

# MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY

## COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
2:00 p.m.

Conference Zoom

### Minutes

#### I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Kilmer called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

**FOR THE RECORD:** in accordance with the Sunshine Law, this meeting was advertised in the *Wellsboro Gazette* on May 13, 2021.

#### II. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE

The following Trustees attended:

Mr. Aaron K. Singer, Member  
Ms. Susan Kefover, Member  
Ms. Bobbi Kilmer, Chairperson  
Ms. Karen J. Russell, Member  
Dr. Robert D. Strohecker, Member  
Mr. Steven Crawford, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Max Gannon, Member  
Mr. Bruce L. Vickery, Member  
Mr. Patrick Henderson, Secretary  
Ms. Sarah Hart, Member

The following Trustees were not in attendance:

Mr. Ralph H. Meyer, Member

Members of the University staff who attended are as follows:

Charles E. Patterson, PhD, President  
Dr. John Ulrich, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Kathy Wright, Associate Provost/Dean of Natural and Social Sciences  
Dr. Joshua Battin, Interim VP for Administration, Dean, College of Arts and Humanities  
Ms. JoEllen Lindner, Interim VP Student Affairs and Enrollment Management  
Ms. Amy Dicello, Interim VP of Finance  
Ms. Jill L. Scott, Secretary to the Council of Trustees

Others in Attendance:

Dr. Jonathan Rothermel, University Senate

Ms. Judi Brayer, SCUPA Representative

Dr. Jimmy Guignard, Professor

Ms. Geneva Murray, SGA President

Ms. Kyle Cole '22, Student

Ms. Brittany Murphy '22, Student

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Kilmer asked for public comments and there were none.

### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by **Mr. Max Gannon**, seconded by **Dr. Robert Strohecker**, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of **March 24, 2021** as identified in **Exhibit A**.

### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Academic Affairs Report (Dr. Ulrich)

- Integrations

Dr. Ulrich shared with the council the progress the Provost are making toward the integration planning. The Provosts are mapping out organizational structure for the Academic Affairs division, to include colleges and their affiliated departments. Currently looking at 5 academic colleges, 35 departments with many non-degree programs included in the integrated program array. This will be more widely shared as the process moves forward. He also shared preliminary numbers on expansion of free program access, this would enable Mansfield University students' opportunities if integration approved. Currently we offer 38 degree programs at Mansfield but this would increase to 72 if integration moves forward.

#### B. Finance and Administration Report (Ms. Dicello and Dr. Battin)

Ms. Dicello shared with the Trustees an overview of the Comprehensive Planning Process (CPP) Update and the COVID-19 Federal Funding Allocations & Financial Impact report.

- Review of Purchases over \$21,300 (Exhibit B)

Ms. Dicello shared a review along with answering questions regarding Exhibit B containing \$2,640,465 in aggregated value for purchase orders over \$21,300 for the period of February 16, 2021 through April 15, 2021.

- Commonfund Resolution (Exhibit C)

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Vice President for Finance and the President, a motion was made by **Mr. Patrick Henderson**, seconded by **Mr. Max Gannon** and unanimously carried to approve the Commonfund Resolution.

- Dining Meal Plans (Exhibit E)

Ms. Dicello the Interim Vice President of Finance shared review of Exhibit E, in which further student choices for additional flex along with meal plans to be adjusted to align with new food service vendor Aramark.

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Vice President for Finance and the President, a motion was made by **Mr. Steven Crawford**, seconded by **Ms. Susan Kefover** and unanimously carried to approve the adjustment of meal plan options.

C. Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Ms. Lindner)

➤ Enrollment Management Report

Ms. Lindner provided the Trustees with an update on both the current enrollment and housing report. She noted that housing applications have continued to increase and they have extended the timeframe in order to provide opportunity to attend this fall. The first year deposits are down but moving closing as trends indicate student are staying in close proximity to home. She shared that visitation to campus for tours and advisor meetings has increased so they are experiencing increased interest in visiting campus and being more involved. Current housing is a 58% occupancy with a expected goal of 80% by fall 2021.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Chair Kilmer asked for old business and there were none.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS – NO ACTION REQUIRED**

**IX. EDUCATIONAL FEATURE**

**SAR: Scholars at Risk, Student Advocacy Seminar**

Trustees were joined by Ms. Ky'Le Cole '22, Ms. Brittany Murphy '22 and Dr. Jonathan Rothermel in which they provided an overview of the SAR (Scholars at Risk) Student Advocacy Seminar. Both Ms. Cole and Ms. Murphy shared work within the campaign for SAR and spoke about two chosen for Mansfield University to advocate for Niloufar Bayani and Ahmadreza Djalali who both are imprisoned in Iran. Campus campaign includes, messages to the Iranian country leaders, along with letters of support, other items include flyers, stickers, pens and posters all utilized to bring awareness to the Scholars at Risk.

**X. REPORTS**

**President, Charles Patterson**

Dr. Patterson updated the Trustees on the University Integrations plans for the Northeast region and process for both public hearing and comment period leading up to the Board of Governors vote at the July meeting.

Dr. Patterson reviewed the Trustees on the Sustainability Plan along with upcoming leadership transition in July, with by Order of Succession, Dr. John Ulrich will assume position responsibilities.

Dr. Patterson provided an update on the demolition of our residence halls to the Trustees with timeline and expectations of completion.

**PACT, Trustee Karen Russell:**

Ms. Russell shared that at the April 28, 2021 PACT spring conference discussions of roles of Trustees and future of universities were discussed with Chancellor Greenstein. Planned Executive Board PACT meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2021 and a Fall PACT Conference is currently being planned.

**SGA**

Geneva Murray, the newly elected SGA President introduced herself to the Trustees and reported the spring semester was positive for students and looking forward to the fall semester with ability of expanded venues for students.

**Senate:**

**APSCUF:**

**SCUPA:**

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson Kilmer provided Dr. Kathy Wright and Dr. Charles Patterson with Resolution. She expressed appreciation for both Dr. Kathy Wright and Dr. Charles Patterson and felt Mansfield University was very fortunate to have their service. She further stated Mansfield University was blessed to have Dr. John Ulrich serve in this important role at this time.  
See Exhibit F and G

**XII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Mansfield University Council of Trustees is **Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 2:00 p.m. in the North Hall Community Room.**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jill L. Scott*

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