

Council of Trustees

Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
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Council of Trustees

Friday, November 17, 2023

Public Meeting Minutes

The Council of Trustees of Shippensburg University met on Friday, November 17, 2023, at 1:45PM in CUB MPR A as well as visible through a live stream.

Attendance: L. Michael Ross, Doug Harbach, Bill Gindlesperger, Andrew Alosi, Glen Grell, George McElwee, Matthew Steck (remote), Toni Marchowsky (remote and joined at 2:01PM) and Bryan Lowe were in attendance.

Absent: Rangeline DeJesus

Call to Order

Chairman Doug Harbach called the meeting to order at 1:46 PM. He then led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments – none

Board Action Items

ACTION: The Published Agenda was motioned for approval by Trustee Ross and seconded by Trustee Gindlesberger. Motion approved unanimously.

ACTION: Meeting minutes from September 15, 2023 was motioned for approval by Trustee Gindlesberger and seconded by Trustee Alosi. Passed unanimously.

President's Report

President Patterson updated the trustees on upcoming Vice President searches including VP Academic Affairs/Provost and VP Enrollment Management and Marketing. The university has hired Academic search to assist with these two searches to be complete by the end of the Spring semester. President Patterson also updated the trustees on the analysis of moving from a per credit tuition model to a flat rate model. This analysis is not finished but will be soon. Updates were also given on the Raider Success Scholarship and the changes we have made to those as well as on the Connors institute with Lawrence Eppert.

The State of the University address from earlier in the fall was recapped and updates given on progress. The trustees also received information on the homecoming parade, business leaders breakfast, treats not tricks event, presidents hour, holiday tree lighting the DEI summit and Israel Gaza event that was held.

Finally information on our athletic teams was shared including that field hockey was playing in the semi finals

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that evening, Friday, November 17th, Men's Cross country was competing in Nationals in Joplin MO the next day and Women's volleyball was in the PSAC tournament.

ACTION: The 2024 Council of Trustee Dates were modified to September 2024 location change to Iron Valley for in person or online virtually as well as a change in the May meeting date. The meeting date for May is proposed at May 3, 2023. Trustee Lowe motioned for the changes and seconded by Trustee McElwee. Motion approved unanimously.

From the Division of Academic Affairs

Provost Nicole Hill presented the following information for Academic Affairs:

I continue to be deeply impressed with the dedication and initiative of faculty and staff across the division of Academic Affairs. Every week, I observe or learn of remarkable work that is being done with our students and across campus. I want to express my appreciation for my colleagues for their ongoing commitment to the academic mission of the University and for the other divisions for their collaboration especially with student success and academic advancement.

Since our last COT meeting, we have hosted two accrediting site teams on campus. Our colleagues in Engineering and Communications Journalism had smooth, engaged, and meaningful accreditation team visits the week of October 23rd. In the exit interviews and documentation, the caliber of our faculty and students were highlighted from both ABET and ACEJMC. For anyone with experience in specialized program accreditation, you can appreciate the amount of work and preparation it takes to get to this point in the accreditation process and the anticipation and effort necessary while the site team navigates their role.

Gratitude to Dr. Manny Ruiz for his role and leadership on Shippensburg University hosting the PASSHE DEI Summit on campus. Jamie Rhine and Scott Donald from IT, our colleagues from Aramark, and the CUB staff for hosting, especially Emily Javitt, Travis Houtz, and Amy Podoletz.

I am very excited to announce that we were recently approved from the Chancellor on November 6th to launch our B.S. in Health Sciences. I want to express my deepest gratitude to Sherri Bergsten, Alison Fedrow, Marcie Lehman, and Tracy Schoolcraft who worked diligently on the academic program development and completion of our revision process.

We continue to advance our engagement with industry and employer partners as well as community leaders.

