

## Minutes of Meeting

### VOLUME AASL 4

May 8, 2014

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was held in Room 204 at The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel at 1:30 p.m.

The following members, constituting a quorum, were present: Jim Broadhurst, Peter Khoury, Abe Harpster, Ed Hintz, Betsy Huber, Ryan McCombie, and Bill Oldsey. Committee member Carolyn Dumaresq and Ex Officio member Keith Masser were not in attendance.

The following staff members were present: Rob Pangborn, Christina Pillot, and Damon Sims. Also invited to attend were Anna Griswold, Anne Rohrbach, Dennis Heitzmann, Joyce Illfelder-Kaye, and Ben Locke.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Broadhurst at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Broadhurst called for a recommendation to approve the Minutes of the March 6, 2014 meeting of the Committee; the minutes were approved. There were no actionable items presented to the Committee for consideration.

Chair Broadhurst called on Rob Pangborn, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education, for his remarks to the Committee. He highlighted the Undergraduate Exhibition in April, noted that Penn State is in the top 20 schools for Fulbright Scholarships, and announced two Goldwater Scholarship Award winners for the 2014-15 academic year. The growth of intercollege entrepreneurship is now college-wide and Penn State is providing physical spaces for collaboration: the Lion Launch Pad (in the IST building) and New Leaf (in the Borough Building).

Chairman Broadhurst then called on Vice President for Student Affairs, Damon Sims, for his remarks to the Committee. Damon gave updates on the first Engaged Scholarship Symposium in March; the transfer of oversight for the Recreational Sports Program from Athletics to Student Affairs including the memo from President Erickson appointing the Recreational Sports Transition Team; and distributed a handout of the alcohol report which will be presented to the Faculty Senate next September. Finally, he highlighted this year's student-led process to identify a student to recommend to the Governor for appointment to the Board of Trustees.

Educational presentations to the Committee were provided as follows:

Anna Griswold, Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Education and Executive Director of Student Aid, and Anne Rohrbach, Executive Director of Undergraduate Admissions, provided an overview of student recruitment and enhanced access to a Penn State education. Chair Broadhurst suggested that the topic merits a special extended session (PowerPoint on file).

Dennis Heitzmann, Senior Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, Joyce Illfelder-Kaye, Associate Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, and Ben Locke, Associate Director of

Counseling and Psychological Services gave an update on the key counseling and psychological services challenges noting that mental health issues can have a profound influence on a student's success. The undergraduate and graduate populations have expressed an urgent need to increase staffing. It was noted that this is a nationwide issue (PowerPoint on file).

Provost Jones offered remarks: It's been a very busy year as he completes the first cycle of Trustees meetings. He visited all Commonwealth Campuses except Worthington-Scranton, which he will visit in September. The new dean of Communications announcement is expected soon. There is a short list for the Dean of IST. The dean of Agricultural Sciences search is progressing and several candidates have been invited back for campus visits. He read a memo from outgoing Dean Anderson which noted that Penn State has won three consecutive national championships for the William R. Hearst Foundation's Journalism Awards Program, setting a national precedent. Finally, the Provost is focusing on education via our strategic planning process, and leading the efforts to manage our health care challenges which looms large.

Chair Broadhurst noted that this is his last meeting, marking 16 years on the Board. He thanked Peter Khoury for the important part that he has played on this Board, giving a strong student leadership presence and perspective.

The public session of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

No Executive Session of the Committee was required.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Pillot  
Executive Assistant  
to the Vice President for Student Affairs