

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT LIFE
MINUTES OF MEETING
VOLUME AASL 23**

November 9, 2017

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was held in Executive conference rooms I & II of the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, University Park, PA, at 9:30 a.m. on November 9, 2017.

The following committee members were present: Chair Bill Oldsey, Vice Chair Alice Pope, Michael Hoeschele, and Chris Hoffman.

The following staff members were present: Nick Jones, Executive Vice President and Provost; Rob Pangborn, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education; Damon Sims, Vice President for Student Affairs; and Ann Wyatt. Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Vice President Brianne Pragg; Staff Advisory Council Immediate Past Chair John Ilie; Faculty Senate Chair-Elect, Michael Berube, were present. Trustee Emerita Ann Riley was present. Also invited as presenters were Maggie Slattery, Assistant Dean and Director of Penn State's Office for General Education, and Catherine Rios, Faculty Scholar and Associate Director of the School of Humanities and the chair of the Communications Program at Penn State Harrisburg.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Oldsey at 9:30 a.m. *Minutes* of the September 14, 2017 meeting of the committee were approved.

Chair Oldsey called on Rob Pangborn for his report. He shared information about the 2018 admissions cycle; the Student Engagement Network; and the Financial Literacy and Wellness Center. Next, Brianne Pragg provided a report on student government initiatives, including health insurance; student fees; and recent PLRB hearings pursuant to Graduate Student unionization, and endorsement of this action by the GPSA. Katie Jordan, President of the University Park Undergraduate Association, spoke about a medical amnesty initiative for students which offers limited legal immunity when they seek help for themselves or another individual who is in need of immediate medical attention. Hunter DeBellis, Vice President of the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments, reported on mental health issues and resources, Common Hours, and student evaluations of academic advisors.

Damon Sims reported on Parents and Families Weekend; the Fall Career Fair; and the expansion of Counseling and Psychological Services. He then provided an update on the implementation of Greek Life reform initiatives, which focuses on excessive drinking, hazing, sexual assault, and issues associated with large gatherings.

Nick Jones provided an update on administrative searches and impending vacancies; WorkLion, the HR enterprise system which will be launched in December; and the selection of a vendor for a new Business Information system.

Maggie Slattery and Catherine Rios provided a report on revisions to the General Education Curriculum, including updated learning objectives; new requirements; integrative studies requirements; faculty scholars; seed grants; and assessment.

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Finally, Chair Oldsey proposed topics for generative discussions at the Committee meetings in February and May: 1. fixed-term, adjunct, and part-time faculty; 2. faculty advising; 3. approaches to non- and post-traditional students.

The public session of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

No Executive Session of the Committee was required.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Wyatt
Administrative Support Coordinator
Office of the Board of Trustees