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CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY*

The Charter of The Pennsylvania State University is not in the traditional form of charters of other corporations. This is because no particular form was followed when the institution was created as the Farmers' High School by special act of the legislature of Pennsylvania on February 22, 1855. The name of the institution has been changed successively to the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania in 1862, the Pennsylvania State College in 1874, and The Pennsylvania State University in 1953. The original charter has been amended once in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Centre County on May 1, 1862, and in the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County in the following proceedings: No. 235 November Term, 1875; No. 166 April Term, 1892; No. 162 May Term, 1915; No. 130 February Term, 1925; No. 218 February Term, 1951; No. 140 December Term, 1953; No. 211 February Term, 1958; No. 189 October Term, 1959; and No. 192 October Term, 1962. The Charter was further amended by action of the Board of Trustees on November 22, 2002, May 3, 2013, November 22, 2013, March 7, 2014 and November 14, 2014. Various acts of assembly have been passed which deal with the status and rights of The Pennsylvania State University as the instrumentality of the Commonwealth to perform the essential governmental functions of education, but these do not alter the charter and powers of the institution.

In reality, the charter of The Pennsylvania State University consists of the acts of assembly which properly relate to it as well as all of the decrees of the Court of Centre County above cited. The following are selected paragraphs from these various acts and decrees arranged under traditional headings.

NAME AND PURPOSE OF THE INSTITUTION

There is hereby erected and established, at the place which shall be designated by the authority, and as hereinafter provided, an institution for the education of youth in the various branches of science, learning and practical agriculture, as they are connected with each other, by the name, style, and title of The Pennsylvania State University. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 1, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2531; Decree of the Court of Quarter Sessions of Centre County, May 1, 1862, No. 8, April Sessions, 1862; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, January 26, 1874, No. 238, November Term, 1873; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1953, No. 140, December Term, 1953)

MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTION

The said institution shall be under the management and government of the Board of Trustees. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 2, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2532)

INCORPORATION

Said trustees and their successors in office are hereby erected and declared to be a body politic and corporate in law, with perpetual succession, by the name, style, and title of The Pennsylvania State University, by which name and title the said trustees, and their successors, shall be able and capable in law to take by gift, grant, sale or conveyance, by bequest, devise, or otherwise, any estate in any lands, tenements, and hereditaments, goods, chattels, or effects, and at pleasure to alien or

*For a copy of the original Charter of the University, see pages C-9 through C-11

otherwise dispose of the same to and for the use and purpose of the said institution; and the said corporation shall, by the same name, have power to sue and be sued, and generally to do and transact all and every business touching or concerning the premises, or which shall be necessarily incidental thereto, and to hold, enjoy, and exercise all such powers, authorities, and jurisdiction as are customary within the colleges within this Commonwealth. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 3, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2533; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

CORPORATE SEAL

The same trustees shall cause to be made a seal, with such device as they may think proper, and by and with which all the deeds, diplomas, certificates, and acts of the institution shall be authenticated, and they may at their pleasure alter the same. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 4, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2534)

NUMBER OF TRUSTEES

The number of trustees of said institution shall be fixed at thirty-eight. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 3, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2533; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, July 19, 1951, No. 218, February Term, 1951; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

- (1) Ex Officio Members: The Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources of the Commonwealth shall be *ex officio* voting members of the Board and the President of The Pennsylvania State University and the Governor of the Commonwealth shall be *ex officio* non-voting members of the Board. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 3, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2533; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Act of June 2, 1893, P.L. 272, sec. 1; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, July 19, 1951, No. 218, February Term, 1951; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)
- (2) Members Appointed by the Governor: Six trustees shall be appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925)
- (3) Members Elected by the Alumni: A total of nine trustees shall be elected by alumni and former students of the University. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the

Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)

