A meeting of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning was held in Room 207, The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center and via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2021.

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

Staff members in attendance were Barron, Guadagnino, Harvey, Jones, Kennedy-Phillips, Penkala, Stevens, and Zeigler-Byers. Constituent Representatives Franklin and Szczygiel were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Potts at 10:00 a.m., and she welcomed new members, Bonj Szczygiel, Chair, University Faculty Senate; Schonn Franklin, President, Graduate and Professional Student Association and Ariel Hinojos, Vice President, World Campus Student Government Association.

Chair Potts called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 6, 2021, meeting of the Committee. A motion was put forward, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the election of At-Large membership to the Executive Committee. Chair Potts stated that Chair Schuyler had recommended Trustee Hartzler to fill the vacancy. Chair Potts called for a motion recommending that J. Alex Hartzler fill the At-Large seat on the Executive Committee. A motion was put forward, seconded, and approved unanimously.

The next agenda item is the approval of granting Trustee Emeritus Status. At the May meeting, trustees Amoros, Dambly, and Hoffman agreed to form an ad hoc group to review the service records of those eligible for Trustee Emeritus Status and bring a recommendation forward. At this time, I am going to ask Chris Hoffman, vice chair of the committee, to present that recommendation.

Trustee Hoffman stated that a subgroup of the committee consisting of Trustees Amoros, Dambly and myself, met to consider Emeritus Status for Don Cotner, David Han and Robert Tribeck, whose terms of the board of trustees ended July 31, 2021, and George Henning, whose term on the board of trustees ended July 31, 2010. After reviewing their service records and the criteria set forth in our Standing Orders, we are recommending to the Committee, to put forth all former trustees for Emeritus Status. Emeritus Status is automatically conferred to Ira Lubert, given his role as past chair.

Chair Potts called for a motion to approve the granting of Emeritus Status for Don Cotner, David Han, George Henning, and Robert Tribeck. A motion was put forward and seconded. Trustee Pope requested that there be separate votes for the names put forward.

Chair Potts asked if there was any discussion before moving to separate votes. It was asked if there could be elaboration and explanation on some of the qualifications that one looks for, other than the six-year requirement to service? Chair Potts asked Trustee Hoffman to answer the question.

Trustee Hoffman stated that in the Standing Orders, it lists many things; service and attendance at meetings, what kind of contributions they made during their term, whether they were chair or vice chair of a committee and what kind of role they had within their time as a trustee. A question was asked about why there was a delay in George Henning being considered for Emeritus Status. An answer was given -
once a trustee leaves the Board of Trustees, they are asked if they have an interest in being considered for granting of Emeritus Status. Some defer to a later date.

Chair Potts reminded the Committee that there would be separate votes for each person being considered for Emeritus Status. With a motion already put forward and seconded, Chair Potts called for a vote on Emeritus Status for Don Cotner. The motioned passed unanimously.

Next Chair Potts called for a vote on David Han. The motion passed with Trustees Amoros and Pope abstaining due to a process concern.

Chair Potts called for a vote on George Henning and Rob Tribeck. The vote passed unanimously for both.

For the Skill Set Inventory, Chair Potts stated that 32 or 36 trustees completed the recent skill set survey. It was updated to include diversity, equity, and global perspective competencies. Chair Potts deferred a report being given to the Committee on the Skill Set Inventory until the November meeting in order to try and get 100% participation. The committee will use the report to identify gaps, or areas of concentrated consideration that should be considered when cultivating, and eventually selecting individuals for board membership. The report along with the board diversity matrix and statement of principle, will be provided to the Equity and Human Resources Committee. The chair of the selection group on board membership for at-large trustees, the chair of the selection committee on board membership for business and industry trustees, and the Office of the Vice President for Governmental and Community Relations for transmittal to the governor's office. In addition, the report will be published on the board's website, and be made available to the electorate in the alumni trustee and agricultural trustee elections.

The next agenda item was the July Retreat Summary. Chair Potts thanked and acknowledged the good work of the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee, and the Office of Planning, Assessment, and Institutional Research, in planning and preparing the July retreat. We had Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, who was very inspiring, and helped us ask the really big questions. There were excellent discussions and I want to thank all my trustee colleagues for their efforts. We have asked the OPAIR office, to look at, not just the output of that day, but to pull out pieces of the strategic plan and metrics that we already have, and metrics that we might consider given the board's discussion going forward.

Questions were raised an answered from trustees and constituent members of the Committee.

Chair Potts noted that reports of meeting expenses were generated for the May and July 2021 meetings and are publicly available and posted to the portal.

With no other business coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Penkala
Associate Director, Board of Trustees