

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
VIA ZOOM TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
CONFERENCE CALL  
October 12, 2022  
4:30 PM**

**AGENDA ITEM I – CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Tomlinson called the meeting to order. Chairperson Tomlinson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present were Members: Dozor, Franklin, Ireland, Schick, Silfa, Tomlinson, Ward

Absent but accounted for were Members: Fillippo, Kinsey, Moskowitz

Chairperson Tomlinson proceeds with the meeting after role call is complete. “We met in executive session on August, 31, 2022 from 3:03-3:53 to discuss legal and personal matters. The Council also met today at 4 PM in executive session to discuss personal matters.

Now I'll ask for the approval of minutes of the previous meeting as distributed to the Council of Trustees of the May 19, 2022 meeting as presented.”

**AGENDA ITEM II – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING  
AS DISTRIBUTED TO THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**

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**MOTION (IRELAND/DOZOR)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2022 MEETING AS  
PRESENTED**

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

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### **AGENDA ITEM III – PUBLIC COMMENT: LIMIT OF TEN (10) MINUTES:**

Chairperson Tomlinson continues, “And now public comment. Is there anyone here in person who would like to make any comments to the Council of Trustees? ”

Dr. Jeffery Osgood replies, “I just wanted to say that the ASPCUF President was here but she had a writing center staff meeting so she gives her regrets.”

Chairperson Tomlinson inquires, “Anybody on Zoom?”

Megan Fahey, “No one on Zoom.”

### **AGENDA ITEM IV – REPORT OF THE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Tomlinson, “Just a brief remark, it was a wonderful homecoming, tremendous weather, tremendous crowd, you couldn't drive down near the camps without seeing one group in one place or another place, a couple of great reunions. I know they had a 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, some of the people that I knew came back, not that I've been here for fifty years, but I knew some people came back for that. But it was a great homecoming game, and a great crowd. It's spirited, it's pretty good here, you can feel in the air and walk around talking to people. People love coming out here for homecoming. So, it was a great weekend, Zeb, I enjoyed it.

### **AGENDA ITEM V – REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Chairperson Tomlinson continues, “I now call on President Fiorentino for his report, President Fiorentino.”

President Fiorentino proceeds with his report. “Thank you, Senator. A lot of quick things have been said today, and I want to reflect on a few of those briefly, and then I'll

add some additional things that have gone on at the campus or things that I've been working on. I do want to just take a moment and reflect on the HEED Award, that Tracy Robinson mentioned. Judge, as you pointed out, we've been working very hard for a long time on diversity, equity, inclusion on this campus. But I will say that that when Tracey Robinson came to the campus, I remember the first time we talked about the HEED Award. It was stretched for us to meet the standards because standards were very high and she said to me, I don't know that we're going to qualify for it first time, but it's going to determine what our gaps are, and then we can go from there, so here we are. The first time we did not get it, as I recall, but the three years subsequent to that we have gotten it, and the bar keeps getting raised, and we keep meeting the standard. And Tracey, I know a lot of people participated in the effort, but as far as I'm concerned, you are the leader of that effort and I congratulate you and thank you for your hard work.

Other great things going on – as Zeb mentioned briefly, we had some ribbon cuttings, we finally got the SECC fully open and we got our official certificate of occupancy. It took a while. We had a pandemic in the middle that slowed us down, and a number of other issues but we did three ribbon cuttings, for the dining hall, for the Dewey Centers for Science, and for the learning stairs dedicated by the Alumni Association. The dining hall, named in honor of Bernie Carozza by a gift from Student Services Incorporated (SSI). So, that was a great celebration, very well attended and if you have not had a chance to go through that building, it's absolutely spectacular and I encourage you to take a look.

A word on the 150Forward campaign. Zeb gave us a report, but very encouraging to hear the updates on how we're doing against our goals. We have a lot of things that are going on around that, we continue to have Tanglewood dinners where we host either stewardship events where we are thanking generous donors, or we're in the process of cultivating donors. We're having our third of the semester this week, we host the a group at Tanglewood, a lot of fun and great evenings.

During the pandemic we did a number of events on the lawn of Tanglewood where we have a big tent out there, and they were great. They were very successful, and we decided that just because the pandemic seems to have waned, we shouldn't stop having these great outdoor events when we have nice weather. So, we pitched the big tent up there and we had three events in one week. We had the coaches one day, we had the student ambassadors there, I guess the orientation leaders, and we had a great picnic with the honors students out there on Thursday evening of that week. So, it was wonderful, it's great when the weather is great. Obviously, if it rains it's a little tricky, but we were blessed with three spectacular evenings.