On Tuesday, approximately 120 individuals participated in the Regional Leaders Breakfast held at SU, including several COT members. The diverse group of attendees comprised representatives from companies of various sizes, encompassing several presidents and CEOs. Notable figures such as Chancellor Achampong from PSU Mont Alto and President Ski from HACC also graced the event. SGA President Harun Pacavar

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kicked off the breakfast with welcoming remarks, followed by a video showcasing Shippensburg University. President Patterson provided updates on the university, while I delved into the array of services, activities, and partnership opportunities available for regional businesses to enhance their workforce needs. The session featured a table talk exercise aimed at identifying potential activities for our corporate engagement strategy. Skylar Walder, PASSHE Student BOG member, concluded the morning. This event provided another valuable opportunity for SU team members to connect with the regional business community.

On October 5th, we hosted 121 employers who were able to meet with almost 500 SU students as part of our Job and Internship Fair. Many employers continue to share that the SU job fair is one of their favorites – our students are well prepared, well dressed, and the logistics are always above and beyond what they experience elsewhere. In addition, over 150 students were able to receive a professional headshot at the event. Many thanks to the Career Center team led by Victoria Kerr, the Office of Workforce Development team led by Tracy Montoro, and the marketing and communications team led by Megan Silverstrim for their tireless efforts in making sure every detail is exact.

On October 18th, the Center for Career and Workforce Development hosted an Employer Summit. More than 25 professionals from the public service sector and non-profit organizations joined more than 25 SU students, faculty, and staff to discuss labor market challenges affecting talent acquisition and retention. Thank you for those of you across campus who contributed your expertise and vision to these discussions. This work is important as we continue to explore how to best meet the workforce needs of the region and support our students as they develop the necessary competencies to be successful upon graduation.

With the remainder of my time today, I would like to share a few accomplishments and highlights from our division. Tom Feeney received a South Mountain Partnership mini-grant for \$2,500 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, via the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. This grant was designed to help graduate student Devon Chenot complete his research requirement for the Geoenvironmental Science MS degree. This project will study the natural water chemistry of several springs in Pennsylvania's Cumberland Valley. Project results will help to further our understanding of the hydrologic relationships between South Mountain and the Cumberland Valley, and in turn assist in our management of the regional water resources. Shippensburg University has been awarded \$354,500 from PHEAA for the ACT 101 program to provide support to 250 under-prepared students who have the potential to succeed in higher education in the 2023-2024 academic year. Chad Bennett, Assoc Prof/Department Chairperson, is the program director. The Academic Year Support Program (ASP) at Shippensburg University offers services to enhance opportunities for eligible part-time and full-time students to achieve their educational goals, including academic advising, tutoring, orientation for students, counseling services, and an academic bridge program. Students participating in ASP can benefit from extended orientation, faculty and staff support, guidance on electronic resources, an introduction to the general education curriculum, awareness of institutional resources, and understanding of available ASP resources throughout their college career. Congratulations to Drs. Bennett and Feeney.

With undergraduate research as one of our signature areas of excellence, I am pleased to share that IPSSP and COSRACA launched the undergraduate research grant program and received 38 proposals that were

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reviewed by 12 faculty. All 38 were deemed worthy of funding. I am grateful for Margaret Light's efforts to coordinate this process and for the faculty who generously serve to review the grant applications.

In Fall 2021, we started the Peer Anchor Proactive Check In Program which involved Peer Anchors (undergraduate mentors) meeting 1-1 with each of their UNIV101 students. That first Fall, we met with 72% of students. Every year, we have seen improvement with our outreach and this Fall, we met with 92% of students which translates to 1096 meetings. We are up 5% compared to last Fall. These meetings are important because it allows us to proactively support students and their transition to the University. When we are able to identify concerns early, we have a better chance of effectively supporting the student and connecting them to resources.

We continue to see increased engagement of students in our student success services. We have a 32% increase in students participating in our CAPS program with 651 appointments already being completed this fall semester for our students on academic probation. The Learning Center has conducted 703 appointments of course-based tutoring which is an 110% increase since Fall 2022. In OAR, we have provided 196 proctored tests which is a 28% increase since last fall. The increased engagement is also evident in work with our learning specialists, at the Seaber RAC, Early Alert, and student success meetings. Thank you to our staff and faculty who are so dedicated to our students' success.

