

Board of Governors
Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education
Meeting Minutes
317th Meeting
Thursday, April 16, 2026
9:00 a.m.
Alexander Grass Campus
Harrisburg, PA

ATTENDING:

Board of Governors:

Robert W. Bogle
Representative Tim Briggs
Dr. Quintin Bullock
Richard Caruso
Dr. Brandon Danz
William Gindlesperger
Abigail Hancox, student member
Senator Art Haywood
Dr. Lynette Kuhn, Designee for Carrie Rowe
David Maser (Vice Chair)
Erin Marsicano, Designee for Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver
Katharine Paisley, Designee for the Governor
Mark-handy Phanor, student member
Representative Brad Roae
Dr. Cynthia D. Shapira (Chair)
Ali Sina Sharifi, student member
Samuel H. Smith (Vice Chair)
Dr. Robert Traynham
Secretary Neil Weaver

Also, in attendance was Faculty Liaison, Dr. Jamie Phillips.

Chair Cindy Shapira called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Attendance was taken; a quorum of the Board was present.

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

Chair Shapira marked the close of the academic year, encouraging students to finish strong and prepare for their next steps. She thanked faculty and staff for their dedication to student success, and the meaningful skills students are gaining.

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

Dr. Ken Mash, President, on behalf of the Association of Pennsylvania State College & University Faculties; he yielded to Dr. Jessica Hughes, Millersville University

PUBLIC COMMENT *(Full remarks in video archive)*

Dr. Jill Craven, Retiree, Millersville University

REMARKS BY PACT PRESIDENT *(Full remarks in video archive)*

Dr. Rich Frerichs, President, on behalf of the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees

CONSENT AGENDA *(Full remarks in video archive)*

- Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2026
- Reappointment of Student Board Member
- Update on Academic Program Changes (Informational-Only)

MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE CONSENT AGENDA BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

Voice vote. No opposition. The motion passed.

PRESENTATION OF THE ALI- ZAIDI AWARD *(Full remarks in video archive)*

The Board of Governors recognized Slippery Rock University student Abby Becker as the 2026 recipient of the Syed R. Ali-Zaidi Award for Academic Excellence and approved presentation of a \$2,500 award. Funding for this academic excellence award was made possible through gifts from Dr. Ali-Zaidi, Highmark Inc., and the State System Foundation, Inc.

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: David Maser, Abigail Hancox, Robert Traynham, Cynthia Shapira (ex-officio), and President Karen Riley (non-voting president liaison).

MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPOINTS:

- **KAITLYN MACAULEY TO THE KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES,**
- **EMMA KILLMEYER TO THE MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES,**
- **ADDISON GREGORY AND RAEHEL BRAUN TO THE PENNWEST UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES,**
- **HENRY MOHL TO THE SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES,**
- **ALEX MOMYER TO THE SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES, AND**
- **LYLAH SHOTTO TO THE WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES.**

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

MOTION: COMMITTEE CHAIR MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPOINTS BRENNA MCGOWAN OF KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY AND SADE TAYLOR OF PENNWEST UNIVERSITY AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE SYSTEM'S ENABLING LEGISLATION, AS AMENDED.

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

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

Chancellor Fiorentino recognized Rich Frerichs for his service and acknowledged outgoing student Board members. He emphasized the importance of the student voice and looked forward to welcoming two new student Board members. Reflecting on his first year as Chancellor, he shared that campus visits provided a valuable perspective and reaffirmed his commitment to the System. He noted pride in PASSHE's accomplishments despite ongoing challenges.

PASSHE FOUNDATION UPDATE *(Full Remarks in video archive)*

Dr. Shelley Scherer, President and CEO, reviewed the Foundation's evolution since its launch in the 1980s and highlighted the recently adopted strategic plan, 2030 Vision for Impact, which positions the Foundation to strengthen connections between education and opportunity.

BOARD CONSIDERATION *(Full remarks in video archive)***MOTION: CHAIR SHAPIRA MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIONS AS PRESENTED.**

- Student trustee appointments
- Student board member appointments

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

APPOINTMENT OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT *(Full Remarks in video archive)***MOTION: THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. JEFF OSGOOD AS PRESIDENT OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA EFFECTIVE APRIL 17, 2026, AND AUTHORIZES THE CHAIR AND CHANCELLOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS.**

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

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

The Board acknowledged the contributions of Dr. Rich Frerichs, outgoing President of the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees, for his service. The Board also acknowledged the service of outgoing student members Abigail Hancox and Mark-Handy Phanor.

ADJOURNMENT

For the record, Chair Shapira reported that the Board of Governors met in executive session on April 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and April 15 from 3:15 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. to discuss personnel and contractual matters.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randy A. Goin, Ph.D.

Deputy Chancellor

Meeting webcast is available here: [BOG Meeting 04-16-2026](#)