

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, HELD AT THE KOVALCHICK CONVENTION AND ATHLETIC COMPLEX, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023, AT 5:00 P.M., PURSUANT TO NOTICE GIVEN.**

Samuel H. Smith, chair of the IUP Council of Trustees, called the meeting to order.

**The following council members were present:**

Mr. Samuel H. Smith, Chair	Mr. A. Tim Cejka
Mrs. Laurie A. Kuzneski, Vice Chair	Mrs. Susan S. Delaney
Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman, Secretary	Ms. Shagufta Haque*
Mrs. Anne White, Treasurer	Mr. Mark A. Holman
Mrs. Jennifer E. Baker	Mr. David Osikowicz

\*Ms. Haque needed to be excused briefly for some of the morning conference/workshop and working lunch; however, she did attend the remainder of the meetings and the public meeting.

**The following council members were excused:**

Mr. Nathan T. Spade

**The following advisory group members were invited to attend:**

Dr. Bryan Seal, IUP Senate Chair  
Mrs. Regina Stover, Foundation for IUP Board President  
Ms. Leslie Purser, IUP Alumni Association Board President  
Dr. Dennis Frketich, IUP APSCUF President  
Mrs. Erin Fritz Wood, IUP SCUPA President  
Ms. Koga Chilume, IUP Graduate Student Assembly President  
Ms. Abigail Hancox, IUP Student Government Association President

*Ex officio:* Dr. Daniel Greenstein, chancellor, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, was not present.

**The following university administrators attended:**

Dr. Michael A. Driscoll, President  
Dr. Lara Luetkehans, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Debra Fitzsimons, Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Dr. Thomas C. Segar, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Ms. Jennifer Dunsmore, Interim Vice President for University Advancement  
Ms. Paula Stossel, Strategic Advisor to the President for Student Success  
Dr. Francisco Alarcón, Professor and Chair, Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences

**IUP COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES' EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

The IUP Council of Trustees met in executive sessions to discuss personnel issues, collective bargaining/labor relations matters, acquisition of real estate, litigation, academic issues, and other privileged and confidential matters.

## **READING AND CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE IUP COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES HELD ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2023, BE APPROVED.**

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Dr. Driscoll opened by saying that a lot has happened at IUP since the last meeting of the IUP Council of Trustees. The fall semester is almost over. IUP had overall enrollment of 9,254 students—the first year-to-year increase in 11 years. IUP is up 422 students from last year, the largest gain in the State System. That’s great news considering the state of higher education across the country, where most schools are competing for fewer students.

This weekend at the commencement ceremonies here at the Kovalchick Complex, IUP will be adding 521 new graduates to the alumni family. It will be exciting to see what they’ll do when they leave here. They are confident, prepared, and ready to flourish, Dr. Driscoll said.

Last month, the university held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Kopchick Hall, IUP’s new science building. Next month, Kopchick Hall will be open. At one time, a new building for IUP’s science work seemed like an impossibility. But it’s now here, and students and faculty are excited about the possibilities it will bring. So is he, Dr. Driscoll said.

As Kopchick Hall is opening, IUP is saying goodbye to several buildings on campus that are no longer needed. Fencing is up, and demolition has begun at the Reschini House, R&P office building, University Towers, Eicher Hall, and Pratt Hall. Soon, Kopchick Hall’s predecessor, Weyandt Hall, will be razed.

Dr. Driscoll said he would be remiss if he didn’t take the opportunity to speak about a topic that has generated some public interest. IUP’s plan is that, next fall, students in the Cook Honors College will not live in Whitmyre Hall, where all first-year, and some returning, honors college students have lived in 23 of the past 28 years. However, they will continue to take their core classes in Whitmyre. In fall 2024, honors college students will live in a living-learning community in one of IUP’s suite-style residence halls, much like their predecessors did when Whitmyre was closed for renovation, taking advantage of the amenities that today’s students want.

The draft Long-Range Facilities Master Plan, which the council has been reviewing, includes options for Whitmyre Hall, which is expensive to operate and which will need some costly maintenance in the next few years, the president said. One option includes its eventual demolition, but the draft plan has not yet been approved, and statements that a decision has been made to demolish Whitmyre are not correct. Should IUP move forward with razing Whitmyre, a plan would be in place to house the honors college in a location that will support its philosophy and programming—including the living-learning community and having classrooms, office space for the honors college administration, and gathering spaces for students in one area in the building, which would mirror the current honors college offerings in Whitmyre Hall.