I also wanted to touch on a couple of comments that have been made around the events that we're seeing and the energy. There's just an incredible energy on campus right now, you can feel it everywhere. Everybody's excited to be back, I think everybody has a new appreciation for what it means to be here on the campus and to be engaged. We're seeing large crowds at everything that we're doing; events are very well attended, and it's just, it's a great feeling right now. One of the things I'm noticing, and actually I talked about this the other night at one of the homecoming events which I'll talk about in a minute, we're having more what I would call affinity reunions, where we have for example, the friars get together - we had an 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary event for the friars that was extremely well attended over at the Foundation, and I got a chance to go over there and mingle and there were current students, and then prior to, who had graduated in the 90s, in the 80s, and the 70s, and the interesting thing is that while we still hold the class of '72 or the class of '66, we're finding that those events aren't generating the kind of attendance that we're getting at some of these other affinity-based events.

And one other one that I wanted to touch on from summer, we had the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the athletic training program. Phil Donnelly, who launched that program back in 1972 it was one of the four first accredited programs in athletic training, and the first to admit women in the nation. And this event, it

was held in conjunction with the Athletic Training National Conference, which was held at the Convention Center in Philadelphia, and the attendance was incredible. It was hundreds of people from all different eras at West Chester University, all coming together and celebrating this program. And as we think about going forward and the types of events that we want to hold that will help us generate greater interest from our alumni and greater support for our campaigns, we're really focusing on these type of events more. I think that it's a great opportunity for us to bring alumni together with the groups of people who they tend to have affinity for and the Killinger Foundation is of course classic example of that from a long standing time.

Other things happening.

I have been serving on the negotiating team with APSCUF, the Faculty Union, on negotiations around the integrations, the combinations of the two groups of three schools. And, I have been asked by the Chancellor, and I have agreed to serve once again on the overall negotiations with APSCUF on the successor contract. The agreement expires this coming June, so I will be serving on that bargaining team again. I'm also serving right now, I've agreed to serve, as a co-chair of the regional President's Alliance for the Greater Philadelphia Chamber. We held a great event the other night down at the Aramark building on Market Street, and it was a reception hosted to introduce new Presidents at universities and colleges in the Greater Philadelphia area. This year we have 20 new Presidents in the Greater Philadelphia region. There's a lot of turnover in Presidents these days, so be nice to me. \*laughter\*

Homecoming, a couple comments were made and I do want to reflect on that also. The attendance was great. One of the things that is really coming across loud and clear, is that our alumni are proud of us. They're proud of what's going on at this institution. They talk about it all the time, they're delighted to be here. I'm quick to point out that we have an incredible team of people at this institution who are all pulling towards the same goal of student success. And

it's great to be affiliated with this group of people and it's great to feel the kind of appreciation and recognition that we're getting from the people who have come before us at this institution.

The reunions, there was a class of '72, the class of, it's actually '66 and '67 combined this year. They were small groups, but it was just wonderful to have a chance to mingle with them and catch up with them, and again feel their pride towards the institution, both in terms of the experiences that they had, how they were prepared for their careers, and now how they see the institution moving ahead in ways that are making them proud.

I want to touch a little bit on some of the comments made by Cabinet members. We have done some reorganization of the Cabinet. It's always a good idea to step back and reflect on how you're organized, how things are functioning. And we took a good look at that over the last six months or so, made some changes, and as of now, I'm extremely pleased with how things are working within the Cabinet group. Obviously, we had a little bit of a curve ball thrown in last few weeks, when the Chancellor requested that Laurie Bernotsky head out to Penn West. Essentially, what Laurie has been asked, and not just Laurie, the other people at West Chester University, including me – they're asking us to apply some of the things that we have done here for a long time that have enabled us to be very successful to help the Penn West group, which is the three schools that have integrated into one, Clarion, Edinboro, and Cal, to help them bring things around. They've suffered some significant enrollment declines. They're struggling with how to how to make adjustments to operate efficiently given their new size. And Laurie is out there and I can tell you she's putting in long days, long evenings and doing great work and making us proud carrying the message of West Chester University. And it's in our best interest as an institution for all the schools within the PASSHE system to operate successfully. And so while, it's a challenge for our campus to lose our Executive Vice President and Provost, she is doing great work out there, and it's provided an opportunity for Dr. Jeff Osgood to step up into the role of

Interim Provost and Senior Vice President. And I don't want to make Laurie nervous, but I seem to be moving forward without missing a beat. So, Jeff, thank you for stepping up, all the great work that the rest of the Cabinet members are doing to continue to rally and move the institution forward, even with the absence of Laurie's great leadership.”

Member Schick inquires, “What is the duration of that assignment?”

