

CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**Council of Trustees**

Minutes of the Quarterly Public Meeting

October 8, 2019

Marcus Foster Student Union Center Auditorium

**In Attendance:**

*Council of Trustees*

Mr. Robert W. Bogle, *Chairman*  
Mr. Samuel Patterson, *Chair*  
*Finance & Administrative Services Committee*  
*& Strategic Planning*  
Mr. Larry C. Skinner, *Chair*  
*Student Affairs Committee*  
Dr. Audrey Bronson, *Member*  
Mr. Leon R. Spencer, Jr., *Member*

**By Teleconference:**

Dr. Robert L. Traynham, *Chair*  
*University Relations Committee*  
Mr. Joseph Wells, *Member*

**Absent:**

Mr. James Raith, *Chair, Academic Affairs Committee*  
Honorable Vincent J. Hughes, *Member*  
Mr. Vincent Gordon, *Member*

*Administration*

Mr. Aaron Walton, *President*  
Ms. Kizzy Morris, *Provost*  
Ms. Elisabeth Burton, *Executive Director of*  
*Campus Life & Student Affairs*  
Ms. Cynthia Moultrie, *Executive Director of*  
*Finance & Administration*  
Ms. Robin Coward, Esq., *Executive Director of*  
*Institutional Effectiveness, EEO & Title IX*  
Mr. James Lewis, *Executive Director of*  
*Operations Management*  
Mr. Clifton Anderson, *Senior Advisor & Chief*  
*Strategist*  
Ms. Erika Shehata, *Director of Institutional*  
*Effectiveness & Research*

The Quarterly Meeting of the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Council of Trustees was held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, in the Marcus Foster Student Union and Alumni Center Auditorium. With a quorum present and notice of meeting duly exercised in accordance with Trustee By-Laws, Chairman Robert W. Bogle opened the meeting at 1:28 P.M.

Chairman Bogle requested the record to reflect that Trustee Wells and Trustee Traynham were joining the meeting, via teleconference.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

Chairman Bogle requested a motion to approve the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Council of Trustees Quarterly Public Meeting minutes of June 18, 2019. This motion was seconded by Trustee Spencer, and the motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Mr. Darien Threadgill, Class of 1974, requested the support of the Council of Trustees relative to the expansion of two Alumni sponsored activities - the dual enrollment program and the February 29, 2020 fundraiser.

## **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Walton reported the following:

- The University hosted a variety of Homecoming events, welcoming in excess of 5,000 alumni and friends, to the University. Cheyney Alumni received a “State of Cheyney” presentation at their annual breakfast meeting, which was held on Saturday, October 4, 2019.
- The University’s prime focus remains dedicated to two principles – what is in the best interest of Cheyney students and what helps preserve the University.
- On August 15, 2019, the University submitted its final report to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, defending its quest for long-term accreditation. Cheyney’s final appearance before the Commission is scheduled for November 21, 2019, in which the University must show evidence of progress. There is every expectation that the evidence will be provided as required.
- As a result of the University exceeding its fundraising goals, Cheyney University has a balanced budget for the first time since 2011, with a \$2.1 million-dollar operating surplus.
- Cheyney University is one of only four universities of the PASSHE system that showed a 31.7% increase in enrollment this fall.

### **Other Announcements:**

- Congratulations are extended to Alumna C. Vivian Stringer, who was inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, as a result of her outstanding success as Cheyney’s Head Women’s Basketball Coach.
- Again in 2020, Cheyney and Lincoln University will collaborate with UNCF regarding its Annual Gala, which will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott.
- Presidential Partners & Associates, headed by retired President Richard Guarasci of Wagner College, will work in an advisory capacity with Provost Morris and faculty regarding the University’s First Year Experience Program.
- The University is hosting a Career Development Expo on October 23, 2019. Over 30 companies are registered to attend thus far.

President Walton called upon Ms. Erika Shehata, Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Research, who reported the following regarding enrollment:

- **Total Headcount: 618** – this is a 31.7% increase over last year. Cheyney University is one of only four universities within the PASSHE system that showed an increase in enrollment this fall.
  - Continuing Students (and Readmits): 326
  - First Time Freshmen: 213

- Transfer Students: 50
  - DCCC Pathways Students: 29
- Ms. Shehata further reported that this year, the freshman retention rate is 70%, which is the highest in two decades. In addition, 80% of the freshmen are from Pennsylvania; 42% from Philadelphia. The average GPA is 2.91 and average SAT scores range from 830 to 1070. Further discussion ensued.

