

# JIM BOGNET '97

## Biographical Sketch

I grew up in Hazleton, Pennsylvania near the Penn State Hazleton campus, and live there today. I went to my first Penn State football game at 3 years old, and gameday tailgates are a family reunion. My father, brother, sister, and over 20 cousins graduated from Penn State. Our shared Penn State experiences help bind our family together, all filled with pride and appreciation for our alma mater.

I graduated in 1997 with a B.S. in Finance from the Smeal College of Business Administration with memories to last a lifetime. My Penn State education provided the strong educational foundation for earning a JD/MBA. My Penn State education helped me succeed in high profile positions across the country, and later open my own business in my hometown of Hazleton, PA.

Penn State stands for community, opportunity, and home to me. I will fight to make sure Penn State represents these values, maintains its world class educational reputation, and serves as a beacon of hope for a better life for young people across Pennsylvania and the whole country.

My father serves on the Penn State Hazleton Alumni Association Board, and we proudly drive our van customized in the Penn State Blue and White with the Nittany Lion on the side around campus.

My family is proud to say: WE ARE PENN STATE!

Please follow our Facebook page at [@BognetforPSU](#) and email us at [Bognet4PSU@gmail.com](mailto:Bognet4PSU@gmail.com) to be added to our mailing list.

## Position Statement

My priorities serving on the Board of Trustees will be:

**Promote Respect for Penn State's Proud Legacy (FOR THE GLORY):** As the Fight Song says, Penn State is an exceptional mold of "men and women!" and all Trustees should proudly defend and honor the incredible contributions that built Penn State. We are still paying the price for the abdication of this duty by Trustees in the past. In light of President Barron's upcoming retirement, we must DEMAND that the next President be firmly committed to defending Penn State and honoring our legacy.

**Affordable Tuition for Students:** My father, the son of an Italian-immigrant coal miner, could never have afforded the current sky-high tuition. We must demand concrete steps from the administration to stop the out-of-control tuition increases which put PSU out of reach for working class students, and immediately cut wasteful spending and unnecessary administrative costs.

**Immediate In-Person Re-Opening:** Students deserve in-person instruction. In-person instruction must be immediately resumed, and if medical exceptions are necessary, these limited individual situations should be handled on a case-by-case basis. Students pay for in-person instruction from our professors, and it is unacceptable for another semester to go by without students in the classroom full-time.

With the progress made in vaccinating Americans, PSU's administration must fight for full participation of Penn State students, families, and alumni in university activities. Our administration must strongly advocate the Big Ten permit fans at games and allow families to visit their children on campus starting immediately.

# **ALVIN F. de LEVIE '73**

## **Biographical Sketch**

I am a lifelong Penn Stater. I was born in Centre County and went to the State College High School, graduating Penn State in 1973 and Villanova Law School in 1976. My Dad was a professor and founder of the Foreign Studies Programs. My Mom worked in the language lab in Sparks Building.

The traditions of Penn State run deep within me. I grew up near Coach Paterno. I was a bat boy for Coach Medlar's baseball team, was taught gymnastics by Coach Wettstone, and soccer by Coach Jeffries. I recently moved back to State College.

I published the first all-inclusive scholarship guide for Penn State students. I was a member of the Undergraduate Student Government and chairman of a USG academic committee. I was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Skull & Bones, and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies.

I am a supporter of the Paterno Family Run and THON. I have mentored Penn State students since I graduated. As a volunteer, I have helped and advised faculty, staff and coaches at the main campus and throughout the branch campuses. I have advised our athletic coaches.

I want to serve the Alumni, students, and those who will attend Penn State in the future. I feel called to use my determination and skills to preserve my father's vision that Penn State remain an affordable world-class university. I want to use my Penn State education for the betterment of Penn State and to confirm its Land Grant mission.

