

Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education  
**KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY**  
**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES**  
December 14, 2023

The Council of Trustees met on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the McFarland Student Union Building, Room 250.

**PRESENT:**

Mr. Robert Grim, Esq., Chairman.....Kutztown  
Mr. Kevin Harden Jr., Esq. Secretary.....Philadelphia  
Mr. Thomas Heck.....Wyomissing  
Mr. James Ludlow.....Fogelsville  
Ms. Dianne Lutz .....Wernersville  
Mr. Guido Pichini.....Wyomissing Hills  
Mr. John Wabby.....Pottsville  
Ms. Sandy Green.....Kutztown  
Ms. Payton Mentzer, Student Trustee.....Reading

**ABSENT:**

Mr. Phillips Armstrong.....Lehigh County  
Mr. Dennis Giorno, Vice-Chair.....Harrisburg

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dr. Lorin Basden Arnold, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Dr. Anne Carroll, Dean, College of Business  
Mr. Matt Delaney, Vice President for Finance and Facilities  
Ms. Natalie Einsig, PASSHE, University Legal  
Dr. Lisa Frye, University Senate President  
Dr. Albert Fu, APSCUF President  
Dr. Kenneth S. Hawkinson, University President  
Mrs. Ann Marie Hayes Hawkinson, Associate to the President  
Ms. Renee Hellert, Director of Intercollegiate Athletic Services  
Mr. Jordan Davis, Student Presenter  
Ms. Venus Watkins, Mother of Student Presenter  
Dr. Laurie McMillan, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Mr. Jim Clements, Football Coach  
Mr. Kamron Wolfe, Football Captain  
Mr. Alex Ogeka, Executive Director, Kutztown University Foundation  
Dr. Stephen Oross III., Associate Professor, Psychology  
Mr. Jesus Peña, Esq., Vice President Equity, Compliance and Legal Affairs  
Ms. Tania Brown Berringer, Director of Military & Veteran Services  
Ms. Pam Rex, Senior Executive Associate to the President  
Mr. Bryan Salvadore, Director of Communications  
Mr. Matthew Santos, Vice President, University Relations and Athletics  
Dr. Jennifer Schlegel, Associate Professor, Anthropology/Sociology  
Mr. Erik Burstein, Women's Soccer Coach  
Ms. Amy Sandt, Assistant VP Recreation & Athletics  
Mr. Christopher Sponagle, Multimedia Producer  
Mr. Scott Stamm, Client Technology and Support

Ms. Amanda Volkert, Executive Director of Health and Wellness Services  
Ms. Shannon Merkey, Office Manager Health and Wellness Services  
Chief Dave Drezek, Chief of Police  
Ms. Diana LoChiatto, Secretary Anthropology/Sociology Department  
Ms. Carol Sztaba, University Architect  
Professor Carol Haney-Watson, EMLT  
Associate Professor Robert Ryan, Psychology Department  
Ms. Isabella Rossetti, Soccer  
Ms. Sadie Goad, Soccer  
Ms. Sarah Gatehouse, Field Hockey  
Ms. Jillian Buchman, Field Hockey  
Ms. Breann Craley, Field Hockey  
Ms. Marci Scheuing, Field Hockey Coach  
Ms. Amber Auchenbach, Field Hockey  
Family of Mr. John (Jack) Wabby

1. **Call to Order**

At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Grim called the meeting to order.  
Chairman Grim noted that an Executive Session was held and no action was taken.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

3. **Roll Call of Council Members**

Attendance was taken at the direction of Chairman Grim which established that a quorum of the Council was present.

4. **Remarks by Mr. Robert Grim, Council Chairperson**

Mr. Robert Grim welcomed everyone to the final public meeting of the Kutztown University Council of Trustees for the 2023 calendar year.

He introduced Ms. Sandy Green as KU's newest trustee member approved by the Senate yesterday in Harrisburg. She served as mayor of the Borough of Kutztown for 12 years and was the first female ever to hold that position. Ms. Green was the former vice president of Kutztown Community Partnership. She was presented the Kutztown University President's Medal in December 2017, the first female recipient and the first non-KU alumnus to receive the medal. She also serves the University as community liaison and government relations assistant.

Mr. Grim expressed we have much to celebrate, as we have had a banner fall semester at the university, and a very exciting few weeks since the last meeting. This meeting is always special for the Trustees as they vote to approve graduate and undergraduate degrees for nearly 400 KU students. Diplomas will be awarded during our fall commencement ceremony this Saturday at 10 a.m. at the O'Pake Field house. The ceremony will feature student and faculty speakers, and the awarding of the honorary doctorate to Mr. Mark Weaver, esquire, class of 1983.

He concluded with this time of year we should be thankful for everything we have, including being part of such a great institution. He said, on behalf of the Council of Trustees, he wished the entire Kutztown University community a very happy 2023 holiday season.

5. **Resolution for Mr. John (Jack) Wabby**

Mr. Robert Grim introduced Mr. John (Jack) Wabby's family joining today for the special ceremony. Jack's wife, Arlene, daughters, Brenda and Jennifer, and his oldest grandson, Jon. Mr. Wabby's daughter, Jennifer, KU alumna, spoke about her time at KU and what KU means to her and her family.

The Kutztown University Council of Trustees approved a resolution recognizing Mr. John (Jack) Wabby '68 for his contributions and service to Kutztown University. Mr. Wabby announced his retirement after serving 31 years as a member of the KU Council of Trustees.

Mr. Robert Grim, along with Dr. Ken Hawkinson, presented a resolution to Mr. John (Jack) Wabby. Ms. Dianne Lutz recited the citation Mr. Wabby received from the Senate of Pennsylvania signed by Senator David Argall and Senator Judy Schwank.

Dr. Ken Hawkinson thanked Mr. Wabby for everything he's done to support and mentor him over the years. Mr. Guido Pichini expressed his appreciation to Mr. Wabby for all he has done for Kutztown University and noted that he is the epitome of what a trustee should be serving in this role. Mr. Wabby thanked everyone and shared that Kutztown University will always be his favorite place and he will always do what he can for KU.

6. **Remarks by Mr. Gavin Stone, Student Government Board President**- no remarks presented

7. **Remarks by Dr. Kenneth S. Hawkinson, University President**

Kutztown University and the Kutztown Community Partnership were honored for the Keith Haring Fitness Court with the coveted Building Berks Award, presented by the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance in November. This esteemed accolade celebrates the remarkable synergy of art, health and community unity brought to life through this groundbreaking initiative. The Keith Haring Fitness Court stands as a symbol of community innovation, a collaborative effort between the Kutztown Community Partnership and Kutztown University. Accepting the award were Duane Crider, professor, sport management; Carol Sztaba, university architect; and Sandy Green, community liaison and government relations assistant. They were all recognized at the meeting.

Kutztown University was ranked in Military Times' 2023 Best for Vets: Colleges rankings for the ninth straight year. Military Times is the largest and most comprehensive ranking of schools for military service members and veterans. KU offers many services for veterans, military members and military-affiliated students who are using their veteran parent benefits, including a Military and Veterans Services Office who celebrated their 10-year anniversary this year. Ms. Tania Brown Berringer, Director of Military & Veterans Services, was recognized.

Dr. Maria Asteriadou, professor of piano and chamber music, was inducted into the esteemed Steinway and Sons Teacher Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony, recognizing her outstanding commitment to piano instruction, took place at the prestigious Historic Steinway factory in New York City.

There has been a transition in the position of Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs and Dr. Hawkinson was delighted that Dr. Stephen R. St. Onge has agreed to accept this position. At the time of our recent national search for a vice president of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Dr. St. Onge was recognized and recommended as a top candidate for this position. He brings enormous experience, having served as a vice president in

the past and in many other roles within his discipline. He also has impressive experience as a teacher, scholar, and provider of service in the area of student affairs and enrollment management. His official start date in March 4, 2025 and I look forward to introducing him to the trustees in the March meeting.

Serving as Acting VP of EMSA is Matt Delaney, current VP of Finance and Facilities. VP Delaney has extensive experience in many of the areas that fall under Enrollment Management & Student Affairs and has displayed exceptional leadership skills during his time as an administrator at Kutztown University. Dr. Hawkinson thanked Matt for being willing to take on this important role.

One of the highlights at the university in recent weeks has been the success of our fall Golden Bear athletic teams. Three of our teams were recognized:

The KU women's soccer team finished 15-2-5 overall, went unbeaten in the regular season for the first time in program history, won the PSAC East, and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament.....With us at the meeting were women's soccer head coach and regional coaching staff of the year award winner, Erik Burstein, along with his 2023 team captains. Coach Burstein and captains were recognized and Coach Burstein spoke briefly.

The Golden Bear football team finished a banner 2023 season with a school-record 12 consecutive wins to capture their sixth PSAC East championship, third Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Championship, and first ever Super Region I Championship, which propelled them to the national semi-finals in Golden Colorado this past weekend. PSAC and AFCA Regional coach of the year Jim Clements, and his captains, were at the meeting along with the Regional Championship Trophy. Coach Clements shared brief remarks.

The KU field hockey team won the NCAA Division II National Championship, the first national championship in our 130-year history of Golden Bear varsity athletics. Our team finished the season with a school record 19 wins, and just 3 losses. We also set a school record with 14 shutouts. After earning a bid to the NCAA playoffs, we posted a 2-1 win over Pace here at KU in the first round. We then had exhilarating 2-1 come-from-behind wins in the semi-finals over Shippensburg and arch-rival East Stroudsburg in the title game, both in Manchester, New Hampshire. Head field hockey head coach and regional coaching staff of the year award winner, Marci Scheuing, along with her 2023 captains were at the meeting along with the NCAA Division II National Championship Trophy. Coach Scheuing reflected on the season.

In conclusion, Dr. Hawkinson expressed that each year in collaboration with University Marketing, the President's office shares a special holiday message with campus. This year's message featured our new Wells-Rapp Center for Mallet Percussion Research. The video was produced and directed by our multimedia producer, Chris Sponagle. The drone flight was done by Carson Lutz, a senior CTM student. The holiday message video was shared with the group.

Dr. Ken Hawkinson concluded his remarks.

8. **Public Comments**

Dr. Stephen Oross III. spoke on disability rights and dates to observe.

9. **Approval of Minutes, November 2, 2023**  
*Upon motion duly made by Mr. Guido Pichini and seconded by Dr. Ken Hawkinson, the minutes of the November 2, 2023 meeting were approved.*
10. **Summary of Discussions-Council Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**  
Mr. Guido Pichini presented the discussions of the committee meeting.
11. **Student Presenter: Mr. Jordan Davis – Major: Sport Management**  
Dr. Anne Carroll introduced the student presenter, Jordan Davis. Mr. Davis shared his personal background, his experiences at Kutztown University and shared his goals for the future.
12. **Internship Agreements with Various Institutions and Kutztown University**  
Mr. Guido Pichini presented the list of internship agreements which establishes a relationship whereby students may participate in practical experience outside the traditional classroom setting.
13. **Affiliation Agreements with a School/Non-School District and Kutztown University**  
Mr. Guido Pichini presented the affiliation agreement whereby Kutztown University and various organizations affiliate for different purposes (e.g. education, course sharing, and research)
14. **Agreement of Academic Cooperation with Various Institutions and Kutztown University**  
Mr. Guido Pichini presented the agreement of academic cooperation.  
  
*Mr. Guido Pichini moved to present agenda items #12 - #14 as one action item for approval. Mr. Jim Ludlow seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion was approved.*
15. **Candidates for Graduation Fall 2023**  
*Ms. Payton Mentzer moved to approve the candidates for graduation as presented. Mr. Guido Pichini seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion was approved.*  
  
Mr. Guido Pichini concluded his report.
16. **Summary of Discussions-Council Committee on Finance, Property and Audit**  
Mr. Jim Ludlow presented the discussions of the committee meeting.
17. **Purchases and Contracts**  
Mr. Jim Ludlow reviewed information on a few key items.
18. **Audit Report on Financial Statements**  
*Mr. Jim Ludlow moved to approve the Audit Report with no actionable items as presented. Mr. Guido Pichini seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion was approved.*
19. **Certification of University External Financial Support**  
*Mr. Jim Ludlow moved to approve the Certification of University External Financial Support from the KU Foundation and KUSSI as presented. Mr. Guido Pichini seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion was approved.*
20. **2024-25 Auxiliary Fees**  
*Mr. Jim Ludlow moved to approve the 2024-25 Auxiliary Fees as presented. Mr. Tom Heck seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The motion was approved.*

Mr. Jim Ludlow concluded his report

21. **Summary Discussions – Council Committee on Human Diversity**

Ms. Dianne Lutz presented the discussions of the committee meeting and welcomed Ms. Sandy Green to the Council Committee on Human Diversity. Mr. Payton Mentzer shared an update of events hosted by the Multi-Cultural Center, Women’s Center, LGBTQ Center, and Veteran’s Services

Ms. Dianne Lutz concluded her report.

22. **Summary Discussions – Council Committee on University Relations & Athletic Advancement**

Mr. Kevin Harden presented the discussions of the committee meeting and thanked everyone who contributes to the success of the University.

Mr. Kevin Harden concluded his report.

23. **PACT Update** – no update presented

24. **As May Arise** – no items presented

**Adjournment**

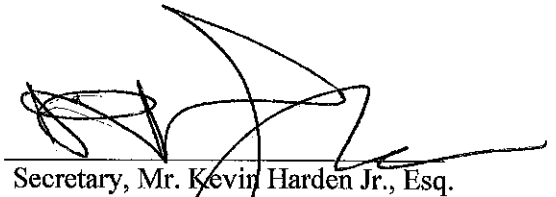
*Mr. Guido Pichini moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Ken Hawkinson seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 4:18pm.*

3/21/2024

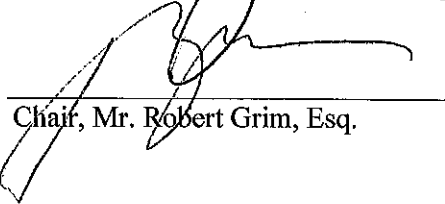
Date

March 21, 2024

Date



Secretary, Mr. Kevin Harden Jr., Esq.



Chair, Mr. Robert Grim, Esq.