THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT LIFE
MINUTES OF MEETING
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Oct 19, 2023

A meeting of the Committee on Academic Affairs, Research and Student Life of the Board of Trustees was held via video conference call at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2023.

The following members, constituting a quorum, were present: Chair Wagman, Vice Chair Detwiler, Brown, Fenchak, Hoffman, Lynch, Paterno, Riegel, Rowland, and Schuyler. Also attending were Board Chair Schuyler *(Ex Officio)*, President Bendapudi *(Ex Officio),* the Governor's non-voting representative Myers, Emeriti Trustees Henning and Pope, and Constituent Representatives Concepcion, Serfass, Egolf, Ganjam, Gibbard, and Ingram. Also present were staff members Adams, Beshero-Bonder, Bieschke, Bram, Dodge, Dowhower, Harvey, Harlow, Hunter, Oman, Oziemblowsky, Pell, Read, Schwartz, Selber, Smith, and Thorndike.

Chair Wagman called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Oziemblowsky confirmed a quorum was present. Chair Wagman welcomed panelists and members of the public to the committee meeting. He noted for the public attending via Microsoft Livestream, the agenda and supporting materials would be available at www.trustees.psu.edu.

Chair Wagman greeted new Trustees and Constituent Representatives, including Trustees Dietrich, Krieger, Lynch and Schuyler; former AARSL vice chair and Emerita Trustee Alice Pope; Vice President of the University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) Giselle Concepcion; and Chair of the University Staff Advisory Council Rachel Galloway as new members of the Committee.

Chair Wagman called for a motion for the Committee to approve the *Minutes* of the June 15, 2023 committee meeting, which was forwarded by Trustee Riegel, seconded by Trustee Rowland, and unanimously approved.

Chair Wagman noted the Committee's plan for 2023-2024 can be found in Diligent and on the Board's website. He stated the Committee's approach this year is to cover academic affairs, research, and student life at bi-monthly meetings, and receive pertinent updates on each area of responsibility.

This month, Chair Wagman noted the Committee would explore the implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in academic affairs, research, and student life. Specifically, how AI is being incorporated into the classroom and some of the implications and boundaries in an academic setting; how AI is leveraged to advance Penn State's research enterprise; and how AI is being used to support student success, advising, and other resources for students. He thanked Executive Vice President and Provost Justin Schwartz, Interim Senior Vice President for Research Andrew Reed, and Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Andrea Dowhower for assembling today's panel.

Provost Shwartz introduced Elisa Beshero-Bondar, *Program Chair of Digital Media, Arts and Technology, Professor of Digital Humanities, Director of the Digital Humanities Lab at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College*, Jonathan Dodge, *Assistant Professor, College of Information Sciences and Technology*, and Stuart Selber, *Professor of English, Director of Digital Education, Department of English, College of the Liberal Arts*. Professors Beshero-Bondar, Dodge, and Selber outlined the pedagogical use of AI in classrooms and how it can be leveraged to holistically improve student learning, academic success, and research efforts. They showcased an AI Hub (ai.psu.edu), a multifaceted collaborative community of Penn State's AI researchers that seeks to engage interested audiences effectively.

Provost Schwartz additionally welcomed David Hunter, *Professor of Statistics, Department Head, Huck Institutes for Life Sciences, Eberly College of Science*, who discussed leveraging AI to advance research endeavors at the university. Provost Shwartz also greeted Barry Bram, *Interim Senior Director of Special Projects, Student Affairs*, and Sydney Gibbard, *former UPUA President*, who provided a substantive discussion regarding the use of AI to support student life and success, including resources such as an online AI hub to quickly assist students, an interactive center that supplies in-person centralized services,

and enhanced student care resources such as counseling and academic advising, which all further President Bendapudi's Diversity, Equity, Inclusiveness, and Belonging (DEIB) goals.

The meeting is available in its entirety **here**.

With no other business coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Oziemblowsky
Associate Director
Office of the Board of Trustees