

**MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY  
COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Wednesday, December 1, 2021  
2:00 p.m.

Conference via Zoom  
**Minutes**

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Kilmer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**FOR THE RECORD:** in accordance with the Sunshine Law, this meeting was advertised in the *Wellsboro Gazette* on November 18, 2021.

**II. RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE**

The following Trustees attended:

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

The following Trustees were not in attendance:

Members of the University staff who attended are as follows:

Dr. John Ulrich, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Joshua Battin, Interim VP for Administration, Associate Provost, Dean, College of Arts and Humanities  
Dr. Gretchen Sechrist, Interim Dean, College of Natural and Social Sciences  
Dr. Marty Wygmans, VP Student Success and Campus Life  
Dr. Stephen Lee, VP Enrollment Management  
Mr. Albert Jones, Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer  
Ms. Amy Dicello, Interim VP of Finance  
Ms. Jill L. Scott, Secretary to the Council of Trustees

Others in Attendance:

Dr. Jonathan Rothemel, University Senate  
Dr. Brian Loher, APSCUF President  
Dr. Ron Darbeau, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Lock-Haven University  
Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Bloomsburg University

Mr. Erik Evans, Vice President for Advancement, Bloomsburg University  
Ms. Deana Hill, Chief of Staff and Chief Labor Relations Officer, Bloomsburg University  
Mr. Eric Ness, Chief Facilities and Safety Officer, Bloomsburg University  
Mr. Thomas Fletcher, Vice President for Enrollment Management, Bloomsburg University  
Ms. Hope Lineman, Dean Career & Workforce Development, Clarion University  
Ms. Tena Maurer, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, Bloomsburg University  
Ms. Claudia Thrush, CPA, Vice President for Administration and Finance, Bloomsburg University  
Dr. Edward Keller, Interim Associate Vice President for Information Technology, Bloomsburg University

At the start of the public meeting Interim President Hanna introduced members of the Senior Leadership Team who were able to attend today's meeting.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Kilmer asked for public comments and there were none.

### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Ralph H. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Bruce Vickery, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of September 29, 2021 as identified in Exhibit A.

### V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- Integrations

Dr. Ulrich reported the following integration updates:

- MSCHE Complex Substantive Change (CSC) Submission is being reviewed by an evaluation team, they requested follow-up meetings for clarification from leadership members to address questions/concerns and provide updates to ongoing reporting. Anticipate a decision to be made by March 2022 regarding submission.
- Integrated Department Chair elections are completed with 8 Mansfield University faculty standing for elections in which 5 have been elected to serve.
- Integrated Curricular Committee (ICC) duties are being defined with two very qualified members serving from Mansfield University, Teri Doerksen and Jeanne Kagle with Dr. Gretchen Sechrist as a management representative for the group as well.
- ESLP (Early Sick Leave Payout retirement program) the final numbers reflect a total of 12 from Mansfield University employees with 8 of those being faculty members.

#### B. Finance Report (Ms. Dicello)

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

Ms. Dicello shared a review along with answering questions regarding Exhibit B containing \$0.00 in aggregated value for purchase orders over \$21,300 for the period of September 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021.

- Annual Certifying Resolution of Affiliated Entities (Exhibit C)

Ms. Dicello presented the Annual Certifying Resolution of Affiliated Entities with the Trustees in which CCSI has provided direct support for FY 2021 of \$212,467 which includes scholarships, donations, travel, capital and equipment.

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Vice President for Finance and the Interim President, a motion was made by Mr. Patrick Henderson, seconded by Dr. Robert Strohecker and unanimously carried to approve the Annual Certifying Resolution of Affiliated Entities as reflected in Exhibit C.

- Auditors Report

Ms. Dicello reported the Trustees received a presentation by our external auditors Clifton, Larson, Allen in which they provided a review of Mansfield University's financial statements and supplemental information with an unmodified opinion reflective of the highest level of assurance for maintaining clear set of books and no material weakness based on GAAP standards.

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Vice President for Finance and the Interim President, a motion was made by Ms. Sarah Hart, seconded by Ms. Karen Russell and unanimously carried to approve the Auditors Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

#### C. Administration Report (Dr. Battin)

- Demolition Update

Dr. Battin reported the demolition is on schedule with both Pinecrest and Laurel completed the next hall on schedule is Maple. Completion date still anticipated by Fall 2022.

- Build Back Better Grant (MUPSTI)

Dr. Battin shared application submitted in conjunction with the FUND along with 20 letters of endorsement from statewide leadership to enable the creation of a technology training center to build on workforce development across the state.

- Governor Wolf

Dr. Battin reported there is a planned visit by Governor Wolf to Mansfield University primarily to visit the Mansfield University Public Safety Training Institute (MUPSTI) on December 8, 2021.

- ReMax Building Update

Dr. Battin shared an appraisal of the property has been completed on the downtown property.

#### D. Student Affairs Report (Dr. Lee)

- Spring and Fall 2022 Enrollment Report

Dr. Lee shared the following report with the Trustees, for the spring 2022 our total headcount is up by 48 students overall which is a 3.5% increase for spring enrollment year over year. Our fall applications are down currently by 355 which is reflective of overall downturn due to lost recruitment period during the pandemic which is reflective of similar challenges across campuses.

