Biographical Sketch

Chris J. Bartnik received two degrees from Penn State University. He graduated in 1991 with a B.S. degree in Insurance and in 1996 he graduated with honors in receiving his M.B.A.

Chris has spent his entire career in the insurance and employee benefits consulting field. After graduating in 1991, Chris returned to Northern, VA to work for Merrill Lynch and New York Life. He then relocated to New York to start an insurance brokerage operation for Oppenheimer & Company. After graduate school, Chris again returned to Northern VA to continue his career in insurance consulting with Mercer HR Consulting and Ahold USA. In 2003, he began an employee benefit consulting operation in Washington, DC. He is currently employed as the Senior Vice President/Mid Atlantic Employee Benefit Practice Leader for Wells Fargo Insurance Services.

Chris has remained an active Penn State alumnus as a Lifetime member of the Penn State Alumni Association, Board of Trustee for Theta Chi of Penn State, and a Penn State Football season ticket holder. In addition, Chris has supported Penn State by hiring nine graduates over the last five years. Chris is married to a 1992 Penn State graduate and is the father of three children ages 10, 7, and 14 months. Chris and his family reside in Chantilly, VA.

Position Statement

My objectives as a Board member include:

- Regain the confidence and trust of Penn State alumni, faculty, staff, students and supporters with a focus on true transparency.
- Push the administration to replace the current public relations firm with one that takes a more aggressive stance in supporting Penn State University.
- Be an active participant in the hiring of a new University President. I will not be a "yes man" to the Executive Committee in the selection.
- Support the Auditor General's recommendations on Board restructuring.
- I will work to ascertain all facts pertinent to the dismissal of Joe Paterno. Absent proof "without a shadow of a doubt" that Mr. Paterno committed a crime or violated the responsibilities entrusted to him by the University, I will lead efforts to restore his reputation, recognize the contributions he made to Penn State, and restore the memorial and statue to its location next to Beaver Stadium.
- I will work to make the University more fiscally efficient and more affordable. Currently Penn State is one of the most expensive, if not the most expensive, public university in the United States. It is imperative that the Board of Trustees direct the administration to plan and implement efforts to retain the value of a Penn State education while reducing its cost.