



PRESIDENT

Mr. Jeffrey Smith, Trustee
Slippery Rock University of
Pennsylvania

March 7, 2020

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. John "Jack" Wabby, Trustee
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Dear Trustees,

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Ms. Milissa S. Bauer, Trustee
Clarion University of Pennsylvania

I guess we aren't going to have Winter this year, so welcome to Spring!

SECRETARY

Ms. Mary Coploff, Trustee
Lock Haven University of
Pennsylvania

Normally, I would have sent this update to you last week, but because the PACT Board and Council Chairs had a special meeting on the 3rd, I wanted to wait until after that meeting to send this to you.

TREASURER

Ms. Karen Russell, Trustee
Mansfield University of Pennsylvania

As you may remember, after Cody Jones, the PASSHE Chief Strategic Relations Officer, provided the COT Chairs with a briefing on the three bills dealing with ACT 188 changes last month, I asked that the Council Chairs and the PACT representatives discuss these bills with all of their trustees.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Mr. Ed Edwards, Trustee
Bloomsburg University of
Pennsylvania

On Tuesday, the PACT representatives and Council Chairs met to share the results of those discussions and to create a consensus document.

Mr. James Raith, Trustee
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

Mr. Stephen DeFrank, Trustee
California University of Pennsylvania

I cannot say enough good things about the meeting on Tuesday. For the first time in my memory, all fourteen universities were represented with the unique perspective of their institution. While there were many differing opinions, all the participants were respectful of each other's point of view. Ultimately, we reached a consensus on all the proposed changes. I then took that information and sent it to the Chancellor for his consideration. A copy of that letter is attached to this report.

Mr. Marcus S. Lingenfelter, Trustee
East Stroudsburg University of
Pennsylvania

Ms. Kathy Pape, Trustee
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Mr. Nathan T. Spade, Trustee
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Richard L. Frerichs, Trustee
Millersville University of
Pennsylvania

Mr. Mike Ross, Trustee
Shippensburg University of
Pennsylvania

While I did not send the final report until Friday, I did give the Chancellor and his team a brief update on the major concerns shared by the trustees. I am very pleased to report that as a result of the trustees' concerns, the Chancellor's office and the

Honorable Stephen Kinsey, Trustee
West Chester University of
Pennsylvania

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legislative group are considering some changes to the legislation before it is finalized.

Among the revisions under consideration are: maintaining the six year trustee term instead of the proposed four year term, changing the language so that the Board of Governors would develop a criteria by which it would recommend to the Governor the removal of a trustee rather than giving that power directly to the Board of Governors, and finally, developing a process by which the Board of Governors could initiate the closing of a university but would not give them the sole ability to do so. These potential revisions appear to satisfy the majority of the concerns addressed in my letter to the Chancellor.

I think this really demonstrates the influence that we, as trustees, have garnered during the new Chancellor's administration. It is a credit to all of you who took the time to discuss these issues and send your message to our meeting in Harrisburg and subsequently to the Chancellor. Congratulations to all of you on a job well done.

The PACT annual conference on April 23rd and 24th is less than two months away. I am sure that this legislation will still be evolving so you will have a chance to hear about it first-hand in addition to some other timely topics. You should be receiving registration information in the very near future. For those of you who will be selecting a new student trustee for next year, please invite both your current student trustee as well as your trustee-elect to attend even if they are not formally appointed.

Finally, for those of you who are still on appointment / reappointment "watch", the Senate will be in session the week of March 16th. Everyone is hopeful that the final group of nominations will be addressed at that time. Obviously, that will cause administrative challenges for those Councils that meet that week or the following week but that is how our system works. The Chancellor's office will notify your Chairs as quickly as it can.

Until next month,

