

**Board of Governors  
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education**

**Meeting Minutes**

296th Meeting  
Wednesday, December 21, 2022  
10:00 a.m.  
Via Zoom

**ATTENDING**

**Board of Governors:**

Robert W. Bogle	Representative Brad Roae
Representative Tim Briggs	Senator Judith Schwank
William A. Gindlesperger	Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)
Abigail Hancox	Larry C. Skinner (Vice Chair)
Secretary Allison Jones	Samuel H. Smith (Vice Chair)
Daniel Klingerman	Neil Weaver
Deputy Secretary Tanya Garcia	Janet L. Yeomans

Chair Cindy Shapira called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance taken at the direction of Chair Shapira established that a quorum of the Board was present.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS** (Full remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira welcomed everyone and stated the purpose of the meeting is to consider the appointment of the Slippery Rock University President and a student member of the Board of Governors to fill the position of former student member, Zakariya Scott who graduated in December.

Chair Shapira explained the presidential search process and its adherence to Board policy and search committee composition.

Chair Shapira acknowledged the leadership of those involved with the presidential search:

- Slippery Rock University Council Chair, Dom Ionta
- Search Committee Chair and Slippery Rock Trustee, Jeff Smith
- Executive Search Consultant, Dana John Cohick, President, RPA, Inc.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **APPOINTMENT OF EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT**

(Full remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira noted that the Board interviewed the top two candidates and determined that Dr. Karen Riley should be appointed as the next president of Slippery Rock University. Chair Shapira provided a brief biography of Dr. Riley and her professional experience in higher education.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPOINTS DR. KAREN RILEY AS THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023, AND AUTHORIZES THE CHAIR AND THE CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS.**

Voice Vote. No opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

### **REMARKS** (Full remarks in video archive)

Dr. Riley offered a few remarks, thanking the Board of Governors, Council of Trustees, and System leaders for the opportunity and looks forward to working with the faculty, staff, students, and the system leaders to advance the broader educational goals for the citizens of Pennsylvania.

**GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE** (Full remarks in video archive) Committee Chair Sam Smith provided an overview of the selection process for the student member of the Board. After the proper vetting, the top two candidates were brought forth for the committee to interview. The Committee recommended student Darrek Harshberger from Penn West University California to be considered for appointment as the next student member of the Board of Governors.

Additional comment was made regarding the appointment process and requesting the student information be provided in advance of the meeting.

President Pehrsson provided a brief summary of Darrek's academic accomplishments and involvement on the PennWest California University campus.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPOINTS DARREK HARSHBERGER OF PENNWEST UNIVERSITY CALIFORNIA, AS THE NEXT STUDENT MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.**

Voice Vote. No opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

For the record, Chair Shapira noted that the Board met in executive session on December 12, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned 10:20 a.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Randy A. Goin, Ph.D.  
Deputy Chancellor

Meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting 12-21-22 - YouTube](#)