

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
OF TRUSTEES OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA, HELD AT THE KOVALCHICK  
CONVENTION AND ATHLETIC COMPLEX,  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025, 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  
Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman, Secretary  
Mrs. Jennifer E. Baker  
Mr. A. Tim Cejka

Mr. David Osikowicz  
Mr. Nathan Spade  
Mr. Jackson White

**The following council members were excused:**

Mrs. Laurie A. Kuzneski, Vice Chair\*  
Mrs. Anne White, Treasurer\*

Mrs. Susan S. Delaney  
Mr. Mark A. Holman

Mrs. Kuzneski did attend the committee meetings and executive sessions in the morning and the lunch meeting before she needed to leave. Mrs. White did attend all the committee meetings and executive sessions throughout the day. However, she did not attend the public meeting.

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

Dr. Bryan Seal, IUP Senate Chair  
Mr. James Leda, Foundation for IUP Board President  
Ms. Mary Morgan, 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. Alexis Bardos, IUP Student Government Association President

*Ex officio:* Dr. Christopher M. Fiorentino, chancellor, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, was not present.

**The following university administrators attended:**

Dr. Michael A. Driscoll, President  
Dr. Lara M. Luetkehans, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Mr. Larry S. Wakefield, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance  
Dr. Thomas C. Segar, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Ms. Jennifer A. DeAngelo, Vice President for University Advancement  
Ms. Paula L. Stossel, Strategic Advisor to the President for Student Success  
Dr. John Lowery, Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Student Affairs in Higher Education

**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 4, 2025, BE APPROVED.**

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Michael Driscoll presented the following report:

Saturday's commencement is a celebration of two milestones for the more than 400 soon-to-be newest members of the IUP alumni family. It marks both an ending and a beginning: it's the completion of their academic journey with us and the start of careers we know they are well-prepared to pursue.

We are excited about their success and look forward to what they will accomplish in the years to come.

For us, for IUP, we've continued to build momentum for our future while also ensuring the IUP of today continues to thrive.

That momentum is evident in our proposed college of osteopathic medicine. What was once a dream is becoming increasingly closer to reality, and we are excited about what we've accomplished and what remains to be done.

We have continued to sign clinical agreements with regional and state medical facilities, and we have far exceeded the number required for accreditation.

Yesterday, we signed a new type of agreement—our first preclinical training agreement—with the Indiana County Coroner's Office. In this collaboration, our students, not just medical students, but undergraduate and graduate students in many programs, will have the opportunity for experiential learning with a county agency experience that benefits both our students and the residents of Indiana County.

Last week, the State System Board of Governors ratified a side letter negotiated with APSCUF, the System's faculty union, specifically related to the creation of the college of osteopathic medicine.

The agreement outlines key steps for faculty hiring, including department chairs in the core areas that will define the structure of the proposed college, and includes compensation issues for medical school faculty.

A search committee will guide the process of hiring our first full-time faculty and those who will follow. This ratification is another important step forward in building the foundation for the proposed college.

The faculty we hire will teach a specific, approved curriculum, and today we are asking the IUP Council of Trustees, you, to approve the planned curriculum and degree program as another step toward accreditation.

This summer, we announced that the proposed college has earned candidate status, a critical milestone in the accreditation process.

The next step is pre-accreditation, and I'm happy to report, at its December 4 meeting, the

Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation approved a pre-accreditation site visit, which is scheduled for February.

After the site visit, the next step getting to a positive vote is achieving pre-accreditation status, which will then allow us to begin recruiting students. That process includes additional reports and site visits—and brings us closer to welcoming our first class of future physicians. We hope to achieve that status this spring and begin recruiting students in the spring for the anticipated fall 2027 opening of the IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine.

This summer, we launched the public phase of the Impact 150 campaign, which aims to support the health of our students, university, and communities. I'm proud to announce that thanks to the incredible generosity of our alumni, friends, and partners, we have already raised \$97.8 million toward our goal of \$150 million.

While the generosity of our alumni, friends, and partners is making a tremendous difference, we know that philanthropy is only one part of the equation. The financial health of our university is also influenced by decisions made at the state and federal levels by elected officials.