President Walton called upon Mr. James Lewis, Executive Director of Operations Management, to present his report.

- Mr. Lewis reported that the University is transitioning maintenance and grounds services to U.S. Facilities, a private, Minority-owned company in Philadelphia.
- Mr. Lewis reported that during Family Day activities on September 21, 2019, Public Safety provided self-defense training for women, which is a positive example of campus community policing.
- Mr. Lewis reported that Champion National Security will provide security services at entry points of campus housing for Cheyney students.
- Mr. Lewis thanked Operations Management staff for their role in the University's Homecoming celebration.

Chairman Bogle stated for the record that years ago, he served as a board member of U.S. Facilities. He no longer serves on the board, nor does he have a current relationship with U.S. Facilities.

President Walton called upon Robin Coward, Esquire, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, EEO & Title IX, to present her report.

- Ms. Coward reported on the Women's Volleyball season and Cheerleading Squad.
- Ms. Coward reported that 2019 Cheyney graduate and former student athlete, Ms. Drazana Vulic, is playing professional basketball in Romania, and 2019 Cheyney graduate and former student athlete, Marlon Herring, was accepted into the Duquesne Nursing Program in Pittsburgh.

## **REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES -**

### ***Academic Affairs Committee***

President Walton introduced Ms. Kizzy Morris, Provost, to present her report.

Information Item No. 1: Student Success. Ms. Morris provided an update regarding the Early Transition Program to Support College Readiness (Summer Bridge) and fall 2019 course offerings.

Information Item No. 2: Transforming Academics. Ms. Morris discussed the implementation of the degree audit tool, Academic Planner, and how students will utilize the program. Ms. Morris also discussed the advisory role of Presidential Partners and first year programming.

### ***Finance and Administration***

Trustee Samuel Patterson, Chair of the Finance & Administrative Services Committee & Strategic Planning, introduced Ms. Cynthia Moultrie, Executive Director of Finance & Administration, to present her report.

Action Item No. 1: Cheyney University 2019-2020 Proposed Budget. Chairman Bogle requested a motion to approve the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania 2019-2020 proposed budget. This motion was seconded by Trustee Bronson, and the motion carried.

Action Item No. 2: Approval of Purchase Orders and Contracts in Excess of \$9,999.99. Trustee Patterson requested a motion to approve Purchase Orders and Contracts in Excess of \$9,999.99. This motion was seconded by Trustee Spencer, and the motion carried.

### ***Campus Life and Student Affairs***

Trustee Larry Skinner, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, introduced Ms. Elisabeth Burton, Executive Director of Campus Life and Student Affairs, to present her report.

Information Item No. 1: Advancing Student Achievement and Success. Ms. Burton provided an update regarding the Voter Registration/Education Project kick-off on September 21, 2019, hosted by the NAACP.

Ms. Burton reported that the University's Student Code of Conduct has been updated and posted online.

Ms. Burton reported that over 200 students attended the recent Organizational Fair held in the Ada Georges Ballroom.

### ***University Relations***

Trustee Robert Traynham, Chair of the University Relations Committee, introduced Ms. Cynthia Moultrie, Executive Director of Finance & Administration, to present her report.

Information Item No. 1: University Grants and Contracts Report, July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019. Ms. Moultrie discussed the summary of grants, contracts and receipts through June 30, 2019.

Information Item No. 2: University Donations Report – July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019. Ms. Moultrie reported that the FY 18-19 donation total is \$4.1 million dollars.

Information Item No. 3: The Cheyney Foundation Fundraising Report – July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019. Ms. Moultrie discussed the summary of gifts and the FY 18-19 total of \$553,862.07.

Information Item No. 4: Grant Renewals. Ms. Moultrie provided grant renewal updates to the Council regarding Title III, the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises program and the TRiO SSS program.

Chairman Bogle requested a motion to approve the Standing Committee reports, as written. This motion was seconded by Trustee Spencer, and the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT –**

With no further business having to be attended to, Chairman Bogle requested a motion to adjourn the October 8, 2019 Quarterly Meeting of the Cheyney University of Pennsylvania Council of Trustees. This motion was seconded by Trustee Skinner, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:18 P.M.

Submitted By:

*Irene Scheivert*

Irene Scheivert  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

*Robert Traynham*

Robert Traynham  
Secretary to the Trustees