## **Position Statement**

I want to grow Penn State's status as a world-class university offering a world-class education to our sons and daughters, our grandchildren, friends and family. We cannot expect our students and their parents to take out loans and have the cost of a Penn State education hanging over them for years, or even worse, have students turn away because they cannot afford a Penn State education. I will be a hawk, insisting any request for an increase in tuition, room and board be proven, not merely requested.

We must restore the Paterno statue. Joe's legacy is not just about football. It's about the virtues that make Penn State great: Success with honor. Joe used football as a metaphor for life: Work as a team and excel in all we do. I am committed to Joe's legacy.

In these unprecedented times, with businesses closing throughout State College and Centre County, I will work hard to promote cooperation and understanding between town and gown. I have already met with many Penn State administrators, members of the community, and members of the Centre region's government to foster better communication, understanding, and cooperation. Growing up in State College, I feel uniquely qualified to bring people together for the betterment of Penn State and Happy Valley.

I support efforts of the Penn State Community to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

We must work as a family because truly, WE ARE.

The importance of our Commonwealth campuses cannot be understated. More about this during the campaign.

# BRIDGET M. LASDA '02

## Biographical Sketch

Bridget Lasda, is currently the Chief Customer Officer at the King Juice Company. Bridget is responsible for the strategic leadership of the domestic and international sales businesses.

Previously, Bridget led the National Customer team at HEINEKEN USA after spending 14 years within The Coca-Cola system. She has a proven track record of delivering results, professionalizing, and diversifying sales teams. Bridget was a recipient of the West Chester 40 under 40 award in 2017.

Bridget graduated from The Pennsylvania State University in 2002 with a BS in Special Education. During her time at Penn State, Bridget was President of her sorority, Chi Omega, and President of The Panhellenic Council. She continues to support the College of Education and was awarded an Alumni of Achievement award in 2016. She received her MBA from Emory's Goizueta Business School in 2012. Bridget was a member of the Executive Women of Goizueta and awarded the Guiding Star Award in 2014.

Bridget is passionate about championing women advancement and the development of children. Within Coca-Cola and HEINEKEN, she served as the leader of their respective women's business groups and led a variety of inclusion and diversity initiatives. She has volunteered with The Special Olympics and Boys and Girls Clubs and is currently a volunteer with the Stamford Public Education Fund. Bridget lives in Stamford, CT with her husband, Geoff, and children, Cameron (5), and Harper (3).

### Social media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bridget4PSUBOT>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bridgetmlasda/> Website: <https://bridget4psubot.squarespace.com/>

## Position Statement

As a committed and compassionate Penn State alumna, our great institution seeks to deliver an education unchallenged in depth and quality to a diverse community. I am committed to supporting actions to restore and preserve the reputation of the University. I will be a proactive and progressive member of the Penn State Board of Trustees to support our mission of teaching, research, and service.

1. *Enabling **access and affordability to education** is critical for the future success of Penn State. I will initiate and support efforts to identify ways to make a Penn State education more affordable and accessible, and particularly, to deserving individuals in socioeconomic positions who may be otherwise unable to receive a Penn State education.*
2. *Higher Education, technology and students are in the process of rapid change. This demands **greater innovation** for more effective collaboration, solutions to challenges, and impactful learning across diverse communities. Evaluation of the current technologies and processes are needed to ensure students and alumni receive a seamless, modern experience.*
3. *The most creative, innovative, and successful teams are also the most diverse. I will collaborate with the Board of Trustees and Administration to ensure that effective policies, processes, and resources are in place and available to support advancing **diversity, equity, and inclusion**.*
4. *Experiences afforded to students via **student organizations**, across the Commonwealth, are essential in preparing them to be impactful leaders in post-graduation life. Fresh solutions are needed to benefit from the enormous contributions these organizations continue to make.*

# **BRANDON SHORT '99**

## **Biographical Sketch**

Brandon is a two-time captain of Penn State's Football team (1998,1999) and was named a consensus All American (1999). Mr. Short holds a degree in Marketing from Smeal Business School (1999) and was drafted by the New York Giants, where he had a 7-year career in the NFL. While in the NFL, Short's teammates elected him as an NFLPA Union Player Representative. In this role, he advocated on players' behalves and educated players on their contractual rights and obligations under the NFL's Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Short earned an MBA from Columbia Business School in 2010 then joined Goldman Sachs as a member of its Real Estate Investment Banking Team based in New York. In 2012, Mr. Short transferred to Goldman's Middle East Banking Team based in Dubai. While at Goldman he advised corporate boards on M&A transactions and on implementing structural & governance best practices. In 2015, Mr. Short moved to London and is now M&A Director at Round Hill Capital.