I want to share a note of heroic service by one of our students. On October 22nd, Cadet *Rylie Traxler* received the ROTC Medal for Heroism during a ceremony at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ. This medal is the highest, most prestigious award a Cadet can earn. Cadet Traxler earned this recognition based upon her personal courage and selflessness when responding to a horrific vehicle accident on 21 August 2023. When encountering the accident's immediate aftermath, her first response was to help. With no regard for her own safety, she immediately ran to the aid of the victims. We are humbled by the courage and strength of Cadet Traxler.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Presented a paper in a panel session with my colleague from Penn State, Emily Sharp, entitled: *Seas the Day! With Teachers Who Can Navigate the Science of Reading!* at the annual Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children's conference in Long Beach, CA. The presentation discussed best practices for preparing pre-service teachers to implement structured literacy instruction in general education settings.

Published a book chapter, as lead author: 'Understanding the Historical and Contemporary Contexts of Special Education' in a volume entitled: *An Intersectional Approach to Working with Students with Disabilities*, a textbook for preservice teachers. This publication includes an additional workbook of application exercises.

Members from the Ship SAILS team presented to the Exploratory Faculty to encourage collaborative efforts between SAILS and exploratory students and faculty. This resulted in an invitation for SAILS staff to present

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to a University 101 class to talk about careers working with individuals with disabilities.

Biology faculty and students have given research presentations recently at the PA Botany Symposium (supervised by Heather Sahli) and the Kansas Herpetological Society meeting (supervised by Pablo Delis), with a 2nd place poster award for a student (Leslie Taylor) at the PA Botany Symposium. Todd Hurd gave an invited presentation at Franklin and Marshall College on water quality and limestone springs. Ship Bio alumni continue to be selected for positions with state agencies, including a recent hire with the Fish and Boad Commission.

Mark Sachleben's forthcoming book from Oxford University Press, *Global Issues, Tangled Webs: Transnational Concerns in an Interconnected World*, was the subject of an Author Meets Critics panel at the 2023 Northeast Political Science Association annual conference.

Alison Dagnes' piece *Stop Feeding the Polarization Beast* was featured on *Real Clear PA*, picked up for syndication around the country, and was the subject of a PCN program *On the Issues*. Additionally, she's done 5 national interviews since the off-year elections, presented a paper and chaired a roundtable at the Northeast Conference, and the SUPER Map project she organized for the Honors Program last year just won 1st place at the National Honors Conference in Chicago.

Mike Moltz published a paper about cross-country perceptions of bureaucratic corruption in *Public Integrity*, a top-tier journal for Public Administration.

Dr. Michael Greenberg organized the Public Service Employers Summit which brought 50 professionals to Ship to discuss possibilities for students and collaboration with programs. Additionally, he is the incoming President of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association.

James Lohrey – finalized two book chapters in *Video Production Disciplines and Techniques*, 13th edition Eds. James Foust, Edward Fink, Phil Beskid, Jose Cardenas, Robert Gordon Jr. and James Lohrey

Kyle Heim - "Transparency in Digital Journalism." He just submitted the final version, and it will be appearing in *The Routledge Companion to Digital Journalism Studies* (2nd ed.), set for publication in 2024.

Stephanie Witmer – CVS and Hone Health (men's wellness brand) freelance work; editing for WebMD

Adam Beam, SUTV GM – raised nearly \$1000 for Spirit of Children charity as part of his 12-hour horror marathon in October

Allyson Ritchey, Multimedia director at The Slate and Homecoming 2024 royalty – raised more than \$2000 for the SU Student Emergency Fund

Carrie Sipes - ACEJMC site visit – October 2023, Site visit report – "A strong and mighty program composed

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of a caring, compassionate faculty.” “An updated curriculum that is heavily involved in providing students with hands-on, real-world experience and critical thinking skills that proves transformative for many students.” “The department promotes an inclusive environment, welcome to students and faculty.” Compliant in 7/8 standards. Non-compliant in Resources (faculty).

