

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

**Meeting Minutes**

299th Meeting  
Thursday, July 20, 2023  
9:00 a.m.  
Alexander Grass Campus

**ATTENDING**

**Board of Governors:**

Senator David Argall  
Robert W. Bogle  
Representative Tim Briggs  
Dr. Kimberly McCurdy, Designee for Secretary of Education, Dr. Khalid N. Mumin  
William A. Gindlesperger  
Abigail Hancox  
Darrek Harshberger  
Allison Jones  
Daniel Klingerman  
David M. Maser  
Representative Brad Roae  
Thomas Gombar, Designee for Senator Judith Schwank  
Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)  
Larry C. Skinner (Vice Chair)  
Samuel H. Smith (Vice Chair)  
Skylar Walder  
Secretary Neil R. Weaver  
Janet L. Yeomans

Also, in attendance was Faculty Liaison, Dr. Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak.

Chair Cindy Shapira called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 recognized several new members of the Board of Governors and the State System: Dr. Tina Chiarelli-Helminiak, Faculty Liaison to the Board; Dr. Karen Riley, President of Slippery Rock University; and Dr. Shelley Scherer, President and CEO of the Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education Foundation.

Chair Shapira noted that while the Commonwealth budget awaits approval, she extended thanks to the Governor and General Assembly who have chosen to invest in the State System universities. It is the culmination of the efforts and hard work of the Chancellor and many System leaders. We now have a responsibility to ensure that the dollars that have been granted are used wisely.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **REMARKS BY PACT (Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees)**

(Full remarks in video archive)

Dr. Rich Frerichs, PACT President and Vice Chair, Millersville University Council of Trustees, provided remarks.

#### **REMARKS BY UNION LEADERS** (Full remarks in video archive)

APSCUF President, Dr. Ken Mash provided remarks.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Shapira moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented:

- Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2023
- Meeting Minutes – June 7, 2023
- Audit Committee name change
- Audit Policy updates

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

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

Chancellor Greenstein extended appreciation to the Governor and General Assembly for the six percent budget increase in funding for the State System universities. The increase in funding is indicative of the collaboration with system leaders, union partners, and elected leaders to advocate for the Commonwealth to invest in the students and families of Pennsylvania. Chancellor Greenstein recommended that the Board of Governors not increase tuition for the 2023-2024 academic year.

#### **GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE** (Full remarks in video archive)

Roll call was conducted at the request of Committee Chair Smith and the following members were present: Maser, Jones, Hancox, Gombar for Schwank, and Shapira (ex-officio). Chair Smith reviewed the student trustee appointments as presented in the meeting materials.

Based on input from Dr. Bashar Hanna, President of Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania and the Office of the Chancellor, the Committee recommends the appointment of Tynesha Holloway to the Commonwealth University Council of Trustees.

**MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR MOVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
HEREBY APPOINTS TYNESHA HOLLOWAY TO THE COMMONWEALTH  
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES.**

Voice vote of the committee members. No opposition. The motion passed.

Tynesha Holloway provided remarks and thanked the Board of Governors for the appointment.

**STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE** (Full remarks in video archive)

Roll call was conducted at the request of Committee Chair Maser and the following members were present: Argall, Briggs, Skinner, Harshberger, McCurdy for Secretary Mumin.

Chair Maser reviewed the proposed revisions to Board of Governors Policy 1986-04-A: *Program Review* and Board of Governors Policy 1993-01-A: *General Education*.

Dr. Donna Wilson, Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs, Office of the Chancellor, provided an overview of the changes to each respective policy presented for consideration. Chair Maser noted that the committee met in advance of the Board meeting to review the policy changes as presented for consideration.

**MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 1986-04-A PROGRAM REVIEW AS PRESENTED.**

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

**MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY 1993-01-A: GENERAL EDUCATION AS PRESENTED.**

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

**UNIVERSITY SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Roll call was conducted at the request of Chair Shapira on behalf of Committee Chair Skinner who was present but was not able to moderate the session. The following members were present: Skinner, Weaver, Gindlesperger, Roae, Klingerman, Walder, Yeomans. Chair Shapira and Ms. Molly Mercer, Chief Academic Officer, Office of the Chancellor, provided an overview of the allocation of funds and preliminary budget approval for fiscal year 2023-2024.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM THE SYSTEM'S FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL APPROPRIATION, AS REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENTS 1 AND 2.**

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 PRELIMINARY ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGETS FOR STATE SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES AND OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR REFLECTED IN ATTACHMENT 1.**

Voice vote of the committee. No opposition. The motion passed.

**BOARD CONSIDERATION:**

Chair Shapira presented the following committee recommendations for Board consideration:

- Approval of the student trustee appointment for Commonwealth Lock Haven
- Approval of the *Program Review* policy changes

- Approval of the *General Education* policy changes
- Approval of the appropriation allocation
- Approval of the preliminary budget

**MOTION: THAT THE BOARD APPROVES TODAY’S COMMITTEE ACTIONS.**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

**2023-24 AND TENTATIVE 2024-2025 BASIC TUITION AND TECHNOLOGY FEE RATES**  
(Full remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira offered brief remarks on the 2023-2024 and tentative 2024-25 Basic Tuition and Technology Tuition Fee Rates. This action was deferred from the April 2023 Board of Governors Meeting for consideration today. Several board members offered comments and discussion on the item as presented.

**MOTION: THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE 2023-24 AND TENTATIVE 2024-25 TUITION SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT 1) AND THE 2023-24 AND TENTATIVE 2024-25 TECHNOLOGY TUITION FEE SCHEDULE (ATTACHMENT 2)**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

**RESOLUTION 2023-02: EXERCISING THE FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE, AND FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITIES.**

Chancellor Greenstein provided an overview of the resolution and associated policies. Its purpose is to foster a policy environment that effectuates the Board’s fiduciary responsibilities by promoting efficient, effective and financially sustainable universities that deliver a high quality, affordable education to Pennsylvanians.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES RESOLUTION 2023-02 AND THE ASSOCIATED POLICY MODIFICATIONS AS SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED MATERIALS.**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

**RATIFICATION OF SIDE LETTER WITH APSCUF** (Full remarks in video archive)

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD RATIFIYS THE ATTACHED SIDE LETTER AND AUTHORIZES THE CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE APPROPRIATE DOCUCUMENTS.**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Governor Jan Yeomans moderated the annual election of officers in accordance with the bylaws, which stipulates that the annual election of officers be held in the third quarter of each

calendar year. The term of each officer is effective with board action and continues until the successors are chosen and assume office.

**MOTION: GOVERNOR YEOMANS MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR THE 2023-2024 YEAR:**

**CHAIR: CYNTHIA SHAPIRA**

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE CHAIR: DAVID MASER**

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE CHAIR: SAM SMITH**

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

**SERVICE RESOLUTIONS** (Full Remarks in video archive)

Chair Shapira presented resolutions to the following individuals honoring their contributions and service to the State System:

Dr. Amanda Morris, who recently rotated off the Board and concluded her service as Faculty Liaison. Dr. Morris offered remarks and thanked everyone for their support during her time on the board.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

*WHEREAS, DR. AMANDA MORRIS—A PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AT KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY—WAS ELECTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE SYSTEM'S FACULTY COUNCIL TO SERVE AS CHAIR FOR THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR; AND*

*WHEREAS, IN HER ROLE AS CHAIR SHE ALSO SERVED AS FACULTY LIAISON TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, OFFERING INVALUABLE INSIGHTS AND FACULTY PERSPECTIVE ON CRITICALLY IMPORTANT BOARD ACTIONS; AND WHEREAS, DR. MORRIS WELL AND FAITHFULLY COMPLETED HER SERVICE AS FACULTY COUNCIL CHAIR AND FACULTY LIAISON TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROUDLY RECOGNIZES DR. AMANDA MORRIS FOR HER DEDICATION TO THE STATE SYSTEM, ITS STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND UNIVERSITIES, AND HEREBY HONORS HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.*

Resolution approved by acclamation.