Neither the state nor the federal budget was signed into law until November 12 at the state level, ending a 135-day state impasse and the federal government shutdown. These two events obviously affected our university.

At the state level, IUP and our sister institutions in the State System maintained our previous level of funding, for which we are thankful.

The federal budget contains both positives and perhaps some negatives. On the positive side, IUP will receive \$1.9 million in community project funding to support facility infrastructure, equipment, and other project-related expenses of our proposed college of osteopathic medicine. We are grateful for the elected officials who continue to champion our plan, with special mention to US Representatives Guy Reschenthaler and Glenn Thompson. Their commitment underscores the importance of this project for rural healthcare.

However, the federal budget also contains proposed cuts to student aid and research, which will create additional challenges for us in terms of affordability and access. These changes will likely increase financial pressure on students and institutions, making our state's support and our philanthropic efforts even more critical to sustaining our success.

Dealing with those challenges will require planning and forethought, and we've continued to spend time identifying problems and creating solutions that will help ensure that we have the bright future we desire—I would say we deserve.

In October, we held an all-day event at the Kovalchick Complex at which our faculty, staff, and administration came together to share ideas and inspiration for taking intentional steps toward building IUP's future.

This event built on the January all-employee feedback session and on other smaller opportunities for input that have been occurring since. It was a good day in which a lot was discussed, but the work certainly doesn't stop there.

We have an internal website where additional information will be shared, updates will be posted, and progress can be monitored as we move our ideas into action. We will have one of these events every semester as part of a sustained effort to plan proactively for the future of IUP, engaging the entire IUP community, creatively solving problems, and addressing issues to keep us on track.

The IUP of the future focuses on flexibility, innovation, and student success. By updating current programs (and creating new ones where needed) to meet workforce needs, adding short-term

credentials, and offering more hands-on learning, we will open new doors for student success. Along with the high-quality education we have always provided, the IUP of the future will focus on simpler, more efficient operations and strong partnerships to ensure long-term stability, keeping IUP a leader in higher education for generations to come. I might say for the next 150 years.

We have also continued our series of conversations, in which the IUP community comes together with a topic in mind to hear updates and share concerns or questions, keeping us all on the same page as we move ahead. Administrators have done a great job of facilitating these conversations about topics such as the budget and our academic offerings.

In terms of facilities, the former site of Weyandt Hall has been converted into a green space with grass and sidewalks for the use of our community. I understand, last week, some students even took advantage of the winter weather to build an igloo there.

The site where Eicher Hall once stood has now been converted into a parking lot, Pratt Hall has been razed, and demolition in Punxsutawney for the new location of the Academy of Culinary Arts is expected to be finished by February.

I'll finish this report with an update on athletics.

Our Crimson Hawks are fourth in the Dixon Trophy standings after the fall sports season. The Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference awards the Dixon Trophy every year to the school whose athletic teams fare the best during PSAC championship competition, and we had excellent seasons from our women's volleyball and soccer teams and our men's golf and football teams.

The volleyball team advanced to the regional championship match last weekend before falling to host Gannon. The Crimson Hawks placed second in the Western Division, won 24 matches, and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the fourth consecutive year.

Led by Elle Smith, who was named the Atlantic Region Player of the Year after leading Division II in goals, the women's soccer team won 14 matches and advanced to the quarterfinals of the PSAC tournament.

Our football team won the PSAC Western Division title and advanced to the NCAA Division II playoffs for the 21st time, and our men's golf team placed fourth in the PSAC championships.

Our winter sports teams have begun their seasons, and we look forward to their accomplishments in the coming months. Our women's basketball team is 6-0 and ranked No. 11 in the latest national Top 25 poll. Our men's team is 5-1 and off to its best start in three years.

I'm looking forward to another great basketball season here at the KCAC and hope we'll see some of you joining us for some games.

In closing, Dr. Driscoll thanked members of the IUP Council of Trustees for their great support, guidance, and wisdom. Others he thanked included his leadership team and the deans. He said he appreciates everyone's combined efforts to make the world a better place.