Data from a recent student survey clearly indicates that many of today’s students do not want to live in Whitmyre Hall, because it lacks the privacy and square footage that IUP’s suites offer. Students with disabilities or other special needs are also challenged by living conditions in the building.

Wherever it is located, the honors college will remain a vital part of IUP’s offerings. Dr. Driscoll said IUP’s leadership is proud of the history and traditions of the Cook Honors College and looks forward to its growth and evolution in the years and decades to come.

The demolition of the buildings that is under way has been in the works for a long time. But now IUP is making a new Long-Range Facilities Master Plan, replacing the one that the IUP Council of Trustees approved in 2010 and updated in 2011, 2014, and 2017. To create the new master plan, the university has brought in consultants, held public input sessions, and presented multiple plans to use IUP's buildings and grounds in the best ways.

The result will likely mean some departments and offices that have been in one location for a long time may end up moving to another building. Those decisions are not yet final, Dr. Driscoll said, but they will be made to organize the campus in ways that make the most sense, taking into consideration student and faculty needs as well as the changing size of IUP.

That's also part of the rationale behind the Academic Restructuring Plan, in which IUP is evaluating all academic offerings and working to organize them better to streamline students' opportunities. There are multiple ways IUP could reorganize the colleges, and these have been presented to the IUP community.

There is still a bit more work to be done before the final plan can be announced, but some good work has been done by different areas of IUP, and the final plan is expected to be a benefit to students, Dr. Driscoll said.

The university currently has five academic colleges but is working to add a sixth, the IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine. The IUP Council of Trustees endorsed this plan a year ago, and much progress has been made, Dr. Driscoll said. One of the biggest pieces was put into place last month when Miko Rose was hired as the college's founding dean. She comes to IUP from Pacific Northwest University, where she was the assistant dean for Clinical Education. Dr. Driscoll recognized that Dr. Rose is present today. With Dr. Rose in place, IUP is one step closer to accreditation from the American Osteopathic Association's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation, which is a three- to five-year process that will include site visits and feasibility studies.

At the last trustees meeting, a list of seven presidential goals was introduced for the next five years. They are seven things that if all members of the faculty, staff, and administration incorporate into their daily work, Dr. Driscoll believes, it will ensure IUP has a brighter future.

One of the seven goals is to educate new student groups, and the proposed college of osteopathic medicine fits well into that goal by bringing in students who want to be doctors of osteopathic medicine. No public university in Pennsylvania currently has an osteopathic medical school, and if IUP is successful in launching its medical school, it will offer an affordable option that will help the rural parts of the state that are badly in need of medical professionals, Dr. Driscoll said.

The first of the seven presidential goals is to keep every student who comes to IUP. That's a broad statement that speaks to retention and persistence, as it's clear that far too many students have come to IUP but left before graduation for one reason or another, Dr. Driscoll said.

For too long, students have found that IUP's bureaucracy sometimes put barriers in their path to success. Sometimes the bureaucracy worked well for employees but was difficult for students. IUP has changed many things in this area to help students stay on track, and the most ambitious of these was to install an academic success infrastructure that ensures all students have what they need to succeed.

The keystone to this infrastructure is the Navigators program. This summer, the university hired 15 new staff members and trained them to be the front line of student support. Each of IUP's 9,254 students has been assigned to a navigator, and results show that the university is on the right track, Dr. Driscoll said.

He gave one proof point: One student was feeling uneasy after some off-campus violence earlier this semester. He wasn't sure if he wanted to stay at IUP. But he reached out to his navigator, Marcia Briscoe, and she listened to his concerns. She even met with his mother to hear her worries.

Ms. Briscoe showed the student and his mother all the resources IUP offers to help students cope with any event they encounter, and soon after, he decided to stay at IUP. He reached out to Ms. Briscoe a few weeks later and said he was doing well and was glad he did not give up and go home.

There have been many, many other stories like that, but that one explains why navigators are needed and are so critical to IUP's future as a student-centered university, Dr. Driscoll said.

He closed his report with an athletics update. This fall, IUP saw the resurgence of the women's volleyball team. The Crimson Hawks, under second-year coach Lo Hoyer, advanced to the NCAA Division II tournament, and in the regional semifinals, they upset two-time defending regional champion Gannon. Although IUP lost in the regional final, the playoff run shows the trajectory this program is on.

IUP also had more solid seasons from traditional powers men's golf and women's tennis, and many of the other fall teams made their mark with good seasons. The winter season has begun, and IUP is excited about the progress of the men's and women's basketball teams, as well as swimming and diving.

