

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

Thursday, September 28, 2023
2 p.m.

PennWest Edinboro – Frank G. Pogue Student Center
405 Scotland Road, Edinboro, PA 16444

Meeting Minutes

The Council of Trustees at Pennsylvania Western University met in regular session on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at the PennWest Edinboro campus at 405 Scotland Road, and via Zoom. The meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

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

ATTENDING

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

ABSENT: N/A

Also in attendance: Lorraine Bernotsky, Interim President; James Geiger, Vice President for Advancement; Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Student Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness; Daniel Engstrom, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Fawn Petrosky, Vice President for Finance; Sarah Freed, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management; Kelly Repinski, Vice President for University Affairs and Advocacy; Eric Guiser, Senior Associate Vice President for Human Resources; Molly Passmore, University Legal Counsel; Robin Weaver, PennWest Faculty Senate (virtual); Jackie Knaust, PennWest Faculty Senate (virtual); Peter Kuvshinikov, PennWest Faculty Senate; Mario Majcen, Local APSCUF President, PennWest California (virtual); Joyce Overly, Local APSCUF President, PennWest Clarion (virtual); Sam Claster, Local APSCUF President, PennWest Edinboro; Chloe McMullen, PennWest Edinboro student; Lee Williams, Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, Sociology, and Human Services.

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 livestreamed for public viewing via YouTube.

COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Chair Pape provided a report highlighting the work on internal and external relations and efforts to strengthen the council's committees. Chair Pape also announced that the council is beginning a presidential search that will focus on identifying highly qualified candidates.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Full report in video archive)

Lee Williams, a faculty member from the Department of Social Work, Sociology, and Human Services, commented on the presidential search, enrollment, and leadership transitions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Pape announced that the council met in executive session before the public meeting (1 p.m. September 28, 2023) to discuss the presidential search.

APSCUF COMMENT (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Mario Majcen, local APSCUF president, provided remarks on behalf of PennWest California.

Dr. Joyce Overly, local APSCUF president, provided remarks on behalf of PennWest Clarion.

Dr. Samuel Claster, local APSCUF president, provided remarks on behalf of PennWest Edinboro.

FACULTY SENATE REMARKS (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Peter Kuvshnikov provided remarks on behalf of Faculty Senate.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS (Full reports in video archive)

Student trustees Sonia Yost (Edinboro), Rachel Kister (Clarion), and Sarah Seader (California) provided reports on activities at their respective campuses.

PACT/BOG UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Trustees Mark Bellini and Rep. Donna Oberlander gave brief updates on behalf of PACT.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- Meeting Minutes 7-13-2023

MEETING MINUTES

Chair Pape requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Trustee Kister moved to accept as drafted. Trustee Danny Jones seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Yays: All

Nays: None

Motion Carries

UNIVERSITY REPORTS (Full reports in video archive)

1. ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Jones provided an update on division activity.

2. STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Full reports in video archive)

Trustees JD Dunbar and Patricia Kennedy provided updates on division activity.

VP Susanne Fenske and PennWest Edinboro student Chloe McMullen provided a report on the PennWest Leadership Academy.

3. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Larry Pickett provided an update on division activity.

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

Action Item: 2023-2024 Education and General Budget

Motion that the Council of Trustees approve the 2023-2024 Education and General Budget. Trustee Neil Weaver moved to approve as presented. Trustee Pickett seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Yays: All

Nays: None

Motion Carries

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

Interim President Bernotsky's report highlighted the progress that PennWest has made so far, including completion of the self-study design for Middle States accreditation, completion of the university's 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, and creation of the new campus leadership model.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pape called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Weaver moved to do so. Trustee Bellini seconded. Roll call vote was taken.

Yays: All

Nays: None

Motion Carries

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Meeting webcast is available [here](#).