

**Pennsylvania Western University
Council of Trustees, Regular Meeting**

Thursday, June 20, 2024
2 p.m.
PennWest Edinboro – Frank G. Pogue Student Center
405 Scotland Rd., Edinboro, PA

Meeting Minutes

The Council of Trustees of Pennsylvania Western University met in regular session on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the PennWest Edinboro campus at 405 Scotland Road. The meeting began at 2:02 p.m.

ATTENDING

Council of Trustees:

P	Mark Bellini	P	Donna Oberlander
P	JD Dunbar	P	Kathy Pape
P	Danny Jones	P	Larry Pickett
P	Patricia Kennedy	P	Neil Weaver
P	Rachel Kister (virtual)	P	Tyrique Whitson
P	Barbara Logue	P	Mohamed Yamba
P	Larry Maggi (virtual)	A	Sonia Yost
P	Barry Niccolai		

Attendance was taken at the direction of Chair Pape and established that a quorum of the Council was present. Rachel Scofield confirmed the meeting was properly noticed per the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.

Also present were:

Lorraine Bernotsky, Interim President	Peter Kuvshnikov, PennWest Faculty Senate
Sam Claster, Local APSCUF President, PennWest Edinboro	Lisa Kovalchick Local APSCUF Acting President, PennWest California (Virtual)
Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Student Affairs and Institutional Effectiveness	Joyce Overly, Local APSCUF President, PennWest Clarion
Molly Passmore, University Legal Counsel	Robin Weaver, PennWest Faculty Senate (Virtual)
Jim Fisher, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs	Fawn Petrosky, Vice President for Finance
Sarah Freed, Interim Vice President for Enrollment	Kelly Repinski, Vice President for University Affairs and Advocacy
James Geiger, Vice President for Advancement	Scott Heinerichs, Special Assistant to the President
Eric Guiser, Senior Associate Vice President for Human Resources	Mary Paniccia Carden, Dean College of Education, Arts and Humanities

Shawn Hoke, AVP Student Affairs and Edinboro Student Affairs Campus Lead	Amanda Sissem, AVP Alumni Engagement and Edinboro Campus Administrator
Katherine Robbins, Edinboro Athletics Director	Wendy Mackall, Executive Director Communications

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Full report in video archive)

Chair Pape presented the proposed bylaw amendment. The changes make the Bylaws internally consistent regarding the process for the election of officers, to eliminate redundant provisions and to provide greater flexibility in organizing meeting agenda items

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Jones, and passed unanimously after a voice vote:

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE BYLAWS AS AMENDED.

COUNCIL CHAIR REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Chair Pape welcomed new trustees Dr. Mohamed Yamba and student trustee Tyrique Whitson.

Chair Pape then presented a Resolution of Recognition for Dr. Laurie Bernotsky.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Maggi, and passed unanimously after a voice vote:

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR R. LORRAINE BERNOTSKY.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY APSCUF (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Samuel Claster provided remarks on behalf of the APSCUF leadership.

FACULTY SENATE REMARKS (Full comments in video archive)

Dr. Peter Kuvshinikov provided remarks on behalf of Faculty Senate.

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT (Full reports in video archive)

Student Trustee Tyrique Whitson (California) reported on activities at the California campus.

PACT UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Bellini provided updates on PACT activities.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Pape requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- Meeting Minutes 5-28-2024 Regular Meeting
- Meeting Minutes 5-6-2024 Special Meeting

The motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Full report in video archive)

Chair Pape explained that the bylaws state that the officers of the Council shall be elected every two years at the last quarterly meeting of the Council and shall hold office until successors are legally elected.

The Nominating Committee shall present the names of the nominees to the Council at least one meeting prior to officer elections and that those elected officers shall take office at the first meeting of the subsequent calendar year which will take place on September 26, 2024.

The Nominating Committee is chaired by Trustee Weaver and includes Trustee Bellini and Trustee Logue.

Trustee Weaver called for nominations for the slate of officers. For the position of secretary, Trustee Niccolai nominated Trustee Whitson. For the position of vice chair, Trustee Kister nominated Trustee Pickett. For the chair position, Trustee Pickett nominated Trustee Dunbar, and Trustee Kennedy nominated Trustee Pape. All nominees accepted.

Neil Weaver requested that the trustee terms be sent to all trustees.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Full remarks in video archive)

Trustees Jones and Logue, co-chairs of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE (Full report in video archive)

Dr. Sarah Freed, Interim Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management, provided an update on enrollment status and activity.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Full reports in video archive)

Trustee Kennedy, co-chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Full reports in video archive)

Trustee Pickett, co-chair of the committee, provided an update on committee activity.

Vice President for Finance and Administration, Fawn Petrosky, presented the proposed meal plan rate adjustments and recommended that the Council approve the adjustments to the meal plan rates, as presented.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, and passed unanimously after a voice vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MEAL PLAN AS PRESENTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

Vice President Petrosky then presented the proposed housing rates and recommended that the Council approve the adjustments to the housing rates, as presented.

Trustee Niccolai requested a roll call vote on the meal plan rates, with Trustee Kister attending the meeting on Zoom.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MEAL PLAN AND HOUSING RATES AS PRESENTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

Vice President Petrosky presented the preliminary budget fiscal year 2024-2025.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET AS PRESENTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Trustee Pape and Vice President for Advancement, Jim Geiger, provided an update on committee activity.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Full report in video archive)

Interim President Bernotsky requested that the Council approve the University Order of Succession as required by the Board of Governor's Policy 1983-14-A, appointing interim and acting chief executive officers.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Bellini, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT, APPROVE THE UNIVERSITY ORDER OF SUCCESSION AS REQUIRED BY BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S POLICY 1983-14-A: APPOINTING INTERIM AND ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

Dr. Bernotsky reported that this was her last PennWest Council of Trustees meeting and shared that Dr. Jon Anderson is excited and ready to start. She thanked the Council for the recognition resolution and expressed her gratitude to the faculty, staff, and community.

Trustee Kennedy requested a roll call vote on the amendments to the bylaws, with Trustee Kister attending the meeting on Zoom.

The following motion was made by Trustee Niccolai, seconded by Trustee Jones, and passed unanimously after a roll call vote:

THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE BYLAWS AS AMENDED.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Trustee Bellini moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Whitson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously after a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Meeting webcast is available [here](#).