And just last weekend, the IUP's men's rugby club team won the College Rugby Association of America Division II national championship in the 15s division by beating the University of Memphis in Houston, Texas. That's a great accomplishment for those young men who continue to shine on the national stage.

As he wrapped up, Dr. Driscoll took a moment to thank Patty Kane and the Events team for their administrative support and work behind the scenes, Aramark for preparing the food, the Kovalchick Complex for ensuring a pleasant meeting place, the IUP Council of Trustees for its incredible work, and the support of faculty, staff, and students.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT BE ACCEPTED.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were two members of the public wishing to make a comment. Luke Piper and Tracy Collins both expressed their concerns about the future of Whitmyre Hall and the Cook Honors College.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Administration and Finance Committee reviewed and discussed the items appearing on pages 46 through 59 of the Docket Report and in Exhibits 1 through 8, which depict highlights of the Administration and Finance Division.

### **PRESENTATION: Comments by Vice President**

Vice President Debra Fitzsimons presented action and discussion items related to the Administration and Finance Committee. She provided comments related to the general business, administrative, and financial operations of the university. Discussion highlights included the Comprehensive Planning Process (CPP) September 22, 2023, Report and the IUP Annual Security Report and Fire Safety Report—Crime and Fire Statistics Representing Calendar Years 2020, 2021, and 2022.

**Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the IUP Alumni Association**

The committee reviewed the Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the IUP Alumni Association.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this resolution is approved by action of the IUP Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held December 14, 2023, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

**Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the Foundation for IUP**

The committee reviewed the Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the Foundation for IUP.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this resolution is approved by action of the IUP Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held December 14, 2023, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

**Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the IUP Research Institute**

The committee reviewed the Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the IUP Research Institute.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this resolution is approved by action of the IUP Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held December 14, 2023, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Cejka commented that, as was reported earlier, IUP received grants of more than \$19 million. He extended congratulations to IUP for making that happen.

**Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for Residential Revival Indiana**

The committee reviewed the Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for Residential Revival Indiana.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this resolution is approved by action of the IUP Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held December 14, 2023, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

**Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the Student Cooperative Association**

The committee reviewed the Certifying Resolution: Board of Governors Policy 1985-04-A, University External Financial Support for the Student Cooperative Association.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this resolution is approved by action of the IUP Council of Trustees during the quarterly meeting held December 14, 2023, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

## **REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Before reading his report, Mr. Holman shared that, earlier this week, a close friend and IUP alumnus, Brad McGarry, lost his battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Mr. McGarry was an international advocate for people on the autism spectrum. He was a saint that changed the world and made IUP proud, Mr. Holman said.

### **Approval of IUP-APSCUF Representative Council Actions**

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the following actions, which have the endorsement of the president and the provost, be approved. Because of the large number of actions, only a few were highlighted. Mr. Holman noted that, for complete information, please refer to the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council Actions document provided and available on the website.

- Program revisions approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its September 7, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Department of Geography, Geology, Environment, and Planning
    - Geospatial Intelligence Certificate
- Program moratorium approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its September 7, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the College of Arts and Humanities
    - Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies
- Program revisions approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its October 19, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Department of Geography, Geology, Environment, and Planning
    - Uncrewed Aircraft Systems Science and Applications Certificate (includes name change)
  - From the Department of Foreign Languages
    - Foreign Language Certificate in Chinese
    - Foreign Language Certificate in French
    - Foreign Language Certificate in German
    - Foreign Language Certificate in Spanish
    - Spanish for Safety Sciences Certificate
- New certificate approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its October 19, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Department of Art and Design
    - Digital Design and Fabrication Certificate
- Program revisions approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 9, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the College of Arts and Humanities
    - Big Ideas Certificate
  - From the Department of Biology
    - Wildlife and Conservation Biology Minor
  - From the Department of Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science

- Pre-athletic Training, Bachelor of Science
- From the Department of Anthropology
  - Applied Anthropology, Bachelor of Arts
  - Archaeology, Bachelor of Arts
  - Cultural Competencies Certificate
- From the Department of Foreign Languages
  - French Minor
  - German Minor
  - Spanish Minor
  - Spanish, Bachelor of Arts
- From the College of Education and Communications
  - Career and Technical Personnel Preparation, Bachelor of Science in Education (includes name change)
- Program moratoriums approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 9, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Madia Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics, and Engineering
    - Pre-pharmacy Track, Chemistry, Bachelor of Science
  - From the Department of Foreign Languages
    - Spanish Honors Program
- New certificate approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 9, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
    - Ethics Certificate
- New program approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 9, 2023, meeting as follows:
  - From the Department of Management
    - MBA in Business Analytics