President Fiorentino responds, “As of now, that assignment is through June 30 of this year. We believe that well, she will not be spending full time out there. She's out there now for a couple of weeks, I expect her back periodically, she's going to be back I think this weekend, and then we'll be there for an extended stint and hopefully, by the time we get into the spring semester she'll be able to do much more of the work remotely. We felt it was important, she felt it was important, that she'd be face-to-face with the people she's working with out there, at least initially, to establish some rapport. There are likely to be things that need to happen beyond this year, but I would anticipate that they would be more likely to be remote. I've also mentioned that one of our Deans, Scott Heinrichs, Dean of the Health Sciences has also been physically out there. A lot of what has to happen out there with Penn West is some capacity building. They have a lot of turnover, and it's one thing to help them to write the ship, but then they need to be able to operate the institution moving forward. And Scott, and others on our leadership team, will be assisting them and trying to develop that capacity so they'll be able to engage in the activities that will generate efficiency and then operate the organization efficiently moving forward.

We had an open forum for students last night. It was a great event, very well attended. Our students had lots of great questions. They were very respectful,

even to the extent that they were bringing up issues and concerns. We appreciate hearing concerns from the students because it helps us understand where the gaps might be with things we need to do better. In some cases, we find that there are things we need to explain more fully to the students. So, I think it was a very effective evening and a lot of great information was exchanged. We have an open forum coming with the faculty in a couple of weeks. Another thing we continue to do, and in light the of the fact that we have been in engaging with open forums, with students and faculty, we recognize that it's important that we also reach out to the other employees on the campus who don't fall into those two categories so Dr. Osgood and I had a conversation about that moving forward, that we need to make sure we're engaging with everybody on the campus, so that they feel they have a voice, so we will. We will be announcing our plans around that shortly.

I want to close with mentioning again, we brought up the fact that the Carnegie classification of the institutions of higher learning, we have been re-designated as an R2, Research 2, University, reflecting the fact that we now have doctoral programs, and that we have a high level of research intensity, and sponsored research. We've mentioned that before. Interesting information that has come to our attention recently. There are 128 R2 universities nationally and we are ranked number 26 in that group for retention and graduation rates, which is incredible. This is now a national designation we talk a lot about being a regional comprehensive, we're quick to add that this renewed designation does not in any way alter our commitment as a teaching institution, but we're now a teaching institution that also boasts very research-oriented faculty, which is providing additional opportunities for our students to engage in research. So, these are all wonderful opportunities for our students, and a great opportunity for us to be in a more national spotlight, which in itself is going to provide additional opportunities for the institution, for the students.

So, that Mr. Chair is my report, and I now ask for the review of Purchase Orders and Contracts for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 through July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Chairperson Tomlinson continues, "Thank you Dr. Fiorentino, and I've been advised we no longer have to approve the Purchase Orders. However, we're going to review them when they are provided to us. Any questions or comments on the contracts? No?"

Chairperson Tomlinson thanks President Fiorentino for his report and continues, "I'd just like to add, I did also call Laurie and tell her that I did not approve of her leaving us to go out west, but I congratulated her, and I think it's a great move. It's a compliment to her abilities, and Jeff and everybody else's abilities here at West Chester. So lets see if we can straighten some things out out there and get things organized. So, I'm very proud of her, but I told her to hurry back. We will miss her."

**AGENDA ITEM VI – REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT:**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM VII – REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM VIII – REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Chairperson Tomlinson continues the meeting, "Would a member of each committee, please report that the committee has met, provide a summary of your committee meeting, and present resolutions of consideration. For Finance and Administration, Chris Franklin, you have a resolution for us?"

Member Ireland interjects, "He had to leave."

Vice Chairperson Dozor reiterates the resolution Member Franklin was to present, the E&G Fund Budget and presents on behalf of the Finance & Administration Committee

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**MOTION (IRELAND/Dozor):**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA HEREBY APPROVES THE 2022-23 EDUCATIONAL & GENERAL BUDGET FOR WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY AS IT IS PROPOSED.**

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

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Vice Chairperson Dozor notes, “We’d like to make a note that we already reviewed that tonight in detail, in public session.”

Chairperson Tomlinson continues, “Yeah, we're gonna come back for that one. Academic and Student Affairs resolution?”

Member Schick informs the COT that there are no resolutions for Academic and Student Affairs.

Chairperson Tomlinson continues, “University of affairs; advancement & external affairs; and diversity, equity and inclusion, Jon?”

Member Ireland gives reads resolution on behalf of University Affairs; University Advancement & External Affairs; and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion.