Brandon was elected to the Penn State Board in 2018. Brandon's current Board service/responsibilities include:

- Chairman of the Board Oversight Task Force On Racism, Bias, and Community Safety
- Member of Finance and Capital Planning Committee
- Member of Audit & Risk Committee
- Member of Equity & Human Resources Committee

Brandon's business background, diverse life experiences, and passion for the University make him an ideal candidate for re-election to the Board. To learn more about Brandon's candidacy, please visit his campaign website: <https://www.bshort4psu.net>, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BShort4PSU/>, Twitter: @brandonshort43, Instagram: bshort43psu

## **Position Statement**

Serving on Penn State's Board has been one of the greatest honors of my life and I ask for your support so I can continue to work to make our great University even better. Penn State is a world-class research institution with the largest most active Alumni network. There's no question that Penn State is a leading institution and at the forefront of higher learning. However, there are many challenges facing our great University. The rising cost to attend Penn State, inadequate board governance & accountability, and the need to adapt more quickly to the changing nature of education are all issues that hamper Penn State's ability to carry our standard of excellence into the future.

Having been recognized as a natural leader; I've developed a skill set that makes me uniquely qualified to represent our Alumni on Penn State's Board of Trustees. I'll continue to bring a strong, diverse, and dynamic voice to Penn State's Board. One that will challenge the status quo and that will work with other board members to improve on every aspect of our University.

My key areas of focus will be:

- Making Penn State More Affordable
- Implementing Improved Board Governance & Accountability
- Preparing Penn State for the Future by Using Technology
- Educational Equity
- Uniting the Penn State Community

I'm asking for your vote. If re-elected I promise to continue waking up every day thinking of ways to make an impact, to improve Penn State and to help lead our great University into the future.

# **LAURIE A. STANELL, DMD '80**

## **Biographical Sketch**

Dr. Laurie Stanell is a Penn State Trustee and fourth-generation Penn Stater. She attended Temple Dental School and in 1988 founded Laurie Anne Stanell DMD, PC in Buckingham, Pennsylvania where she has been a full-time solo practitioner and business owner ever since. She is a member of the American Dental Association.

Since being elected a Trustee, Laurie has been a vocal advocate for tuition control and affordability, academic excellence, board transparency and (campus/student) mental health awareness. She serves on Academic Affairs, Research and Student Life and Outreach Development and Community Relations committees and speaks at every meeting.

She meets students at Commonwealth Campuses around the state and visits with alumni societies across the country. Laurie regularly works with the Penn State Women's Empowerment Roundtable and the Multicultural Association of Schreyer Scholars and the Pre-Dental Club. A strong proponent of STEM education, Laurie has recently been appointed to the Eberly College of Science Alumni Society Board.

Laurie has been active in supporting students at Penn State since 2005. She mentors students in the Eberly College of Science and is active with her sorority Phi Mu. As a Trustee on AARSL she meets with PanHel and participates as an alumni of THON.

Laurie is a lifetime member of the PSAA and is a board member of the Bucks County Penn State Alumni chapter, which runs one of the largest scholarship programs in the country.