- (4) Members Elected by Agricultural Organizations: Six trustees, who shall be members of and represent organized agricultural societies and associations of the Commonwealth (“Agricultural Organizations”), shall be elected by three delegates from each county in the Commonwealth representing such Agricultural Organizations. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, July 19, 1951, No. 218, February Term, 1951; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))
- (5) Members Elected Representing Business and Industry: Six trustees representing business and industry endeavors shall be elected by the Board of Trustees. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 22, 2002; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))
- (6) Member Elected Representing the Student Body. In May 2015 and bi-annually thereafter, a trustee representing the student body shall be elected by the Board of Trustees. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))
- (7) Member Elected Representing the Faculty. In May 2015 and every three years thereafter, a trustee representing the faculty of the University shall be elected by the Board of Trustees. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))
- (8) Member representing the Penn State Alumni Association. Commencing July 1, 2015, and bi-annually thereafter, the immediate past president of the Penn State Alumni Association shall be an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))
- (9) Members Elected by the Board of Trustees. In May 2015 three at-large trustees shall be elected by the Board of Trustees. Thereafter, one at-large trustee shall be elected annually by the Board of Trustees. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014))

QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS

- (1) Alumni
 - (a) All graduates who have received a first or bachelor’s degree or an advanced degree from the University, and former students (limited to those persons who have satisfactorily passed one semester’s or two terms’ work, or more, in any University program which requires two years, or more, for completion and which results in a degree) shall be eligible to vote for alumni trustees, at the election next following the year of their graduation or the year following that in which they were no longer in attendance at the University, subject, however, to the procedure next stated. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, April 25, 1892, No. 166, April Term, 1892; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County,

February 28, 1958, No. 211, February Term, 1958; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, No. 192, October Term, 1962; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, March 7, 2014)

- (b) Procedure in Conducting Nominations and Elections: Ballots for the nomination and election of alumni to the Board of Trustees of the University shall be sent electronically to:
- (i) Electors (qualified as above set forth) who have a valid email address on file in the University's alumni records as of the date of distribution of such ballots, and
 - (ii) Electors who make individual request, in writing to the University, that such ballots be furnished to them. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 28, 1958, No. 211, February Term, 1958; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, March 7, 2014; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)
- (2) Agricultural Organizations: In case more than one Agricultural Organization from a county shall elect delegates, then the delegates from such county shall select three from their number who shall represent such county. No individual may represent an Agricultural Organization as a delegate unless such person is a member in good standing of such Agricultural Organization. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)
- (3) Agricultural Organizations to Be Organized Twelve Months: No Agricultural Organization shall be entitled to send delegates unless such Agricultural Organization has at least fifteen (15) members and has been regularly organized and in existence at least twelve (12) months preceding the time of the election of trustees. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Board of Trustees is hereby authorized and empowered to make and alter, from time to time, such rules and regulations for the election of members thereof as it shall deem necessary and expedient. (Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)

TIME OF ELECTION

The election of trustees shall be held annually, by ballot, in manner as provided by the Board of Trustees, on such day and hour during Commencement week and on such day previous to the day

for the final public exercises of Commencement as from time to time shall be determined by the Board of Trustees. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, January 26, 1874, No. 238, November Term, 1873; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, April 25, 1892, No. 166, April Term, 1892; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925)

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice of such date for the election of trustees and of the meeting or meetings to be held for such purpose shall be provided by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees at least sixty days prior to the date of said election to (a) the qualified electors described in Section (1)(b) under “QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS” above, and (b) the societies and associations hereinbefore named shall be sent by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees at least sixty days prior to the date of said election to such agricultural societies or associations as appeared eligible at the next preceding annual election. Such notice shall be also similarly given at least sixty days prior to the date of said election for the election of business and industry trustees. Notice shall also be posted on the University’s website at least sixty days prior to the election. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

PLACE OF ELECTION

All elections shall be held at the institution by so many of the electors and alumni above mentioned as shall be present at the regular time for holding elections, under the direction of the Board of Trustees and by ballot, as now provided by law. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875)

JUDGES OF ELECTION

It shall be the duty of said Board of Trustees to appoint two of their number as judges to hold such election, to receive and count the votes, and return the same to the Board of Trustees with their certificate of the number of votes cast, and for whom, whereupon the said Board shall determine who have received the highest number of votes and who are thereby elected. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535)

