



DAVID R. JONES '54*

Biographical Sketch

Dave Jones is from a small Pennsylvania town and, benefiting from his Penn State education, became a ranking editor at *The New York Times* for 25 years. His breadth of experience as a national journalist brings a different dimension to the Trustees.

He was Assistant Managing Editor of the *Times* for eight years and Editor of its National Editions for 10 years. Earlier, he was National Editor for 14 years, directing national news coverage, including that of four Presidential elections. He reported for *The Wall Street Journal* in New York and Pittsburgh before becoming a *Times* correspondent in Detroit and Washington.

Twice a Pulitzer Prize juror, Dave directs seminars for *The New York Times* Foundation, works with the News Literacy Project in Washington, and helped establish journalism education programs in Eastern Europe.

For 25 years, Dave has served Penn State and counseled students. He has funded scholarships, supported the Pattee Library, and is a member of the Mount Nittany Society. He served on the Communications College Alumni Board for eight years and on the Penn State Alumni Association's Executive Board for four years. He has received Penn State's Distinguished Alumnus and Alumni Fellow awards.

A native of Connellsville, Dave received his B.A. in journalism and was editor of *The Daily Collegian*, where he met his wife, Mary Lee Lauffer '55. He belongs to Tau Kappa Epsilon. He served as an Air Force officer and earned an M.A. in American history from New York University. The Joneses live in Montclair, N.J.

*Incumbent

Position Statement

My goal as a Trustee is to draw upon my many years of experience as a reporter and editor for *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* to help raise Penn State's national standing. I believe my background in national journalism, and my experience as a Trustee since 1997, are important assets for the Board, particularly in these challenging times.

As first in my immediate family to graduate from college, I support Penn State's land-grant mission of providing quality education for families of average means. But I am deeply worried that this mission is endangered by rising tuition, state funding cuts, and a faltering economy.

These extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. Penn State must find ways to control tuition by making economies and restructuring, while maintaining educational quality. Cutting tuition would further reduce funding, hurt educational quality, and undermine our basic goal—to put Penn State at the top among public universities.

I believe in a vigorous and independent Board, and strive to make it more effective. Using my newspaper reporting skills to ask probing questions, and my editing skills to clarify issues, I bring an important added dimension to the Board.

My service on the Board since 1997 gives me the experience needed to better engage the difficult economic choices facing Penn State. I served for years on the Board's Executive Committee, have been Trustee liaison to the Alumni Association Executive Board, and have chaired the Education Policy Committee.

I would value your support.