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**MOTION (IRELAND/Dozor):**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY HEREBY APPROVES THE NAMING UNIVERSITY FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS POLICY [ATTACHED TO THIS RESOLUTION] AS ADOPTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE SYSTEM BOARD OF GOVERNORS' POLICY NO. 1997-03 (NAMING OF STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES) AND OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR PROCEDURE STANDARD NO. 2013-15 (RELATIONSHIPS WITH AFFILIATED ENTITIES).**

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

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**AGENDA ITEM IX – REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE:**

Vice Chairperson Dozor presents, “Jon and Sue and I just want to indicate on the minutes and reflect for a second, that the Trustee Presidential Evaluation Committee met on Monday, on October 10, 2022 on campus from 8:30 AM to 5 PM or so, non-stop. We met with representatives of our University community, and resoundingly with no exceptions all levels of our campus, all constituents are very proud of and enthusiastic of our President Christopher Fiorentino. They're very supportive of our President. They had exceptional things to say about him, and it was a real feel good day and made us proud to be there.”

Chairperson Tomlinson thanks Vice Chairperson Dozor for his Special Committees report and calls on Student Trustee Ward for her report.

## **AGENDA ITEM X – REPORT OF LIASON PERSON TO CONSTITUENCIES:**

Trustee Ward gives her report. “Thank you. So good evening everyone. With the Fall 2022 semester under way in person this academic year, students are keeping busy with many various areas of student life.

First, the office of Student Leadership and Involvement and Awareness of Different Student Organizations in Need hosted two (2) involvement fairs, one in person and one virtual. The in-person fair, was held Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 2 PM. The in-person fair was held outside on the Academic Quad, which engaged 210 unique student organizations and an estimated 3,000-4,000 students attended the fair looking to get engaged. Additionally, the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement hosted a virtual involvement fair on Ram Connect, which is designed to be on student's own time and own pace. The fair digitally engaged 100 unique student organizations, with over 730 participants, 2,117 booth visits, and 633 students clicked “I'm interested.”

Keeping with the theme of the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement. The office is fully staffed with our two assistant directors, Kimberly Fair as well as Patricia Riley.

Next the Office of Wellness Promotion hosted their third annual Fresh Check Day on Wednesday, September 21, from 1-3 PM on the Academic Quad. Fresh Check Day hosted 16 booths that were put on by 14 departments and organizations. There were an estimated 350 students that attended Fresh Check Day, 220 students visited at least five (5) of the booths, and at least 105 students visited at least five (5) booths and completed an optional survey. This went along with their Check Up from the Neck Up Week theme. So, Check Up from the Neck Up Week is a program in collaboration with the Counseling Center to support students and remove stigma surrounding mental health. The week of events included Fresh Check Day, mental health screening, therapy dogs, mindful events, and many many more.

In addition to all of these events, there were also celebrations surrounding homecoming. Events that went on throughout the week for students and included a Pep Rally, homecoming block party, and adopt the spot. This year the homecoming theme was “Rock and Roll,” and the Division of Student Affairs, the Student Activity Council, Athletics, and the Alumni Association all came together to plan and make the week of October 3-8, a memorable one.

Yesterday the Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a Student Town hall in conjunction with the Monthly Council of Organizations meeting on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 PM in Sykes Theatre. This event was an opportunity for students to connect with the President's Cabinet and hope to foster conversation that is both meaningful and relationship building, as well as solution oriented. Student questions and concerns were able to be submitted through Ram Connect, however there was also a live Q&A during the event in which SGA President, Katherine Young moderated.

And finally, the red-flag campaign is being run by the Panhellenic Council in partnership with the Center for Women and Gender Equity; the Center for Women and Gender Equity will be running a green-flag campaign in conjunction. The purpose of the red-flag campaign is to highlight unhealthy relationship patterns and bring awareness to them to prevent dating violence. The campaign is being held in October to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The green flags from the Center of Women and Gender Equity will highlight healthy relationship patterns to showcase both. The event will be held on the Quad October 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 4 PM, and the Wednesday and Thursday after fall break, during the same times. There are 200 of each color flag, and they are expected to use them all and stake them all in the Quad from those timeframes each day the campaign is held, to draw attention to their mission and they want to note that flags will not be out on the Quad after 4 PM on each of those days.

And also today, at 5:30 PM, the Panhellenic Council hosted a women's march with a meeting spot at the ram statue. The red and green flags will be personalized at this event.

End of report.”

Chairperson Tomlinson proceeds, “Julie, thank you very much. So, this is your first meeting?”

Trustee Ward replies, “yes.”

Chairperson Tomlinson, “You did a great job!”

Trustee Ward thanks Chairperson Tomlinson.

**AGENDA ITEM XI – OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM XII – NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM XII – ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Tomlinson adjourns meeting.

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**MOTION (Dozor/Ireland**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 6:25 P.M.**

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

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Respectfully submitted,



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Marian Moskowitz