TERM OF TRUSTEES

Except as set forth below, the term of the trustees appointed and elected as aforesaid shall be three years; two of whom shall be appointed by the Governor annually; three of whom shall be elected annually by the alumni of the University; two of whom shall be elected annually by the delegates representing the agricultural societies and associations, two of whom shall be elected annually representing business and industry and one of whom shall be elected annually at large; all of whose terms of office shall begin on the first day of July following their appointment or election, as the case may be. The trustee elected to represent the student body and the trustee who serves *ex officio* as the immediate past President of the Penn State Alumni Association shall each have a two year

term; provided, however, that if the trustee elected to represent the student body ceases to meet all of the criteria set forth in the University's Bylaws, such trustee's term shall expire on the date that such trustee no longer meets such criteria. The three at-large trustees elected in May 2015 shall be elected for staggered terms of one, two and three years, respectively. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 5, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2535; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, April 25, 1892, No. 166, April Term, 1892; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 23, 1925, No. 130, February Term, 1925; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, July 19, 1951, No. 218, February Term, 1951; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 14, 2014)

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

In addition to the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees at the institution, such other meetings are authorized as may be fixed by the Board by their adjournment from time to time, or be called by the authority of the President and Secretary, in which latter case notice shall be given to each and every member of the Board at least three days prior to the time of meeting, which said meetings shall take place and be in lieu of those provided by the sixth section of the Act of the twenty-second of February, A.D. 1855. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 6, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2541; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, November 22, 1875, No. 235, November Term, 1875; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

COMPENSATION OF TRUSTEES

Members of the Board of Trustees serve as volunteers and shall not be compensated for their services. Trustees may be reimbursed upon request for transportation and other direct expenses while engaged in the discharge of their official duties, in accordance with the University's travel reimbursement policies in effect from time to time. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

The officers of the Board of Trustees shall be chosen annually by the Board to serve for a period of one year; and shall consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Secretary and a Treasurer. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- (1) Membership: The executive committee shall have 13 members, all of whom shall be voting members. The executive committee shall be composed of the Chair of the Board of Trustees (who shall also be the chair of the executive committee), the Vice Chair, the chairs of the standing committees, the chair of the Board of Directors of the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center (or, if such chair is not a voting member of the Board of Trustees, a member of the Board of Directors of The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center who is also a voting member of the Board of Trustees), the immediate past chair of the Board of Trustees, and

such number of at-large members nominated by the Governance and Long-Range Planning Committee and elected by the Board of Trustees as may be necessary to have an Executive Committee of thirteen (13) members. The Secretary of the Board shall be the Recording Secretary of the Executive Committee. In addition, the President of the University shall be an ex-officio nonvoting member of the Executive Committee. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, February 28, 1958, No. 211, February Term, 1958; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, September 23, 1959, No. 189, October Term, 1959; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, November 22, 2013)

- (2) Duties: The duty of the Executive Committee shall be, under the direction of and subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, to transact such necessary business as may arise in the intervals between the regular meetings of the Board. (Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915)

TREASURER

The Treasurer (who shall receive and disburse the funds of the institution, and perform such other duties as shall be required of him) shall not be a member of the Board, and shall receive such compensation from time to time as the Board may direct. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 8, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2539; Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County, June 15, 1915, No. 162, May Term, 1915; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

ORGANIZATION AND SITE

On the second Thursday of June after the passage of this act, the Board of Trustees, who are hereby appointed, shall meet at Harrisburg and proceed to the organization of an institution and selection of the most eligible site within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for its location, where they shall purchase or obtain by gift, grant, or otherwise, a tract of land containing at least two hundred acres, upon which they shall procure such improvements and alterations to be made as will make it an institution properly adapted to the instruction of youth in the art of farming according to the meaning and design of this act. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 6, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2541; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

PRINCIPAL AND FACULTY

[Deleted]. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 6, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2541; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

BYLAWS, ORDINANCES, AND RULES

The Board shall have power to pass all such bylaws, ordinances, and rules as the good government of the institution shall require, and therein to prescribe what shall be taught to the pupils, and generally to do and perform all such administrative acts as are usually performed by and within the appropriate duty of a Board of Trustees, and shall, by a Secretary of their appointment, keep a minute of the proceedings and action of the Board. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 6, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2541; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013)

SUBJECTS TO BE TAUGHT

It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees as soon as and as often as the exigencies of the case may require, in addition to the principal, to employ such other professors, teachers, or tutors as shall be qualified to impart to pupils under their charge a knowledge of the English language, grammar, geography, history, mathematics, chemistry, and such other academic disciplines as may be deemed appropriate from time to time. (Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 7, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat. sec. 2542; Resolution of the Board of Trustees, May 3, 2013.)

