen McCormack, University Legal Counsel (virtual)
Jim Fisher, Interim Provost and VP of Academic Affairs	Beth McSwain, PASSHE Legal (virtual)
Jim Geiger, Vice President for Advancement and Clarion Campus Administrator	Quinn Connelly, PASSHE Legal (virtual)
Kelly Repinski, Vice President for Communications and Marketing	Wendy Mackall, Executive Director Communications
Teresa Smith, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration	Sheleta Camarda-Webb, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer
Susanne Fenske, Vice President for	Tony Mauro, Associate Vice President for
Institutional Effectiveness and Student Affairs	University Development California Campus Administrator
David Dollins, Associate VP for Enrollment Management	Kristine Hall, Executive Staff Assistant
Bob Mehalik, Associate Provost and Graduate Dean	Anna Stewart, Executive Staff Associate

Lisa Kovalchick, Acting APSCUF Chapter President	Staci Tedrow, Administrative Assistant II
Robin Weaver, Co-Chair Faculty Senate, California Campus (virtual)	Yugo Ikach, Associate Dean
Marcella McConnell, PennWest Faculty Senate	Robert (Bo) Garritano
Peter Kuvshinikov, PennWest Faculty Senate (virtual)	Dave Osikowicz

COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Chair Dunbar presented Trustee Bellini with a boxwood flag to honor his prior military service and ongoing work with veterans. She also welcomed student trustee Aiden Dougan to his first official meeting following his appointment by the Board of Governors.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Full report in video archive)

President Anderson shared his report reflecting the progress that has been made the past year and looking ahead at upcoming priorities.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Full report in video archive) - None.

REMARKS BY APSCUF (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Lisa Kovalchick, Acting APSCUF Chapter President on the PennWest California campus, provided remarks on behalf of the APSCUF leadership.

FACULTY SENATE REMARKS (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Robin Weaver, Co-Chair of Faculty Senate on the PennWest California campus, provided remarks on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT (Full reports in video archive)

Student Trustee Tyrique Whitson (California) reported on activities at the California campus, Student Trustee Timothy John (Clarion) reported on activities on the Clarion campus, and Student Trustee Aiden Dougan (Edinboro) reported on activities on the Edinboro campus.

PACT UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Bellini provided updates on PACT activities.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dunbar requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

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The motion was made by Trustee Bellini, seconded by Trustee Maggi, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Kelly Repinski, Vice President for Communications and Marketing, provided an update on fall initiatives, social media and website metrics, the People of PennWest, University Storytelling, and Executive Communications.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Full remarks in video archive)

Trustee Logue, co-chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

Dr. Jim Fisher, Interim Provost Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented a proposal for the creation of the schools of Education, Nursing and Business.

The following motion was made by Trustee Whitson, seconded by Trustee Niccolai, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE CREATION OF THE SCHOOLS OF EDUCATION, NURSING AND BUSINESS.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Dr. Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Student Affairs and Dr. Jim Fisher, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided updates on enrollment.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Kennedy, co-chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

Dr. Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Student Affairs, provided an update on Institutional Effectiveness, DEI, Student Affairs, and University police.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Pickett, co-chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

Dr. Teresa Smith, Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration, presented the proposed FY2025/2026 Preliminary Budget.

The following motion was made by Trustee Bellini, seconded by Trustee Maggi, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FY 2025/2026.

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Pape, chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

Jim Geiger, Vice President for Advancement and Clarion Campus Administrator, presented the University Advancement report, and presented the proposed resolution to name the field at the Clarion Memorial Stadium the Al Jacks Field.

The following motion was made by Trustee Oberlander, seconded by Trustee Weaver, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE NAMING OF THE FIELD AT CLARION MEMORIAL STADIUM THE AL JACKS FIELD.

The resolution was read by Dr. Anderson.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Chair Dunbar shared that the president meets with the executive committee and the full group of trustees on a regular basis, and that the trustees and cabinet have also been meeting and are moving forward in a positive direction.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Trustee Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Bellini seconded the motion, which passed unanimously after a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Meeting webcast is available here.