

**THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND STUDENT LIFE
MINUTES OF MEETING
VOLUME AASL 29**

September 12, 2019

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was held in Executive Conference Suites I & II of the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center, State College, PA, at 8:00 a.m. on September 12, 2019.

The following committee members were present: Chair David Han, Vice Chair Alice Pope, President Eric Barron, and Trustees Bryan Culler, Mark Dambly, Chris Hoffman, Bill Oldsey, Jay Paterno, Matt Schuyler, Laurie Stanell, and Steve Wagman. Also joining the meeting was Emerita Trustee Anne Riley.

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. University Staff Advisory Committee representative Jeannine Hanes; Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) President Claire Kelling; World Campus Student Association (WCSA) President Sean Walsh; and University Faculty Senate Representative, Mary Beth Williams, were present. Also invited as presenters were Ben Locke, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and members of the University staff and faculty involved in the delivery of student mental health services.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Han at 8:00 a.m. *Minutes* of the February 21, 2019 meeting of the committee were approved. No business items were recommended.

Chair Han welcomed those in attendance, including new Trustees and committee representatives, then opened by addressing the *Student Mental Health Conversation* component of the recent Board retreat, during which current and former Penn State students shared their mental health struggles as well as their experiences with resources provided to them by CAPS and other University outlets. The purpose of the committee's September follow-up discussion was to dialogue with University service providers and explore what steps the might be taken to improve and enhance student care. Joining the conversation were panelists Sarah Ades, Associate Dean for Graduate Student Affairs of the Graduate School; Anna Barone, Director of Student Care and Advocacy, a unit of Penn State Student Affairs; André Culbreath, Area Coordinator for Residence Life at University Park; Natalie Hernandez DePalma, Assistant Director of Counseling and Psychological Services; and Liz Toepfer, Assistant Director of Counseling and Psychological Services for the Commonwealth Campuses.

Chair Han called on Ben Locke to introduce the topic for a generative discussion. Dr. Locke provided an overview of provided services and encouraged the panelists to speak about the scope of their work and their connections with students. Topics of discussion included the coordination of Physical and financial resources; prevention and intervention; training; strategic opportunities; continuum of service and entry points for service; challenges at Commonwealth Campuses; specific issues for older/graduate/non-traditional students; the Penn State Crisis Line; and the Telehealth (SAFE-T) Center.

The public session of the Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Life was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

No Executive Session of the Committee was required.

Respectfully submitted,

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