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

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

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Tim Cejka, chair of the Audit Committee, presented the following report:

The Audit Committee of the IUP Council of Trustees consists of Tim Cejka, Joyce Fairman, and Laurie Kuzneski. On November 20, 2025, Mr. Cejka, Mrs. Fairman, and Mrs. Kuzneski conducted an exit conference with representatives from the university's independent public accounting firm, CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA), LLP, to discuss results of the annual audit of the IUP financial statements for the year that ended June 30, 2025. In attendance from IUP were Larry Wakefield, interim vice president for Administration and Finance; William Buttz, associate vice president for Finance; and Khristina Connor, assistant controller. CLA's Jared Clark and Sydney Dailey provided an overview of the IUP financial statements, discussed accounting standards, and answered questions from Audit Committee members. The Audit Committee is pleased to report that CLA rendered an unmodified opinion on the IUP financial statements for the year that ended June 30, 2025.

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

**THAT IUP'S AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR THAT ENDED JUNE 30, 2025, BE ACCEPTED AS DISTRIBUTED TO THE IUP COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES.**

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

Tim Cejka, chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, presented the following report:

The Administration and Finance Committee reviewed and discussed the items appearing on pages 72 through 98 of the Docket Report and in Exhibits 1 through 7, which depict highlights of the Administration and Finance Division.

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

Larry Wakefield, interim vice president, presented action items related to the Administration and Finance Committee. He provided comments related to the general business, administrative, and financial operations of the university.

#### **Comprehensive Planning Process**

The committee reviewed the FY2024-25 IUP Comprehensive Planning Process budget, which was submitted to the State System on September 19, 2025.

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

**THAT THE FY2024-25 IUP COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS BUDGET THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE STATE SYSTEM ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2025, BE APPROVED.**

#### **September 19, 2025, Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine Comprehensive Planning Process Report**

The committee reviewed the FY2024-25 IUP Comprehensive Planning Process budget for the proposed college of osteopathic medicine, which was submitted to the State System on September 19, 2025.

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

**THAT THE FY2024-25 IUP COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS BUDGET THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE STATE SYSTEM ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2025, BE APPROVED.**

**FY2026-27 and FY2027-28 Proposed Student Fees**

The committee reviewed the FY2026-27 and FY2027-28 proposed student fees as distributed.

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

**THAT THE FEE INCREASES FOR FY2026-27 and FY2027-28, WHICH WERE DISTRIBUTED, BE APPROVED.**

**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 11, 2025, 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 11, 2025, 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 11, 2025, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

**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 11, 2025, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

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

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

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 11, 2025, in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

**Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education Total Fiscal Year 2025-26 Commonwealth Appropriated Line Items**

Larry Wakefield, interim vice president, and Jodie Cadile, budget director, presented the commonwealth appropriated line items. The State System Board of Governors received a 0.8 percent, or \$5 million, increase in funding for the System's Educational and General appropriation for a total of \$625.8 million. This budget was enacted on November 12, 2025.

**Cogeneration Fiscal Year 2024-25 Financial Update as of June 30, 2025**

Mr. Wakefield provided an update on the cogeneration plant performance as of June 30, 2025. Plant performance during FY2024-25 achieved over \$2 million in cost avoidance and revenue.

**Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex Financial Status**

Mr. Wakefield provided an overview of the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex current budget status.

**REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

On behalf of Mark Holman, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Nathan Spade presented the following report:

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 one was highlighted. Mr. Spade noted that people could refer to the IUP-APSCUF Actions document, available on the website, for complete information.

- Program revisions approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 6, 2025, meeting are below. Final approval will be contingent on approval of the meeting minutes at its next meeting, which will be held on December 4, 2025.
  - From the Department of Career and Wellness Education
    - Health and Wellness Education/Health and Physical Education, BSEd (includes title change)
    - Health and Wellness Education/Community Health Education (non-teacher certification), BSEd (includes title change)
    - Health and Wellness Education, MEd

- New program approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its November 6, 2025, meeting is below. Final approval will be contingent on approval of the meeting minutes at its next meeting, which will be held on December 4, 2025.
  - From the proposed IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine
    - Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

At its October 7, 2025, meeting, the University Senate approved revisions to the following undergraduate policies:

- Policy on Semester Course Syllabi
- Academic Advising

At its November 4, 2025, meeting, the University Senate approved revisions to the following undergraduate policies. Final approval will be contingent on approval of the meeting minutes at its next meeting, which will be December 2, 2025.

