EUGENE J. BELLA  '63

Biographical Sketch

Gene graduated from Penn State in 1963 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He obtained an MBA from University of Pittsburgh in 1971. He worked for General Motors for three years and then began a career with Westinghouse and Bechtel Engineering for the next 34 ½ years. During this career, he worked in an organization which contracted with the U.S. Navy to develop various systems in the defense of our country. He held numerous leadership positions as a manager of departments with technical, quality control, computer technology, performance development, and division training responsibilities. He was a certified trainer and facilitator for Covey’s 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and numerous other training organizations. During retirement, he worked as a trainer for health care and hospice organizations on the subjects of teamwork, decision-making, time management, listening and communications skills, relationship building, and life balance.

He is a member of Theta Delta Chi fraternity and is a lifetime member of the Alumni Association.

He has been married to Beverly since 1963 and has two children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandson. He has been involved with numerous community organizations in volunteer efforts throughout his life.

Position Statement

I, along with many members of the PSU family, was appalled by the decisions of the Board of Trustees (BOT) and President Erickson the past two years. I communicated with President Erickson and the BOT. I received only one reply that from a BOT member. This shows that PSU leadership has little concern of what our thousands of alumni feel about what happened to our great university.

I do not have celebrity or high-profile status, but feel that I identify with concerns of our alumni and will bring a common-person approach that is needed.

I consider the top three priorities for the BOT to be to 1) make decisions based on short and long-term benefits to PSU and not be knee-jerk reactions to outside influences; 2) communicate the BOT proceedings to keep alumni informed, improve transparency of the BOT, and ensure that future BOT actions reflect feedback from alumni; and 3) involve the PSU family in the decision-making processes of the BOT.

I believe that the BOT has not acted with these priorities in mind. To "move forward" responsibly, we must understand the shortcomings of past performance and decisions that have caused an extremely detrimental effect on PSU’s reputation.

If elected, I will make my objectives consistent with the above priorities and do all that I can to meet the expectations we all have for PSU. I will not be intimidated when voicing opinions with the BOT.

I have supported the efforts of Penn State for Responsible Stewardship (PS4RS).