Laurie can be reached at [laurie@stanell4trustee.com](mailto:laurie@stanell4trustee.com). You can visit with Laurie at her website, [Stanell4trustee.com](http://Stanell4trustee.com), or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Stanell4PennStateTrustee/>

## **Position Statement**

When reelected, I will continue to show up, stand up, and speak out to ensure Penn State remains a world-class academic institution. I will:

- Strongly advocate for tuition control. Penn State must find ways to contain costs while dealing with cuts in state funding. Tuition must be kept affordable and still attract the best and brightest students. In the past three years I have voted against raising tuition and unnecessary spending.
- Advocate for diversity, racial, and gender equity on the Board of Trustees. This has been my commitment since elected.
- Continue to work for Board of Trustee transparency and size. Trustees must be treated equally, since we are all equally accountable for the Board's actions. A smaller board means more highly engaged Trustees.
- Continue to support positive changes to Greek life; however the University must affirm the laudable history and contributions Greeks have made to Penn State for over a century.
- Continue to be a visible presence in Harrisburg. Real reform can only take place in the legislature. I will use my experience with government affairs to promote reform legislation to correct past mistakes.
- Continue to travel to University Park and Commonwealth Campuses to meet with students and faculty to listen to concerns and celebrate accomplishments.

We must think past the pandemic to what higher education will be like going forward. I will work tirelessly to help form this new model.

I humbly ask for your vote. Please visit my website, [Stanell4trustee.com](http://Stanell4trustee.com), and visit me on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Stanell4PennStateTrustee/>

# STEVEN B. WAGMAN '82

## Biographical Sketch

Steven B. Wagman earned his Penn State degree in Health Planning/Policy & Administration, which spurred a fulfilling 33-year career with Siemens Healthcare serving as a Vice President within the division and as Chair of its nationally recognized D&I Council. He is currently the National Healthcare Business Leader for Siemens Smart Infrastructure in North America. As a beneficiary of the Penn State legacy, Steve has devoted 35+ years of volunteer service to Penn State, its students, and alumni as a reflection of his tireless commitment to pass it on.

Steve served as President of the 174,000 member Penn State Alumni Association and for 9 years on Alumni Council and its Executive Board. He has served on the College of HHD Alumni Society Board and Executive Board; on the Advisory Board for Penn State's NSF Center for Health Organization Transformation, and on the Corporate Engagement Advisory Committee for the current and previous endowment campaigns and as Chair since 2014. Steve is a student mentor in the HPA/MHA program since its inception and is a frequent classroom speaker. He is also an Alumni Admissions volunteer in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

A University trustee since 2019, Steve serves on the Academic Affairs, Research & Student Life Committee and the Outreach, Development & Community Relations Committee. Steve cites Dr. Stanley Mayers, retired professor/departments head as a source of inspiration for giving back. Steve's extensive business experience and Penn State knowledge combines to create a unique perspective on the key requirements for Penn State's future and growth.

## Position Statement

Penn State is a public land-grant research university with a mission of teaching, research, and service, a dynamic healthcare enterprise, and a passionate community driven to make our world better. My key priorities include:

1. **An affordable, world-class education.** I have voted twice for no tuition increase and have worked with university leadership to cut millions in operating costs. We should fully leverage the Commonwealth Campus system, World Campus, and the 2+2 program as an affordability and opportunity lever, especially for Pennsylvania residents.
2. **The health, safety, and physical and mental wellbeing of our students.** CAPS utilization has increased annually, serving 10% of students. Food and housing insecurity are problematic, with 25% of students saying they ate less, or skipped meals, because they didn't have enough money for food, while FAFSA data classifies nearly 100 students as "homeless."
3. **Improvements in diversity, equity & inclusion so that all are welcome.** We have work to do, some already underway, and incredible alumni, students, staff, and faculty to draw upon to ensure all feel included and supported at Penn State.
4. **Fiscally responsible modernization and replacement of campus facilities as a key to future student and faculty success.** Our university-wide physical assets include 954 buildings with an average age of 36+ years, encompassing approximately 21 million sq.ft. and 7,927 acres of land. Modernizing facilities for engineering, laboratories, and classrooms is key to attracting top faculty, conducting groundbreaking research, and keeping our students competitive for future employment.

Visit my LinkedIn page at: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/steven-wagman-47083b4/>