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE FARMERS' HIGH SCHOOL OF PENNSYLVANIA[†]

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that there be and is hereby erected and established, at the place which shall be designated by the authority, and as hereinafter provided, an institution for the education of youth in the various branches of sciences, learning, and practical agriculture, as they are connected with each other, by the name, style, and title of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania.

Section 2. That the institution shall be under the management and government of a board of trustees, of whom there shall be thirteen, and seven of whom shall be a quorum, competent to perform the duties hereinafter authorized and required.

Section 3. That the Governor, Secretary of the Commonwealth, the president of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, and the principal of the institution, shall each be ex-officio a member of the board of trustees, and they, with Dr. Alfred L. Elwyn and Algernon S. Roberts, of the city of Philadelphia; H. N. McAllister, of the county of Centre; R. C. Walker, of the county of Allegheny; James Miles, of the county of Erie; John Strohm, of the county of Lancaster; A. O. Hiester, of the county of Dauphin; William Jessup, of the county of Susquehanna, and Frederick Watts, of the county of Cumberland, shall constitute the first Board of Trustees; which said trustees and their successors in office, are hereby erected and declared to be a body politic and corporate in law, with perpetual succession, by the name, style, and title of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania, by which name and title the said trustees, and their successors, shall be able and capable in law to take by gift, grant, sale, or conveyance, by bequest, devise, or otherwise, any estate in any lands, tenements, and hereditaments, goods, chattels, or effects, and at pleasure to alien or otherwise dispose of the same to and for the use and purpose of the said institution: Provided, however, That the annual income of the said estate so held, shall at no time exceed twenty-five thousand dollars; and the said corporation shall, by the same name, have power to sue and be sued, and generally to do and transact all and every business touching or concerning the premises, or which shall be necessarily incidental thereto, and to hold, enjoy, and exercise all such powers, authorities, and jurisdiction as are customary within the colleges within this Commonwealth.

Section 4. That the same trustees shall cause to be made a seal, with such device as they may think proper, and by and with which all the deeds, diplomas, certificates and acts of the institution shall be authenticated, and they may at their pleasure alter the same.

Section 5. That at the first meeting of the board of trustees, the nine named, who are not ex-officio members, shall, by themselves and by lot, be divided into three classes of three each, numbered one, two, and three; the appointment hereby made of class number one, shall terminate on the first Monday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six; number two on the first Monday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and number three on the first Monday of October, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight; and upon the termination of such office of such directors, to wit: On the first Monday of October in every year an election shall be held at the institution to supply their place, and such election shall be determined by the votes of

[†] Act of February 22, 1855, P.L. 46, sec. 1, 24 Purd. Comp. Stat.

the members of the executive committee of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, and the votes of three representatives duly chosen by each county agricultural society in this Commonwealth which shall have been organized at least three months preceding the time of election, and it shall be the duty of said board of trustees to appoint two of their number as judges to hold such election, to receive and count the votes, and return the same to the board of trustees with their certificate of the number of votes cast, and for whom, whereupon the said board shall determine who have received the highest number of votes, and who are thereby elected.

Section 6. That on the second Thursday of June after the passage of this act, the board of trustees, who are hereby appointed, shall meet at Harrisburg, and proceed to the organization of an institution and selection of the most eligible site within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for its location, where they shall purchase or obtain by gift, grant, or otherwise, a tract of land containing at least two hundred acres, and not exceeding two thousand acres, upon which they shall procure such improvements and alterations to be made, as will make it an institution properly adapted to the instruction of youth in the art of farming according to the meaning and design of this act. They shall select and choose a principal for said institution, who, with such scientific attainments and capacity to teach as the board shall deem necessary, shall be a good practical farmer; he, with such other persons as shall, from time to time, be employed as teachers, shall comprise the faculty, under whose control the immediate management of the institution, and the instruction of all the youth committed to its care shall be, subject, however, to the revision and all the orders of the board of trustees; there shall be a quarterly meeting of the board of trustees at the institution, and as much oftener as shall be necessary, and they shall determine; the board shall have power to pass all such bylaws, ordinances, and rules as the good government of the institution shall require, and therein to prescribe what shall be taught to and what labor performed by the pupils, and generally to do and perform all such administrative acts as are usually performed by and within the appropriate duty of a board of trustees, and shall, by a secretary of their appointment, keep a minute of the proceedings and action of the board.