Dr. Dale Elizabeth Pehrsson, who recently retired as President of Penn West University of Pennsylvania.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

*WHEREAS, DR. DALE-ELIZABETH PEHRSSON BEGAN HER SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2018 AS PRESIDENT OF CLARION UNIVERSITY; AND*

*WHEREAS, SHE DISTINGUISHED HERSELF AS AN AMBASSADOR OF HER UNIVERSITY AND OF THE STATE SYSTEM AND SUBSEQUENTLY ASSUMED ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES AS INTERIM PRESIDENT OF EDINBORO UNIVERSITY AND CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY; AND*

*WHEREAS, DR. PEHRSSON WAS CHOSEN TO SERVE AS LEADER OF THE WESTERN INTEGRATION THAT BROUGHT TOGETHER THREE UNIVERSITIES, THEIR PEOPLE, THEIR LEGACIES, AND THEIR STORIES; AND*

*WHEREAS, SHE LAID IMPORTANT GROUNDWORK THAT WILL SERVE THE PENNWEST AND ITS STUDENTS FAR INTO THE FUTURE;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROUDLY RECOGNIZES DR. DALE-ELIZABETH PEHRSSON AS FOUNDING PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN UNIVERSITY, AND EXTENDS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY AND THE STATE SYSTEM.*

Resolution approved by acclamation.

Dr. William Behre, who recently retired as President of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Behre offered remarks and thanked everyone for their support during his time serving as President of Slippery Rock.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

*WHEREAS, DR. WILLIAM BEHRE BEGAN HIS SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2018 AS THE 17TH PRESIDENT OF SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY; AND*

*WHEREAS, HE LED THE UNIVERSITY IN THE CREATION OF THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS, ENHANCED AFFORDABILITY AND INCLUSIVITY FOR STUDENTS, SHEPHERDED IMPORTANT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS, AND ADVANCED CRITICAL SUCCESS METRICS FOR THE INSTITUTION; AND*

*WHEREAS, DR. BEHRE ABLY GUIDED THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH A GLOBAL PANDEMIC THAT UPENDED ALL OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND PROVIDED WISE COUNSEL AND THOUGHT PARTNERSHIP AT THE SYSTEM-LEVEL DURING A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION; AND*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS PROUDLY RECOGNIZES DR. WILLIAM BEHRE AS PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY, AND EXTENDS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY AND THE STATE SYSTEM.*

Resolution approved by acclamation.

Charissa Williams, who recently retired from the State System, Office of the Chancellor as the Coordinator of Board and Trustee Operations. Ms. Williams offered remarks and thanked everyone for their support during her time working at the State System.

**MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

*WHEREAS, CHARISSA WILLIAMS BEGAN HER SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2010 AS A MEMBER OF THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE; AND*

*WHEREAS, SHE SERVED THROUGH THREE CHANCELLORIAL TRANSITIONS – PROVIDING CLEAR, UNWAVERING SUPPORT TO THE SYSTEM LEADERSHIP, THE CHANCELLOR'S TEAM, AND THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, AND*

*WHEREAS, CHARISSA HAS BEEN A CHAMPION FOR AND SHEPHERD OF TRUSTEE RELATIONS AND PROVIDED INVALUABLE SUPPORT TO PACT AND ITS LEADERSHIP;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS SINCERELY THANKS MS. WILLIAMS FOR HER DEDICATION, ENERGY, AND SERVICE, AND IN DOING SO DECLARES THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023 AS "CHARISSA WILLIAMS DAY" IN THE STATE SYSTEM.*

Resolution approved by acclamation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

For the record, Chair Shapira noted that the Board met in executive session on July 19, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:25 p.m. to discuss contractual and personnel matters.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Randy A. Goin, Ph.D.  
Deputy Chancellor

Meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting July 2023 - YouTube](#)