THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT LIFE
MINUTES OF MEETING
VOLUME AARSL 39

February 17, 2022

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs, Research and Student Life of the Board of Trustees was held at The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, and via video conference, at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022.

The following members, constituting a quorum, were present: Chair Oldsey, Vice Chair Wagman, Brown, Davis, Detwiler, Hoffman, Paterno, Pope, and Rowland. Also attending were President Barron *(Ex Officio),* Emeriti Trustee Han, and Faculty Representative Blockett. Also present were Allen, Austin, Bieschke, Dunham, Gaudelius, Guadagnino, Harvey, Jones, Kennedy-Philips, Sims, and Weiss.

Vice Chair Wagman called for a motion for the Committee to approve the *Minutes* of the November 11, 2021 committee meeting. The motion to approve came from Trustee Hoffman, and Trustee Rowland then seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Vice Chair Wagman stated that at its July Retreat, the Board established a list of long-range planning goals and priorities for consideration by the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee. One of those priorities was the value of a Penn State degree, with a key component being a student's return on investment as it relates to career readiness and employability. He introduced Dr. Bob Orndorff, senior director for Penn State Career Services to lead the panel discussion on Strategies for Ensuring Career Readiness Among Penn State Students, which focused on Penn State as a national leader in career readiness, the measurements used and opportunities for continued improvement across and among Penn State's campuses, colleges and students. Committee members and trustees were provided the document "Ensuring Career Readiness for All Penn State Students" through the Board portal, Diligent, to read in advance of the meeting.

Orndorff gave an overview of career services as a growing priority nationally, Penn State's Career Services' structure, offerings and statistics, challenges, and prospective strategies. The panel was made up of faculty, employer and staff panelists who represent and contribute to Penn State student's career readiness and employability. The panel included Brian Case, Manager Corporate Talent Management & Diversity at PPL Corporation; Sue Chappell, Associate Director of Career Services at the Commonwealth Campuses; Adam Christensen, Director of Student Affairs Research and Assessment; Lesley Jackson, Student Outreach Coordinator with Penn State Career Services; Bob Martin, Assistant Dean for the Office of Internships and Career Placement for the Bellisario College of Communications; Jon Nese, Teaching Professor and Associate Head for Undergraduate Programs, Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences; Leslie Pollard, Interviewing and Career Management System Manager; Denise Poole, Director of Student Success Initiatives; Ashley Rippey, Executive Director of Smeal's Business Career Center; Karen Vance, Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research, Office of Planning, Assessment, and Institutional Research; Anita Yuskauskas, Assistant Professor for Health Policy & Administration and Coordinator, HPA Program at Lehigh Valley Campus; and Leah Zimmerman, Executive Director of Student Disability Resources at Penn State.

Discussion and conversation focused advantages/disadvantages to virtual, hybrid and in-person internships, interviews and career fairs; ways to engage students to seek out Career Services; services offered to underrepresented groups; tracking graduates in regards to career fit; advising students on following their passion vs. finding any job; looking at core competencies; and cultivating employers to come to campus with non-traditional employment opportunities.

The public session of the Committee on Academic Affairs, Research and Student Life was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Stevens
Administrative Support Coordinator
Office of the Board of Trustees