Section 7. That it shall be the duty of the board of trustees as soon and as often as the exigencies of the case may require, in addition to the principal, to employ such other professors, teachers, or tutors as shall be qualified to impart to pupils under their charge a knowledge of the English language, grammar, geography, history, mathematics, chemistry, and such other branches of natural and exact science as will conduce to the proper education of a farmer; the pupils shall, themselves, at such proper times and seasons as shall be prescribed by the board of trustees, perform all the labor necessary in the cultivation of the farm, and shall thus be instructed and taught all things necessary to be known by a farmer.

Section 8. That the board of trustees shall annually elect a treasurer, who shall receive and disburse the funds of the institution, and perform such other duties as shall be required of him, and from whom they shall take such security for the faithful performance of his duty as necessity shall require; and it shall be the duty of said board of trustees, annually, on or before the first of December, to make out a full and detailed account of the operations of the institution for the preceding year, and an account of all its receipts and disbursements, and report the same to the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, who shall embody said report in the annual report which, by existing laws, the said society is bound to make and transmit to the Legislature on or before the first Monday of January each and every year.

Section 9. That it shall be lawful for the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society to appropriate, out of their funds to the object of this act, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, whenever the same shall be required, and to make such further appropriations, annually, out of their funds, as will aid in the prosecution of this object, and it shall be the duty and privilege of said society, at such time as they shall deem expedient by their committee, officers, or otherwise, to visit the said institution and examine into the details of its management.

Section 10. That the act to incorporate the “Farmers’ High School of Pennsylvania,” approved the thirteenth day of April, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, be and the same is hereby repealed.

APPROVED -- The twenty-second day of February, A.D., 1855.

James Pollock

AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER

This original charter has been amended a number of times. The major amendments are listed below.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 05/01/1862 | Name changed to The Agricultural College of Pennsylvania |
| 01/26/1874 | Name changed to The Pennsylvania State College |
| 11/22/1875 | Number of trustees increased to 23, providing for first trustees elected by alumni, and providing for participation of the mining and manufacturing associations in the Commonwealth in the election of trustees |
| 04/25/1892 | Changed date of annual election and beginning of term of office of elected trustees; specified right of alumni to vote would begin three years after graduation |
| 03/24/1905 | Number of trustees increased to 32 providing for 6 trustees to be appointed by the Governor and increasing to 9 the number elected by the alumni. Term of elected trustees to begin July 1; officers to be elected annually and an executive committee of not less than 3 nor more than 7 members to act during intervals between Board meetings |
| 06/15/1915 | Number of trustees decreased to 31 (the President of the State Agricultural Society and the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture were replaced by the Secretary of Agriculture). Specified method of election of trustees by delegates from county agricultural and industrial interests |
| 02/23/1925 | Election of trustees to be held on such day and hour during commencement week as the Board may from time to time determine |
| 06/24/1939 | Increased number of trustees to 32 by adding the Secretary of Mines |
| 07/19/1951 | Separated the 12 trustees elected by delegates into two groups -- 6 to be elected by delegates from county agricultural societies and 6 to be elected by delegates from county industrial societies |
| 11/13/1953 | Name changed to The Pennsylvania State University |
| 02/28/1958 | Specified qualifications of electors of alumni trustees and procedures in conducting alumni elections; provided for an executive committee of nine members |
| 09/23/1959 | Provided for an executive committee of not less than 7 nor more than 11 members |

- 09/28/1962 Amended procedure for alumni elections as a result of the term system
- 11/22/2002 Discontinued provision for election of trustees from county industrial interests; specified election of trustees representing business and industry endeavors
- 05/03/2013 Significant changes regarding ex officio membership, responsibilities of officers, membership of the executive committee, requisite notice for meetings and manner of delivery and notice for election materials
- 11/22/2013 Revised the composition and method of selection of the executive committee.
- 03/07/2014 Amended the procedure for electronic distribution of ballots in connection with the alumni elections.
- 11/14/2014 Made the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources *ex officio* non-voting members of the Board; added the immediate past president of the Penn State Alumni Association as an ex officio member of the Board; provided for the election of a student trustee, an academic trustee and three at-large trustees; amended provisions relating to the election of trustees representing agricultural interests; provided for the terms of office for the student trustee, academic trustee and at-large trustees; changed the composition of the executive committee.