Carrie Sipes – took 6 PRSSA students to Nashville for the Public Relations Society of America’s 2023 International Conference for professional development, networking

Dhiman Chattopadhyay – SU representative at REP4 National Conference

How To Support Stressed-Out Students for Academic Success

Dr. Sabrina Marschall (AEES faculty member) and Deb Schooley (Learning Specialist, Learning Center)
College Academic Support Programs (CASP) 2023 Conference

This presentation facilitated a dialogue about how to use assessments to identify areas of students’ stress/anxiety; how to identify signs of stress and anxiety in students; how to develop strategies to help stressed students feel supported to increase academic success; and ways to encourage students to use different strategies for stress and anxiety management.

Ship Start Update

AEES continues to coordinate the advising support for our Ship Start population. Course enrollment for the spring term is up 34% versus last year at this time and is 5 students more than the total spring semester enrollment last year at the start of classes for a total of 134 students. Admissions continues to admit students and AEES faculty will continue advising and registering students through January.

Reimagining the First-Year Experience Presentations

Drs. Michael Levinstein (AEES) and Jennifer Haugie (AVP Retention & Student Success) presented at the *PASSHE DEI Summit* on November 8th. Their presentation proudly shared that an innovative first-year seminar that pilot that leveraged academic advising in the classroom resulted in significant student success outcomes including an increase in fall grade point averages, credits completed, and, most interesting, a profound retention impact of underrepresented minorities (+7.1% fall to spring; +10.5% fall to fall)! The duo will also share their findings at the NACADA Region 2 conference in Atlantic City in April. The pilot resulted from SU’s participation in the Arizona State University’s University Design Institute’s Higher Education Redesign Accelerator.

The Impact of Educational Nudges

Dr. Michael Levinstein co-authored an article to be published in the *Journal of Economic Education*, the highest-ranked economic journal focusing on education. The article titled “Grading Policy, Email Nudges, and Grade Outcomes” describes how small changes to a grading policy alongside a kind nudge from a professor changes a student’s academic behavior and positively impacts their course grade.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

OneSIS Project

- General Person and Admissions modules went live in OneSIS Production the week of September 18.
- Completed setup needed to begin Fall 2024 schedule build in OneSIS Production.
- Completed end-to-end testing in a non-production environment for Student, Accounts Receivable, and Financial Aid.
- Argos reporting environment set up with reports based on General Person data.
- Fall 2024 admission records are now loading from Slate into OneSIS using Axiom Cloud.
- Completed OneSIS integration to SU Foundation's Scholarship Management Software.
- ALEKS test scores are now integrated with OneSIS.

Next Steps

- Phase 1 load of Financial Aid rules and validation tables and tracking requirements to OneSIS Prod in December 2023.
- Second round of end-to-end testing will occur in January 2024 with a focus on Financial Aid and Accounts Receivable.
- Degree Works configuration and loading of scribe blocks.
- Setting up users and security roles to build the Fall 2024 schedule.

Challenges to Overcome

- Delay from DOE to release the 2024-25 FAFSA and changes that are planned is pushing the timeline for Financial Aid processes and integrations to January 2024 with very little time to test.
- There have been concerns with the stability of the OneSIS platform for both the Cohort 1 schools that went live and the Cohort 2 schools that are implementing. The Ellucian team is making some progress, and we just need to make sure this continues.
- The duplicate ID resolution process is very fluid at the current time and needs to be addressed as more schools go live and the number of students taking courses at multiple institutions increases.
- Cross Registration and the associated Faculty Load and Compensation module implementations (which are significant components of the academic sharing goal of OneSIS) have been postponed due to the complexity of implementation.

Educational Presentation:

Charles H. Diller JR Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership and Innovation

The following students and the director, Mr. Don Nori presented information on the Diller Center and their involvement as well as how much the center means to their experience at Ship.

Mr. Don Nori- director

John Arensmeyer - EIA trip

Brandon Stiner - CEO club Tampa trip

Drew Daily - CEO club

Mackenzie Good - Diller center updates

David Wolfe - Solve club

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From the Division of Administration & Finance

Dr. Jolina Wilson introduced Vicki Raivitch, Principal from CLA who reported that the audit for 22-23 was complete and earned the highest rating without concerns that is possible on an audit. Great job to Ship.