- Academic Honors
- Anticipated Class Absence for University Representation and Participation

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

**THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE (1) THE ACTIONS APPROVED AT THE NOVEMBER 6, 2025, MEETING OF THE IUP-APSCUF REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL AND (2) THE POLICIES APPROVED AT THE OCTOBER 7 AND NOVEMBER 4 MEETINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE THAT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY PRESIDENT DRISCOLL.**

Provost Lara Luetkehans provided a brief update on the division's continuing efforts on the Academic Program Review and the proposed IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine. Next, Richard Muth, executive director of Graduate and Special Admissions, provided a report on digital badging, noting that it has experienced steady growth, with 28 approved badge types spanning four categories and 8,108 badges awarded this year. As a form of microcredentialing, digital badges provide significant benefits to the IUP community and regional stakeholders, and they support the university's strategic goals and objectives.

Lastly, IUP's Research and Innovation leadership provided updates. The provost introduced Hilliary Creely, vice provost for Research and Innovation, who shared positive outcomes from several initiatives, as well as information about current and proposed changes in the federal funding landscape and their impact on IUP. Tracy Eisenhower, executive director of the IUP Research Institute, described several recent grant submissions aligned with IUP's institutional goals. She also shared a year-to-date snapshot of grant applications submitted and awarded and the anticipated facilities and administrative recovery in comparison with that of previous years. Kelly Heider, associate vice provost for University Libraries and Research Support Services, described IUP's Undergraduate Summer Opportunities for Applying Research (U-SOAR) program and introduced two student participants, Megan Seaman (Computer Science) and Abby Trimble (Applied Anthropology), who shared information about their research projects and experiences.

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

Jackson White, chair of the Student Affairs Committee, presented the following report:

Tom Segar, vice president for Student Affairs, gave opening remarks about the Student Affairs Division.

Paula Stossel, strategic advisor to the president for Student Success, provided a briefing on spring 2026 registration progress.

Dr. Segar provided a briefing on fall 2026 new student enrollment progress.

Roger Briscoe, executive director of Student Inclusion, and Susan Graham, clinical case manager, spoke about meeting the basic needs of IUP students. Their presentation highlighted the vital role that providing case management and addressing food insecurity play in supporting student success and in strengthening retention and persistence.

Ms. Graham provided an overview of how case management services identify student needs early, remove personal and academic barriers, and connect students with essential on-campus and community resources. She spoke on how individualized support, creative problem-solving, and coordinated care contribute to improved student well-being and academic persistence.

Dr. Briscoe discussed the student needs that are met with the IUP Food Pantry and Help Center. He discussed the operation of the pantry and said the key to its operation is the ongoing support of the IUP and Indiana communities, which provide monetary and food donations. A recent campus-wide food drive started November 10 and will end December 12.

## **REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Jennifer Baker, chair of the University Advancement Committee, presented the following report:

During Quarter 1 of fiscal year 2025–26, University Advancement made strong progress toward the Impact 150 campaign goal of \$150 million, reaching \$97.8 million, or 65.2 percent of goal. These results reflect strengthened engagement strategies, targeted qualification work, and coordinated efforts across all units.

Advancement Services refined the prospect pool by identifying underproducing and newly engaged prospects, updating employment and industry data, and analyzing giving likelihood. Development officers completed 38 qualification meetings, while Annual Giving secured 339 first-time donors and 293 renewed lapsed donors. Alumni and Friends added 83 first-time event attendees.

Strategic Partnerships represented IUP at 22 regional and statewide meetings and led the first Data Center Strategic Meeting, convening more than 150 leaders to explore collaborative opportunities. Development officers completed 27 cultivation visits during the quarter.

Student philanthropy initiatives, including new giving badges, a philanthropy competition, and experiential learning, were redesigned. Early outcomes show student donor participation more than doubling compared to Quarter 1 of last year. Alumni and Friends' engagement expanded substantially, with social media interactions reaching 14.6K—up from 5.6K last year—and email touchpoints exceeding 471,000 at a 31 percent open rate.

Development officers completed 57 solicitation meetings resulting in 11 closed gifts. