

Standing Orders of the Board of Trustees

As Amended as of September 18, 2020

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STANDING ORDERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ORDER I. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF TRUSTEES BY ALUMNI (see also *the Charter*)

- (1) Date of Election. Elections for alumni members of the Board of Trustees shall be held each year on the day preceding the annual Commencement, under the direction of two judges annually appointed for that purpose by the Chair of the Board of Trustees, and may be held either in connection with the Delegate Convention for the election of other members of the Board, or at such other hour of the same day, and such other place, as the Chair of the Board of Trustees may from time to time direct.
- (2) Nominations. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees, or such other officer as may be from time to time designated by the Chair of the Board of Trustees, shall send to each qualified elector, as established in the Charter, whose email address is known a notice stating the date at which the next election will be held and the names of alumni trustees whose terms will expire by law on the thirtieth day of June next following. Such notice shall be sent each year not less than ninety days preceding the date on which such election is to be held, and shall invite nominations for vacancies then to occur. All persons who are nominated by as many as 250 electors shall be announced as soon as practical after the tenth day of April each year in a circular sent to all electors, with a form of ballot.
- (3) Form of Ballot. Only the official nominating and voting ballots may be used to nominate and vote for candidates.
- (4) Position on Ballot. Immediately after the last day fixed for depositing ballots to nominate candidates for alumni trustee, the Chair of the Board of Trustees shall fix a day and hour for casting lots for the position of names upon the election ballots. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall give at least three days' notice of said date and hour to all candidates nominated. Any candidate may appear in person or by a representative duly authorized in writing. In the event that any candidate is not present in person or by duly authorized representative at the time of casting of lots, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to appoint some person to represent such absentee. After said lots are cast, the Secretary shall accordingly establish the order in which the names of said candidates are to appear on the election ballot.
- (5) Designation of Incumbents. Incumbents shall not be identified as such on election ballots, but biographical sketches shall identify incumbents with an asterisk.
- (6) Position in Booklet of Biographical Sketches. Candidates' names shall be in alphabetical order in any publication of biographical sketches.
- (7) Duplicate Ballots. A duplicate ballot may be issued to a voter only on a written or personal application to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees stating that the original ballot has been lost, mutilated, or destroyed.

- (8) Deadline for Receipt of Nominations. Ballots for the nomination of alumni trustees must be received at the office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees before 5:00 p.m., February 25.
- (9) Candidate May Withdraw Name. Each candidate nominated shall be given the privilege of withdrawing his/her name.
- (10) Election Returns. All ballots for alumni trustees returned to the proper official in response to said circular and received by him/her on or before the day of election shall be safely kept by him/her, and by him/her delivered at the time and place of election to the two judges selected by the Chair of the Board of Trustees and shall by them be counted as cast at that time and place. Said judges shall make return to the Board of Trustees of the persons for whom ballots have been cast, either by letter or by electors in person, with the number of votes for each person; and the Board of Trustees shall thereupon determine and declare what persons have been elected to fill the vacancies aforesaid. A plurality of votes only shall be required to elect and, in case of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the person or persons who shall hold said office or offices of trustee shall be designated by ballot of the Board of Trustees.
- (11) Announcement of Results. The names of the winning candidates in the election shall be given publicity in the public press. The names of all candidates and the number of votes received by each shall be made available for publication.
- (12) Electronic Notices and Voting. In order to be good stewards of the limited financial resources of the University, electronic mail may be used to communicate any required notices or other correspondence under this Order I and an electronic balloting and voting process may be used so long as reasonable accommodations are made to permit any qualified elector without access to electronic mail to participate in the election.

ORDER II. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY TRUSTEES (see also *the Charter and the Bylaws*)

The Selection Group on Board Membership for Business and Industry Trustees shall be composed of five seated Trustees (three Trustees representing business and industry endeavors excepting those standing for reelection; and two trustees from among those elected by the alumni, elected by agricultural associations, or appointed by the Governor). The Selection Group, the membership of which shall be disclosed to the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed annually in July by the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the purpose of recommending, in accordance with guidelines established by the Board of Trustees from time to time, two candidates for membership on the Board of Trustees representing business and industry endeavors. The names and qualifications of the candidates shall be submitted for confirmation by the Board of Trustees (for approval or rejection of recommended candidates only).

The Office of the Board of Trustees shall annually announce to the full Board the opportunity to nominate candidates for consideration by the Selection Group, and shall afford the full Board at least thirty days to submit such nominations in advance of the Selection Group's deliberations. In addition to nominations received from individual trustees, the Selection Group may cultivate additional candidates, including persons nominated in previous years for membership on the Board as a representative of business and industry. The Selection Group and any trustee submitting a nomination shall treat as confidential the identity of nominees. The Selection Group's efforts to develop business and industry candidates may continue through the end of the month of June following the year of its appointment.

The Board of Trustees shall publicly report the number (but not the names) of candidates considered by the Selection Group.

The election of trustees representing business and industry endeavors shall be held at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ORDER III. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF TRUSTEES BY AGRICULTURAL DELEGATES (*see also the Charter and the Bylaws*)

The Charter of the Board of Trustees of The Pennsylvania State University provides for the election of six trustees who represent the organized agricultural societies or associations in the Commonwealth ("Agricultural Organizations").

- (1) Date of Election. Election for two members of the Board of Trustees representing agricultural interests shall be held each year on the Thursday prior to the day for the annual Spring Commencement, under the direction of two judges annually appointed for that purpose by the Chair of the Board of Trustees.
- (2) Delegates. Agricultural Organizations are not entitled to send delegates to participate in the election of Trustees unless they have at least fifteen (15) members in good standing and have been organized and in existence at least twelve (12) months preceding the election, and have duly notified the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of this fact at least sixty days prior to the election. Each Agricultural Organization is invited to send up to three delegates to participate in the election; provided, however, that if an Agricultural Organization has more than fifteen (15) members in good standing in more than one county, such Agricultural Organization may send up to three delegates from each such county and provided, further that the maximum number of delegates that may be sent by any Agricultural Organization to participate in the election shall be nine (9). Each Delegate must be a member of the Agricultural Organization that he or she represents. Employees of The Pennsylvania State University are not permitted to serve as delegates. The secretary or another authorized officer of each Agricultural Organization shall provide proof to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, in form and substance satisfactory to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, of the authority and eligibility of each delegate sent by such Agricultural Organization to participate in the election. No proxies are permitted.

- (3) Candidates. Each Candidate must be an active member of an Agricultural Organization. Individual candidates are invited to notify the Secretary of the Board of Trustees by February 25 of each year. The names of the candidates (along with a biographical sketch and position statement for each candidate, the agenda for the meeting, and the governance provisions for the election) will be distributed to the secretaries or other authorized officers of each Agricultural Organization whose contact information is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in advance of the election in order to better inform Agricultural Organization delegates.
- (4) Nominations. Nominations will be required for all trustee candidates on the day of the election. Nominations of additional candidates not included in the election mailing are also permitted.
- (5) Registration. The names of the delegates representing each Agricultural Organization must be provided by the secretary or another authorized officer of such Agricultural Organization to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, in a form approved by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, at least 30 days prior to the election. An Agricultural Organization may amend its submission after that time but in no event shall changes be accepted if received by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees after 4:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the election. Delegates must present a valid Pennsylvania driver's license or some other form of photo identification acceptable to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in order to participate in the election, and may be registered as a delegate of only one Agricultural Organization and in only one county.
- (6) Eligibility and Voting. Only those delegates in attendance and duly registered are permitted to participate in the election and voting. The following provisions also apply:
 - (i) Each county is permitted a maximum of three votes for the candidates.
 - (ii) If a county is represented by more than three delegates, a caucus is required to determine the three from their number who will represent the county.
 - (iii) If fewer than three delegates represent a county, the county is permitted only as many votes as there are delegates.
 - (iv) Each voter must vote for two nominated candidates. Any ballot indicating a vote for a single candidate shall not be counted.
- (7) Announcement of Results. The names of the winning candidates in the election shall be given publicity in the public press. The names of all candidates and the number of votes received by each shall be made available for publication.

ORDER IV. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE STUDENT TRUSTEE (see also the Charter and the Bylaws)

- (1) The Selection Group on Board Membership for the Student Trustee shall be composed of eleven members (the incumbent Student Trustee, the President of the University Park Undergraduate Association, the President of the Graduate and Professional Student Association, the President of the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments and the President of the World Campus Student Government Association (the “Core Committee”) plus six at-large undergraduate, graduate or professional student members selected by the Core Committee. The Selection Group shall recommend, in accordance with guidelines established by the Selection Group and approved by the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning of the Board of Trustees from time to time, a preferred candidate for membership on the Board of Trustees representing the student body of the University.¹
- (2) Three trustees to be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees (including the incumbent Student Trustee) shall interview the preferred candidate (and, if necessary, any alternate candidates) and shall forward the recommended candidate’s name to the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning of the Board of Trustees, which shall make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.
- (3) The name and qualifications of the candidate recommended by the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning shall be submitted for confirmation by the Board of Trustees (for approval or rejection of the recommended candidate only). It is expected that the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning would recommend, and the Board of Trustees would approve, the candidate recommended by the Selection Group unless issues with the recommended candidate’s background check, student conduct issues, academic standing issues or other issues arise or exist that in the opinion of the Board of Trustees would make the preferred candidate unsuitable for service on the Board of Trustees. The Selection Group shall treat as confidential the identities of all candidates.
- (4) The election of the Student Trustee shall be held at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ORDER V. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF THE ACADEMIC TRUSTEE (see also the Charter and the Bylaws)

- (1) The University Faculty Senate shall recommend, in accordance with procedures and guidelines established by the Faculty Senate and approved by the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning of the Board of Trustees from time to time, a preferred candidate for membership on the Board of Trustees representing the faculty of the University.²

¹ The Guidelines provide that the Selection Group would identify a preferred candidate and two ranked candidates.

² The Guidelines provide that the Faculty Senate would identify a preferred candidate and two ranked candidates.

- (2) Three trustees to be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees shall interview the preferred candidate (and, if necessary, the alternate candidates) and shall forward the recommended candidate's name to the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning of the Board of Trustees, which shall make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.
- (3) The name and qualifications of the candidate recommended by the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning shall be submitted for confirmation by the Board of Trustees (for approval or rejection of the recommended candidate only). It is expected that the Committee on Governance and Long Range Planning would recommend, and the Board of Trustees would approve, the candidate recommended by the Faculty Senate unless issues with the recommended candidate's background check or other issues arise or exist that in the opinion of the Board of Trustees would make the preferred candidate unsuitable for service on the Board of Trustees. The Faculty Senate shall treat as confidential the identities of all candidates.
- (4) The election of the Academic Trustee shall be held at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ORDER VI. PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF AT-LARGE TRUSTEES (see also *the Charter and the Bylaws*)

The Selection Group on Board Membership for At-Large Trustees shall be composed of five seated Trustees (one Trustee elected by the alumni, one Trustee representing business and industry endeavors, one Trustee elected by agricultural associations, one Trustee appointed by the Governor, and one Trustee from among the group of the Student Trustee, the Academic Trustee, the Trustee serving ex officio by virtue of his or her past presidency of the Penn State Alumni Association and the At-Large Trustees, if any). The Selection Group, the membership of which shall be disclosed to the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed annually in July by the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the purpose of recommending, in accordance with guidelines established by the Board of Trustees from time to time, a candidate for at-large membership on the Board of Trustees. The name and qualifications of the candidate shall be submitted for confirmation by the Board of Trustees (for approval or rejection of recommended candidate only).

The Office of the Board of Trustees shall annually announce to the full Board the opportunity to nominate candidates for consideration by the Selection Group, and shall afford the full Board at least thirty days to submit such nominations in advance of the Selection Group's deliberations. In addition to nominations received from individual trustees, the Selection Group may cultivate additional candidates, including persons nominated in previous years for membership on the Board. The Selection Group and any trustee submitting a nomination shall treat as confidential the identity of nominees. The Selection Group's efforts to develop trustee candidates may continue through the end of the year of its appointment.

The Board of Trustees shall publicly report the number (but not the names) of candidates considered by the Selection Group.

The election of at-large trustees shall be held at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees.

ORDER VII. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ITS STANDING COMMITTEES AND ITS SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- (1) Meetings Open to the Public. A meeting of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall be open to the public as required by applicable law.
- (2) Annual Public Notice of All Meetings. Public notice of the date, time, and place of all regularly scheduled public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees for the calendar year shall be published annually in all daily newspapers of general circulation published in Centre County, and in at least one daily newspaper of general circulation in Pennsylvania, as required by law. Such notice for public meetings at locations other than University Park shall be published in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the political subdivision in which such meetings are to be held. Notice of all regularly scheduled public meetings shall also be posted on the University's website at the same time as such notice is published in the newspaper.
- (3) Public Notice of Individual Meetings. Public notice of the date, time, and place of each regular meeting shall be given and published in the daily newspapers of general circulation as indicated above, at least three days prior to the time of each regularly scheduled meeting, and at least twenty-four hours prior to the time of the meeting in the case of special or rescheduled meetings. This provision shall not apply in case of a meeting called to deal with an emergency involving a clear and present danger to life or property. Notice of all special meetings shall also be posted on the University's website at the same time as such notice is published in the newspaper.
- (4) Posting of Notices. Notice of all public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall be posted at the offices of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees at University Park, Pennsylvania, as required by law.
- (5) News Media Notices. Notice of the date, time, and place of meetings shall be furnished on request to any newspaper publishing in the political subdivision in which the meeting will be held and to any radio and television station which regularly broadcasts into the political subdivision (Centre County in the case of meetings at University Park).

- (6) Notice to Others. Notice of meetings shall also be furnished to anyone providing a stamped, self-addressed envelope prior to the meeting.
- (7) Meeting Room. Except for telephonic meetings, public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall be held in a room large enough to accommodate the members of the Board of Trustees, officers of the University, and invited guests. Space shall also be available for up to twenty-five visitors, including representatives of the news media, on a first-come, first-served basis. The room will be opened one-half hour prior to the starting time of the meeting.
- (8) Arrangements for News Media Area and Press Conferences. An area in the meeting room shall be designated by the University for use by the press and other news media, subject to such rules and regulations as the University may adopt. To further facilitate communications between the Board and the public, the Chair of the Board of Trustees and/or the President of the University shall hold press conferences as necessary following meetings of the Board of Trustees.
- (9) Visitors to the Meetings. Visitors to the meetings, including representatives of the news media, shall be present as observers, and not as participants. Any form of participation including speaking, the presentation of petitions, and the display of banners, posters, and other forms of signs is prohibited. This rule does not apply to guests invited by the Chair of the Board of Trustees or the President of the University.
 - (a) The Chair of the Board of Trustees or the President of the University shall be authorized to invite non-voting faculty representatives, non-voting student representatives or other constituent representatives to attend and participate in the meetings of standing committees, subcommittees and of special committees, except executive sessions. The representatives shall be selected by the Chair of the Board of Trustees in such manner as he/she deems appropriate.
 - (b) Public Comment
 - (i) The Board of Trustees welcomes the opportunity for expression of public views on issues before the Board. To accommodate such expression the Board shall reserve a portion of its regular meeting cycle for individuals who wish to address the Board.
 - (ii) All persons wishing to speak must preregister by completing a Request to Address form and submit it to the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees no later than 9:00 a.m. on the Wednesday preceding the meeting. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees will review this request and notify the person making the request whether he/she may give public comment at such meeting. The Board will allow up to thirty minutes for public comment per meeting. An individual speaker will be

permitted up to three minutes for a presentation. This will be strictly adhered to with assistance of a timekeeper. Thus, a maximum of ten speakers will be scheduled for each Board meeting.

- (iii) When the number of requests to address the Board of Trustees at a given session exceeds the time available, requests will be approved based on the date the written request was received by the Secretary of the Board. In addition, preference will be given to subject matters that relate to the agenda for the relevant Board meeting and to avoid repetitiveness.
 - (iv) The exact time of the public comment period will be set by the Chair of the Board, after consideration of the number of speakers and other matters on the Board's agenda. All public comments will be recorded.
 - (v) The Board will not hear presentations that include, in whole or in part, the following topics: the employment status of any specific individual; statements concerning the private activities, lifestyles or beliefs of any specific individual employed by or associated with the University; or grievances relating to any individual student or employee. In addition, the Board will not entertain requests to participate in the public comment period by a party to any pending or threatened litigation or any administrative or other proceeding to which the University is a party, or by legal counsel for such party.
 - (vi) Speakers who comply with the Board's rules will have their remarks archived and made available on the Board's website, with such posting to be made as soon as practicable. Remarks by speakers who do not comply with the Board's rules will not be archived or made available on the Board's website. The decision on whether a speaker has or has not complied with the Board's rules will be made by the Chair of the Board, in consultation with the Secretary of the Board and the Chair of the Committee on Outreach, Development and Community Relations.
 - (vii) The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall have the authority to modify the provisions of this subsection (b) in his or her discretion to permit additional speakers, extend the public comment session and to make such other accommodations as may be necessary or advisable in his or her opinion to achieve the purposes of the public comment period.
- (10) Photographic and Recording Equipment. Visitors to the meeting, including representatives of the news media, shall be allowed to use battery-operated audio tape recorders, television cameras and photographic equipment subject to the following regulations:
- (a) A designated area in the meeting room shall be used by all visitors to the meeting using television cameras or photographic equipment.

- (b) Television cameras and related equipment shall be allowed entry into the meeting room for set up purposes during the one-half hour period prior to the starting time of the morning and afternoon meetings. Television cameras and related equipment shall not be allowed entry into the meeting room after the starting time of the meeting, except during the course of a meeting recess, in which event entry will be permitted.
 - (c) Television cameras and photographic equipment shall be required to use available light during the meeting. Artificial lighting and flashes shall not be used during the meeting.
 - (d) No voice-over broadcasting shall be permitted during the meeting.
- (11) Procedures for Committee Meetings and Board Meetings. In conducting the business of the Board of Trustees, its Standing Committees, and its Special Committees, the procedures for the meetings of the Standing Committees and the Special Committees shall provide for full discussion of both information and action items. Following discussion of action items, Standing Committees will vote to recommend an action to the Board of Trustees. Subcommittees and Special committees recommend action to Standing Committees, except as specifically authorized by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees meeting will be devoted primarily to (a) taking formal action on committee and subcommittee recommendations as a block, with Board members having the opportunity to raise questions concerning any of the recommended action items and to call for a separate vote on a given item; (b) considering and acting upon matters which have not come to the Board through a Standing Committee; and (c) receiving the report of the President of the University. The vote of each member of the Board or of a committee on any resolution, rule, order, regulation, ordinance or the setting of official policy must be publicly cast and, in the case of a roll call vote, recorded. From time to time, the Board of Trustees, executive committee, standing committees and subcommittees may hold conferences, which need not be open to the public, for the purposes of providing training and information to Trustees on matters directly related to their official responsibilities; provided, however, that no “deliberations” (as defined in the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law) of University business may occur at a conference.
- (12) Agenda for the Meetings. The agenda and supporting material for public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall be available to the public (both in hard copy at the meeting and online) at the time of the meetings. In addition to making available to the public at the time of the meeting the agenda and supporting material, the University will make available five days in advance of the meeting an agenda of items to be considered with a note that the agenda of items is subject to change without notice prior to the meeting.

- (13) Executive Sessions. The Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees may hold executive sessions as permitted by applicable law. Attendance at executive sessions shall be limited to voting members of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, Subcommittees and its Special Committees, as the case may be, unless the presiding officer of the Board or of such Executive Committee, Standing Committee, Subcommittee or Special Committee otherwise directs.
- (14) Maintaining Order. The presiding officer at public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall have the authority to maintain order during the public meeting. Any person who, in the opinion of the presiding officer, prevents, disturbs, or interrupts a public meeting may be requested to leave the public meeting, and, upon failure to comply, may be subject to forcible removal and/or arrest for violation of applicable law.
- (15) Minutes of Public Meetings. The minutes of public meetings of the Board of Trustees, its Executive Committee, its Standing Committees, its Subcommittees and its Special Committees shall be available for inspection and copying during regular business hours at the office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. A copy of minutes of public meetings shall be available to a member of the public upon payment of the reasonable cost of reproduction.
- (16) Revisions in the Rules and Regulations for Public Meetings. The Board of Trustees will periodically review the Rules and Regulations for the Conduct of Public Meetings and make such revisions as experience indicates are appropriate and desirable.

ORDER VIII. GOVERNANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY

- (1) Role of the Board of Trustees in University Governance
 - (a) Guiding Policies. In the exercise of its responsibilities, the Board of Trustees shall be guided by the following policies:
 - (i) Delegation of authority. As set forth in the Bylaws, the authority for day-to-day management and control of the University, and the establishment of policies and procedures for the educational program and other operations of the University, is delegated to the President of the University, and by him or her either by delegation to or consultation with the faculty and the student body in accordance with a general directive of the Board of Trustees.
 - (ii) Advisor to the President. It is the duty of the Board of Trustees to advise the President on any University matter.
 - (b) Responsibility to Inform the Citizens of Pennsylvania. The Board of Trustees shall inform the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania of

the University's performance of its role in the education of the youth of Pennsylvania.

- (c) Responsibility for Development of Effective Relationships. The Board of Trustees shall assist the President in the development of effective relationships between the University and the various agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States of America which provide to the University assistance and direction.
- (d) Expectations of Membership. In exercising the responsibilities of trusteeship, the Board of Trustees is guided by the expectations of membership, each of which is equally important. It is expected that each Trustee will:
 - (i) Understand and support the University's mission, vision, and values;
 - (ii) Act in good faith at all times and in the best interests of the University, maintain independence from external stakeholders and act without regard to the manner in which such Trustee was appointed or elected to the Board of Trustees;
 - (iii) Make the University a top philanthropic priority to the very best of one's personal ability and fulfill on a timely basis all financial obligations and pledges of support to the University;
 - (iv) Prepare diligently, attend faithfully, and participate constructively in all Board of Trustees meetings and related activities by reading the agenda and supporting materials;
 - (v) Speak openly, freely and candidly within the Board, while being mindful that any public dissent from Board decisions must be done in the context of being trusted stewards of a public institution. Because a University is a free marketplace of competing ideas and opinions, its governance mandates open communication as well as principled, civil and respectful debate. At the same time, trustees must always protect and act in the best interest of the University, being cognizant that the tone and substance of their words reflect on the University that they are dedicated to serve and have consequences on its overall wellbeing.
 - (vi) Make decisions and instruct the administration collectively as the governing body of the University; it being recognized and understood that unless specifically authorized by the Board or the Chair, no individual trustee has the authority to direct administrators with respect to the performance of their duties for the University or to otherwise act on behalf of the University or the Board;

- (vii) Participate regularly in events that are integral parts of the life of the University community;
- (viii) Disclose promptly and fully any potential or actual conflicts of interest in accordance with the Board's conflict of interest policies, and personally maintain exemplary ethical standards;
- (ix) Refrain from requests of the President or staff for special consideration or personal prerogatives, including admissions, employment, and contracts for business;
- (x) Maintain the confidentiality of confidential information without exception; it being recognized and understood that for this purpose "confidential information" includes nonpublic information concerning the University, including its finances, operations and personnel, as well as nonpublic information about internal Board discussions and dynamics;
- (xi) Advocate the University's interests, but speak for the Board or the University only when authorized to do so by the Board or the Chair; it being recognized and understood that it is important for the Board of Trustees to convey a consistent message and that the Chair of the Board of Trustees or his or her designee serves as the spokesperson for the Board;
- (xii) Respect University policies relating to the acquisition of information and communication; it being recognized and understood that all such information should be used only for purpose consistent with such Trustee's duties and responsibilities to the University; and
- (xiii) Extend goodwill to one another and to all members of the University community.

Regular attendance at meetings by members of the Board is expected. If a member of the Board is unable to attend at least four of the six scheduled meetings each year, such Board member should discuss with the Chair of the Board of Trustees the question of his or her ability to continue attendance appropriate to a Trustee.

For violation of the Board's expectations of membership as set forth in Standing Order VIII(1)(d), the chair of the Board, in consultation with the Board's vice-chair, shall have the discretion to take any or all of the following actions:

1. Remove a trustee from any Board leadership position, including the positions of chair or vice-chair of any committee or subcommittee;

2. Remove a trustee from any committee, subcommittee or other Board assignment;
3. Pursue the adoption of a full Board resolution, or publicly issue a letter from the chair, censuring the offending trustee;
4. Privately issue a letter of censure with or without notice to the Board; in the case of a private letter of censure with notice to the Board, the letter would be confidential, and Board members would be requested to maintain the confidentiality of the communication; and/or
5. Discuss the breach with the offending trustee and without notice to the Board.

Before taking any of the above-described actions (1) – (3), the chair of the Board shall also consult with the chair and vice-chair of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning and, in the case of an action described in (2) above, with the chair of any affected Committee. In the event that the chair or vice chair of the Board, the chair or vice chair of the Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning or the chair of any affected Committee is the subject of the action to be taken, such individual would be recused from participating in any such consultation.

Additionally, before taking any of the above-described actions, the chair and vice-chair of the Board shall communicate with the offending trustee to specify the nature of the perceived offense, to clarify the expectations of Board leadership, and to provide an opportunity for the trustee to explain his/her actions and otherwise respond to the alleged violation. In deciding whether to impose a sanction for violation the expectations of membership, the Board chair shall take into account the position of the trustee charged with the violation, and shall also consider whether the violation is a first-time, or repeated, offense, the public or private nature of the offense and the severity of the injury or potential injury to the Board or the university arising from the violation.

The imposition of any sanctions hereunder for violation of the Board's expectations of membership shall not inhibit the capacity of the Board to remove a trustee pursuant to §2.03 of the Bylaws for any misconduct that constitutes a breach of a trustee's fiduciary duties.

- (e) Final Responsibility of the Board. The Board of Trustees is the final repository of all legal responsibility and authority to govern the University, under the laws of Pennsylvania. It can delegate but it cannot abandon this

responsibility and authority. The Board has the responsibility and duty to direct all organizations and persons participating in governing the University, whether such participation be in the establishment of policies, rules, and regulations, or in the administration of such policies, rules, and regulations. In order to perform this responsibility and duty, and consistent with the Charter, the Board of Trustees hereby directs that governing of the University henceforth be conducted in accordance with the following general plan of organization.

(2) Internal Governance

- (a) What Internal Governance Is Concerned With. This plan of organization concerns only the internal governance of the University. It is not concerned with the operation of the Board of Trustees, with the functions of the officers of the corporation, or with the establishment of financial policy and fiscal and budgetary controls, which matters are the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, the President, and the Treasurer in accordance with established policy.
- (b) Who Performed By. The internal governance of the University shall be performed by the President and his or her administration, by the faculty, and by the student body in accordance with the delegations of authority and advisory roles hereinafter set forth.

(3) Faculty

- (a) Responsibilities. The faculty, as appropriately organized, pursuant to delegation from the President, and subject to the revisions and orders of the President, shall establish policy concerning the approval and supervision of the instructional programs including courses and curricula, academic admissions standards, graduation requirements, and scholarships and honors.
- (b) Consultation by the President. The faculty shall be consulted by the President concerning student affairs, educational policy and planning, academic personnel, and any other matter upon the request of the President.
- (c) Communication with the Board. Official faculty communication to the Board of Trustees shall be made through the President and through faculty participation on the standing committees.
- (d) Regular Meetings. In furtherance of the objective of appropriate communication among the faculty, the administration and the Board of Trustees, a meeting will be held at least once per semester, attended by the President, the Provost and the Vice President for Administration, the Chair, Chair-Elect and Secretary of the Faculty Senate and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Any of such individuals may initiate agenda items for any such meeting.

(4) Student Body

- (a) Consultation by the President. The student body shall be consulted by the President concerning the establishment of policy for student affairs.
- (b) Communication with the Board. Official student communication to the Board of Trustees shall be made through the President and through student participation on the standing committees.
- (c) Participation in the Deliberations of the Faculty. Students may also participate in an appropriate manner in the deliberations of the faculty subject to the revisions and orders of the President.

ORDER IX. TRUSTEES EMERITI

- (1) Granting the Status of Trustee Emeritus to Former Members of the Board. The status of Trustee Emeritus shall be reserved for any living former member of the Board of Trustees who has served as a board member for six years or more with distinction. Trustee shall be eligible for consideration to receive such status immediately upon retirement from active service on the Board of Trustees. The Committee on Governance and Long-Range Planning shall review the service of a Trustee upon such Trustee's retirement and shall make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Criteria to be considered by the Committee shall include offices held, attendance record, participation in the activities of the Board, length of service, or other significant contributions to the governance of the University. The Committee may also take into account the Trustee's fulfillment of the Board's expectations of membership as set forth in these Standing Orders. Each former Chair of the Board of Trustees will be entitled to automatic trustee emeritus status upon retirement or resignation.
- (2) The election of Trustees Emeriti will be held at the September meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- (3) The status of Trustee Emeritus shall be applicable for a term of six years. At the end of such six year period, individuals who have been granted Trustee Emeritus status shall retain the title and may be invited to continue to participate in University activities and events at the discretion of the Chair of the Board of Trustees. All other privileges associated with the status of Trustee Emeritus shall expire.
- (4) Individuals with the status of Trustee Emeritus shall be invited to attend public meetings of the Board of Trustees and Standing Committees thereof and may participate at the discretion of the presiding officer of such meeting. Trustees Emeriti shall not have the right to attend executive sessions of the Board of Trustees or any Standing Committees thereof or to attend any portion of any meeting at which attorney-client privileged discussions are held unless the presiding officer of such session determines, after consultation with counsel, that such attendance is appropriate and advisable. Trustees Emeriti shall receive or be given access to documents and other materials that are made public, and may receive or have access

to the University's confidential, proprietary or attorney-client privileged materials at the discretion of the presiding officer of the meeting at which such materials are to be discussed.

- (5) Trustees Emeriti may be appointed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees, at the Chair's discretion, to serve as non-voting members of certain Standing Committees or ad hoc committees.
- (6) At the discretion of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, Trustees Emeriti shall be invited to participate in University events and activities, to serve as an advisor or mentor, to consult on University matters and/or to serve the University in such other capacities as the Chair may determine are advisable and appropriate.
- (7) The University shall reimburse Trustees Emeriti for reasonable expenses associated with service as Trustees Emeriti in accordance with policies applicable to the Board of Trustees from time to time.

ORDER X. PROCESS REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENTS AND DEANS

The following process will be followed in connection with the search for, and appointment of, Vice Presidents and Deans.

- (1) Members of the Board of Trustees will be notified in writing by the President or his or her designee when a vacancy occurs. This notification shall include:
 - a. Position description/advertisement.
 - b. Roster of search committee members.
 - c. Information about any search firm engaged to assist in the search.
 - d. A description of the search process, the projected timeline and a tentative interview schedule.
- (2) When a successful finalist has been chosen, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees will be notified and sent the application materials of the candidate, a summary of the interview feedback and any other relevant materials, as determined by the President or the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- (3) The notice to the Executive Committee members will specify a date by which the members of the Executive Committee shall have an opportunity to express any concerns to the President. If there are no concerns, the University may proceed with the hiring and announcement of the candidate and shall introduce the hire at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees. If any Executive Committee expresses a concern with respect to a candidate, a conference call will be held at which Executive Committee members may express their concerns and discuss any issues with the President.

- (4) The process set forth in this Standing Order X shall not be applicable to the Vice President and General Counsel. The appointment and removal of the Vice President and General Counsel shall remain subject to approval by the Board of Trustees as set forth in the Bylaws.