ACTION: The 22-23 Financial Statement and Audit was motioned for approval by Trustee Grell with a comment that thanked the hard work of both CLA firm as well as our internal accounting department and Mr. Mike Felice. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gindlesperger. Motion approved unanimously.

ACTION: Trustee Grell made a motion to approve the SUF affiliation compliance agreements. Seconded by Trustee Ross. Motion approved unanimously.

ACTION: A two fold motion was made by Trustee Grell made to table the SUSS Inc. affiliation compliance agreements due to the need for additional information and to bring back the affiliation compliance agreements at the February 16, 2024 meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Alosi. Motion approved unanimously.

Purchases and contracts were shared since the last trustee meeting.

From the Division of Enrollment Management

Dr. Megan Luft updated the trustees on census for Fall 2023. We finished at 1097 just short of our 1100 goal. She shared our spring goals as well as all of the work that admissions is already doing for fall 2024 admissions. The last open house of the fall semester is scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday, November 18th with over 425 students and 1200+ families attending. This is the largest number since 2019! Admitted student day is scheduled for Friday, December 1st inviting students who have been accepted but not deposited yet to campus.

Dr. Luft also shared that Ship Start was up for the fall by 35% and overall enrollment was up by 20%. Finally, it was shared that the FAFSA will open on December 31, 2023 for students to complete and there will be a marketing campaign for continuing students and new students about the FAFSA and changes.

Reports

APSCUF Report

Professor Aaron Dobbs shared the following information:

- Professor Trevor Famulare is taking 130 band student to Prague to perform over the Thanksgiving week.
- Dr. Nicole Santalucia read from her latest book, Book of Dirt recently at Midtown Scholars bookstore in Harrisburg, PA.
- Scott Drzyzga worked with facilities to install a continuous operating GPS station at Ship.

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- Dr. Joseph Zume is continuing his research in Ghana.
- Dr. Tim Hawkins in extending his research and exploring waves and current in Barbados, Caribbean and the US.
- Christina Rhodes recently published an article in womens studies.
- Michael Coolsen recently received the innovation in teaching award.

AFSCME Report

Representative Stephanie Deckert indicated that the 2024 officer elections will be held the week of November 21, 2023.

SCUPA Report

Chapter president, Lori Smith reported that on November 18th, the admissions team, mostly comprised of SCUPA members including Brandy Brady were hosting the largest open house since Fall 2019. Great job to our SCUPAs in Admissions. Lori also appreciated the SCUPA employees in student affairs for their hard work for

homecoming and the student activities. Thank you to Brigette Allen, Kyle Miller, Kapri Brown, Kurt Dunkel. Also a great job to alumni director and SCUPA employee, Lori Smith her for work with homecoming. The alumni engagement was exceptional. Finally, a thank you to our AFSCME colleagues. Without them the work for homecoming would not be completed.

Alumni Association Report

Steve Thomas, President of the alumni association highlighted information including the awarding of alumni awards to 9 recipients during homecoming weekend. He also highlighted the successful homecoming parade, the tailgate and the many other activities. Mark your calendars now for 2024 for homecoming on October 18 and 19.

He mentioned that the golf tournament at Iron Valley hosted 104 golfers and the Legacy pining had 43 students being pinned by their family during family day. Finally, the alumni office also hosted Chats and Cookies in September with students and an away tailgate at Shepard University.

Steve mentioned upcoming activities including the Coca Station in Stewart Hall on December 2nd before the Shippensburg Holiday parade, the January 27, 2-24 Hospitality Suite at the Ice Fest in Chambersburg, PA, the February 4th event at Mt. Hope Estates and finally the April 4th event in Montgomery County. Please join us for these events!

Student Government Association Report- no rep in attendance

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Graduate Student Association Board Report- no rep in attendance

New Business

Next meeting: February 16, 2024

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM. Motion made by Trustee Ross and Seconded by Trustee Gindlesberger.

Submitted by: Lorie Davis

Reviewed:

Doug Harbach, Chair, Council of Trustees

Bill Gindlesberger, Secretary, Council of Trustees

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