

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
VOLUME GLRP 42**

**May 6, 2021**

A meeting of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning was held in Dean's Hall, The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center and via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

The following Trustees, constituting a quorum, were present: Amoros, Dambly, Delligatti, Han, Hoffman, Kleppinger, Pope, Potts, Redding and Schuyler. The Governor's Representative Shipley was also present. Emeritus Trustee Shaffer was present.

Staff members in attendance were Barron, Dunham, Guadagnino, Harvey, Jones, Kennedy-Phillips, Lokman, Penkala, Stevens, Thorndike, and Zeigler-Byers. Constituent Representative Rowland was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Potts at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Potts began by thanking Emeritus Trustee, Carl Shaffer, and past Chair of the University Faculty Senate, Nicholas Rowland, as they attended their last meeting GRLP meeting. She thanked both for their contributions to this committee and wished that we could all be together in-person to be able to say thank you.

Chair Potts called for a motion to approve the *Minutes* of the February 18, 2021 meeting of the Committee. A motion was put forward, seconded and approved unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the proposed approval of the Student Trustee. The Student Trustee Selection Committee, chaired by Trustee Culler, reviewed 13 applications, and selected a preferred candidate to be interviewed by the Trustee Group—Culler, Hartzler and Paterno. The action before the Committee is to recommend to the full Board that Janiyah Davis be appointed to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees beginning July 1, 2021. Chair Potts called for a motion and second. Trustee Culler spoke about Janiyah fully impressing the search committee as well as the Trustee Group. She will be a great continuation of the student trustee role on the Board, and he encouraged all to support her. Trustee Stanell also mentioned that she knew Janiyah from the Women's Empowerment Roundtable and stated that she is wonderful and amazing. The motion passed unanimously. Janiyah Davis will be put forward to the full Board at tomorrow's meeting.

Chair Potts then spoke about the Academic Trustee. The Faculty Senate recommends a preferred candidate for membership on the Board representing the faculty of Penn State. A Trustee Group consisting of Trustees Fenza, Oldsey and Rapp, interviewed the preferred candidate for recommendation to the full Board. We appreciate the Faculty Senate's role in this important process, and its adherence to the *Standing Orders* and established protocols in this confidential and collaborative process. The action before the Committee is to recommend to the full Board that Nicholas Rowland be appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees beginning July1, 2021. Chair Potts called for a motion and second. The motion was passed unanimously. Nicholas Rowland will be put forward to the full Board at tomorrow's meeting.

Next on the agenda was the reappointment/appointment of directors to the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center board. Chair Potts called for a motion to appoint/reappoint Cathy Pape, Peter Tombros, and Tony Farrah. The motion was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Chair Potts spoke next about the Skill Set Inventory and Guidelines. Prior leadership and others have put together a skill set inventory that was filled out three years ago. It is the intention of this committee to have this updated and re-evaluated every year. Since completing the last inventory in September, we passed, as a full board, a statement of principle on our diversity aspirations for board composition. The plan is to complete the skill set inventory as we have in the past, take a look at it again, and add the diversity component to the report we are sharing with our appointing and electing constituency groups. Chair Potts asked for a motion to approve the skill set inventory and guideline changes and approval of the process going forward throughout the remainder of this year. There was a motion put forward, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Chair Potts stated that at the board meeting in February, there was a decision to table an item that had been slated for full board consideration. It is back for us to have further discussion about it today, with the idea that if the committee moves it forward, we will be considering it at the full board tomorrow. This is the change in leadership election timing from the current *Bylaws*, saying it's the July meeting, to permanently change the *Bylaws* to make it November, for all the reasons that we have previously discussed that include giving new board members an opportunity to consider leadership elections and smoothing an overlap process with outgoing leadership. Chair Potts asked for a motion and second and the motion passed unanimously. This item will move forward tomorrow to the full Board. The next agenda item was skipped over since it did not need to be considered with the motion that just passed.

Chair Potts provided an update on the Long-Range Planning Board Survey, and July deep dive on Long-Range Planning with the full board. She expressed pleasure with the activity of the Long-Range Planning Committee and how discussions thus far, in monthly meetings, has been well supported by Lance Kennedy Phillips, and his office, the Board Office, and Daniel Newhart. At the GLRP Meeting in February, Daniel gave an update to this committee on the strategic planning process, and we asked then for some additional information to come back to the LRP subcommittee on the unit level strategies and plans that would be collaborative in nature. We got a deep dive on that at LRP in our last meeting. It is really phenomenal to have this activity and thinking through the next 10 - 15 years of how higher education is changing and what we need as a board to be doing to push out to our standing committees the kinds of conversations and the kinds of data that we need to review.

For our July meeting, we have coordinated with the Academic Affairs, Research, and Student Life Committee, to do a deep dive on the external ranking systems, the metrics used, and what that means for Penn State. We will then be synthesizing with that, our results from the Next Gen Report as well as from our board survey. We would like to do a deep dive with the full board to focus on: the top strategic questions facing Penn State, and its next president, and the role of the LRP subcommittee and its communication with the standing committees for this board's oversight.

Chair Potts noted that reports were generated for the February 2021 meeting and are publicly available regarding expenses.

With no other business coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Penkala  
Associate Director, Board of Trustees