- Fall Recruiting Events

Dr. Lee reported the admissions office has responded in having 4 visit days and 2 academic department open houses in both Health Sciences and Music. The campus community enabled our ability to host an additional visit day in November in which 27 families visited our campus. Conducted two separate events with school counselors one at Lock Haven campus and the other held virtually to engage counselors to help communicate integration information to prospective

students in their schools. Dr. Darbeau and Chancellor Greenstein attended to share the benefits and positivity of integration with approximately 200 key community stakeholders in attendance. Finally, a campaign for enhancing applications with both Mansfield University Alumni and current students is planned to provide links for ability to refer a prospective student to become a Mountie.

- One-Time Funding Initiatives for Recruitment and Retention

Dr. Lee reported receipt of funding to enable enhanced recruiting efforts through spring with 6 prong initiatives to support students via financial, academic and need based resources to enhance student success.

- Local High School Recruitment Initiative

Dr. Lee shared a proposed initiative with local high schools for which is a combined initiative between Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield in which enhanced recruitment efforts for local community in which 12 local high schools for the Mansfield University area and will act to incentive students via additional merit-based aid.

#### E. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (Mr. Jones)

- DEI Update

Mr. Jones reported there were 18 events held on campus this fall semester. These are the start of many more to come here on campus, with special appreciation to the team behind such events including Dave Austin, Nichole Book and Marie Domenech.

Mr. Jones reported Safe Zone Ally awareness training was conducted with 100+ attendees across Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield this fall, look for this to expand further in the spring. He also shared AASCU grant in which Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield have received acceptance and participation into the Transformation Accelerator Cohort which is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

## VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

Chair Kilmer asked for old business and there were none.

## VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

### Emeritus Status

Based on the recommendations of the appropriate department, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and in compliance with a poll of the senior faculty, the President recommends that emeritus status be granted to the following individuals:

Dr. Youngsuck Kim, a faculty member in the Music Department from August 11, 1990 through June 30, 2021.

Dr. Frank Chua, a faculty member in the History, Education, Philosophy, Political Science and Sociology Department from August 14, 1999 through August 20, 2021.

Dr. Kathy Wright, a faculty member in the Nursing and Allied Health Science Department from August 22, 1992 through June 30, 2021.

Upon the recommendation of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and in compliance with a poll of the senior faculty, the President recommends that emeritus status be granted, a motion was made by Ms. Susan Kefover, seconded by Mr. Ralph Meyer and unanimously carried to approve emeritus status.

Council of Trustees Bylaws (Exhibit D)

Upon the recommendation of the Council of Trustees Chairperson and the Interim President, a motion was made by Mr. Max Gannon, seconded by Mr. Aaron Singer and unanimously carried to approve the Council of Trustees Bylaws as reflected in Exhibit D.

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

Chair Kilmer shared with Trustees there may be a change of date for upcoming meeting.

**IX. EDUCATIONAL FEATURE**

There was no education feature at today's meeting.

**X. REPORTS****Interim President, Dr. Bashar Hanna**

Dr. Hanna reported a couple of announcements to share with the Trustees, as you heard Mr. Jones announced the three universities Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield have been accepted into the AASCU Transformation Accelerator Cohort which is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This two-year program has a goal to close the performance gap among our minority students. We have been accepted as one of only 15 institutions nationwide, it is due in part to the efforts made by Albert Jones, Diana Rogers-Atkinson and Marty Wygmans for writing the proposal and was announced at AASCU's annual meeting in November.

Dr. Hanna shared due to the generous donation from a Lock Haven Trustee Margery Dosey by giving 25 Steinway pianos to Lock Haven University that she has authorized to ability to share with both Bloomsburg and Mansfield University as well. She also has authorized donation of 3 Steinway pianos to area high schools. Very thankful to Margery Dosey for her amazing generosity.

Dr. Hanna reported on recent Giving Tuesday in which \$22,000 was raised and although below our stated goal we continue to increase donors year over year. Appreciation to everyone who donated and a special mention to the Alumni Association Board members who led by example with 100% contributing. Appreciation to Ms. Wood and Ms. Neill for their amazing job.

To the students, stay focused and please strive for excellence in everything you do and I am sure our faculty will help you in achieving your goals. Many thanks to all of you and all of our supporters.

**PACT, Trustee Karen Russell:**

Ms. Russell reported PACT is planning a spring conference with information forthcoming.

**SGA**

Ms. Sarah Hart, SGA Treasurer reported on behalf of Ms. Geneva Murray, the SGA has had a successful semester with 15 who joined the organization. The Fall Fest was very successful at the end of October with over 200 attending. Event planned for students this evening to make a stuffed animal, paint and sip hot cocoa at the Kelchner Fitness Center. SGA will be handing out care bags to students to include comfort items such as stress ball, tea, gum to provide everything they might need to get through finals week. Next semester they are planning to hold a kick-off semester concert along with planning for the Annual Spring Fling.

**Senate:**

**APSCUF:**

**SCUPA:**

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Chair Kilmer asked for other business and there were none.

**XII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Council of Trustees Retreat is scheduled for **Wednesday, January, 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the North Hall 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Community Room.**

The next regular meeting of the Mansfield University Council of Trustees is on **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in the North Hall 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Community Room.**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jill L. Scott*

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