A meeting of the Committee on Outreach, Development, and Community Relations was held on May 5, 2018, in President’s Hall III of The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel at 7:30 a.m.

The following committee members were present: Chair Abe Harpster, Vice Chair David Kleppinger, Daniel J. Delligatti, Lynn A. Dietrich, Joseph “Jay” V. Paterno, Jr., Russell C. Redding and Kevin R. Steele. Trustee Emeritus Dave Jones also was present.

The following staff members, constituent representatives, or invitees were also present: Barry Bram, Richard Bundy, Paul Clifford, Tracy Huston, Zack Moore, Rachel Pell, Alan Rieck, Richard Smith and Michael Zeman.

Chair Harpster called the meeting to order. As a quorum was present, he asked for approval of the Minutes of the February 22, 2018 meeting; the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Zeman, director of Penn State's Student Engagement Network (SEN), provided an update on the network. The presentation included information about the office’s key role in supporting President Eric Barron’s strategic priority of engagement. The SEN is supported across multiple units including Undergraduate Education, Student Affairs, and Outreach and Online Education. The Committee learned about efforts to build cohesion across the Commonwealth, to connect students, faculty and staff to engagement opportunities that both enrich learning and increase community impact, at home and beyond. The Committee heard from a number of student representatives who have had a hand in designing and building programming. Trustees also learned about the SEN’s grant program, which from May 2017 to April 2018 provided 297 students with an average award of more than $1,300 to support them in their growth.

Paul Clifford and Zack Moore, of the Penn State Alumni Association and the Office of Government and Community Relations, respectively, reported on Capital Day activities, held March 13, 2018, at the State Capitol Building in Harrisburg. The activities attracted more than 150 alumni and students to speak up for Penn State and advocate for the University’s annual appropriation. The Committee learned about the impact of the event, which featured student government leaders from the University Park Undergraduate Association, the Commonwealth Campus Student Government, and the Graduate and Professional Student Association. The effort included coordinated efforts among the Alumni Association, the Office of Government and Community Relations, the Office of Strategic Communications, and senior University leadership.

Rich Bundy shared responses to the relevant recommendations from the Association of Governing Board’s (AGB) Statement on Board Responsibilities for Intercollegiate Athletics, regarding fundraising and capital expenditures. The committee discussed the AGB’s recommendations and any outcomes necessary to Penn State’s oversight of Intercollegiate Athletic fundraising and capital expenditures.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Reidar Jensen, Assistant Director
Office of Strategic Communications