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE ACTIONS APPROVED AT THE SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, AND NOVEMBER 2023 MEETINGS OF THE IUP-APSCUF REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL, WHICH WERE SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY PRESIDENT DRISCOLL.**

During a closed workshop with the IUP Council of Trustees, Provost Lara Luetkehans provided an update on the IUP Academic Program Review and Restructuring process. During the workshop, the provost shared the proposed academic college structure, which includes the College of Arts, Humanities, and Media; the College of Education and Human Services; the Eberly College of Business; the Kopchick College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; the College of Health Sciences; and the University College. It was requested that the IUP Council of Trustees endorse the direction of the plans for the academic structure. Final changes will be presented to the IUP Council of Trustees for official approval at its quarterly meeting on March 7, 2024.

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES ENDORSE THE PLANS FOR THE ACADEMIC STRUCTURE.**

Next Provost Luetkehans introduced Hilliary Creely, dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Dean Creely shared brief updates from IUP's research administration team and introduced Tracy Eisenhower, who was appointed executive director of the IUP Research Institute on November 27 after the successful conclusion of a national search. Dr. Creely reported that the IUP Research Institute is a separate 501(c)(3) affiliate that acts as IUP's office of sponsored projects and additionally provides contracted research administration services to PennWest and Commonwealth universities. Dr. Eisenhower provided details about IUP's FY2022-23 sponsored projects portfolio. Specifically, in 2022-23, IUP researchers submitted 116 proposals requesting a total of \$29 million, of which 76 proposals were selected for funding, bringing in a record \$19.8 million to the institution. Dr. Creely further reported that IUP's status as an R2 doctoral research university within the Carnegie Classification System is determined by two factors: the number of doctoral degrees awarded each year and the amount of qualifying research expenditures as reported in the annual National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development (NSF HERD) report. Dr. Creely shared that IUP's total NSF HERD research expenditures as reported for the most recent survey (FY2021-22) were \$6.3 million.

Provost Luetkehans introduced Waleed Farag, director of the IUP Institute for Cyber Security (ICS). Dr. Farag reported that the institute has had significant accomplishments that raise IUP's profile, not only regionally but throughout the US. The most recent substantial accomplishment was securing initial funding of \$4.98 million, with a total of \$11 million anticipated, for the largest grant in IUP history for the Pennsylvania Community College Consortium Cooperative Agreement (PC4A). This is a consortium of IUP and six community colleges working together to strengthen the nation's cybersecurity workforce. The project is funded by the US Department of Defense National Defense Education Program, and it received one of only five awards issued in the country in 2022. Its three major objectives are increasing certification attainment rates, increasing transfers to four-year institutions, and increasing interest in Department of Defense employment.

## **REPORT OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES**

The Student Affairs Committee met today with Vice President for Student Affairs Tom Segar.

Dr. Segar provided a presentation on the revised Student Affairs organizational structure. He began by reviewing the direct reports to the vice president for Student Affairs. These are the executive director of Undergraduate Admissions, director of Graduate Admissions, director of Admissions Operations, director of Financial Aid, executive director of Communications and Media Relations, executive director of Marketing, director of University Branding, Intercollegiate Athletics chairperson/director, dean of students, and associate vice president for Student Life. The executive director and CEO of the Student Cooperative Association has a dotted reporting line to Dr. Segar and is a member of his leadership team.

Dr. Segar then described the reporting structures for these areas: Admissions—Graduate, Operations, and Undergraduate; Athletics; Brand Management, Marketing and Communications, and Media Relations; Financial Aid; dean of students; and Student Life.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Approval of President Michael A. Driscoll's 2022-23 Annual Review Report**

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE 2022-23 ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT FOR PRESIDENT MICHAEL A. DRISCOLL BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED.**



Chair Sam Smith thanked Jennifer Baker for leading the effort and writing the evaluation report for President Driscoll.

**Approval of Strategic Plan Extension to 2020-2028**

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE IUP COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES REAFFIRM ITS DECEMBER 2020  
ENDORSEMENT OF IUP’S STRATEGIC PLAN AND ENDORSE A CHANGE TO ITS  
PERIOD OF APPLICABILITY TO 2020-2028.**

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE NEXT MEETING DATE**

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES BE HELD MARCH 7, 2024.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The following motion was approved by the IUP Council of Trustees:

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 5:45 P.M.**

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**Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman**  
**Secretary, IUP Council of Trustees**

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**On behalf of Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman**