

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT LIFE
MINUTES OF MEETING
VOLUME AASL 10**

May 7, 2015

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was held in The Krause Innovation Studio, 201 Chambers Building, at 1:30 p.m. on May 7, 2015.

The following committee members, constituting a quorum, were present: Abe Harpster, Bill Oldsey, Allie Goldstein, Ryan McCombie, and Alice Pope. Emerita Member, Anne Riley was present.

The following staff members were present: Nick Jones, Rob Pangborn, Damon Sims, Craig Weidemann, and Christina Pillot. Constituent representatives present were Emily McDonald and James Strauss. Also invited to attend the presentation were Kyle Bowen, Lisa German, Yvonne Gaudelius, Michael Rook, and Scott McDonald.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Harpster at 1:33 p.m. The *Minutes* of the March 19, 2015 meeting were approved.

An overview and tour of the Krause Innovation Studio, a gift to the University from Gay and Bill Krause, was led by Michael Rook and Scott McDonald. In its fourth year, it is designed as a learning space in Chambers Building for the purpose of collaboration, information, and discussion. Its purpose is not to promote technology for its own sake, but to enhance the learning experience.

The Committee reviewed a proposed administrative appointment and unanimously approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby approves President Eric J. Barron's appointment of Dr. Regina Vasilatos-Younken to the position of Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School, effective May 11, 2015.

Chairman Harpster called on Nick Jones, Executive Vice President and Provost, for his remarks to the Committee. Mary-Beth Krough-Jespersen, Chancellor of Penn State Worthington Scranton, has retired; Marwan A. Wafa will now serve as Chancellor. At the full board meeting on May 8, Provost Jones will introduce Dr. Andrew Sears, the new Dean of the College of Information, Sciences, and Technology. Dr. Blannie Bowen, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs provided an overview of the Middle States review process; President Barron has accepted the Middle States evaluation team's review and recommendations and has responded with Penn State's progress to date.

Rob Pangborn, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education, provided an update on undergraduate admissions, and noted an increasing interest in summer admissions. Additionally, the General Education planning committee proposal has received support from the Faculty Senate.

Chairman Harpster then called on Vice President for Student Affairs, Damon Sims, for his remarks to the Committee. Damon provided updates on the implementation progress of the recommendations from the Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Task Force. The Bystander Intervention initiative group will begin training staff across the system in early June. As search is underway for the Title IX coordinator. A training module for staff is being created that to be consistent with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) before July 1 (federal obligation). Over the next year, we aim to find a way to integrate the many required employee trainings. Vice President Sims will be meeting with PCAR and the Women's Resource Center about how to strengthen the relationships with the University. At President Barron's request, a specific date in the fall will be selected for a day focused on Sexual Assault/Harassment in order to raise awareness and inform and reassert our commitment. The *Hunting Ground* screening has received much attention at Sundance and Higher Ed institutions across the country. Working to find ways to show the film in the fall with accompanied constructive conversations to heighten understanding as well as awareness.

Emily McDonald, new UPUA President, shared her update. UPUA is creating a shared governance platform at UP to share ideas year-round with legislators. UPUA is developing ways to increase education and awareness of issues, and where to find informational resources and assistance. The first Day of Remembrance was held to remember the nine students who passed away this past year.

The Digital Transformation and Learning Technology education presentation was led by Kyle Bowen, Yvonne Gaudelius, and Lisa German. They provided an overview of various technologies which are transforming the undergraduate experience in classrooms, and efforts to work with faculty that enable students to learn in all forms.

The public session of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

No Executive Session of the Committee was required.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Pillot
Executive Assistant to the
Vice President for Student Affairs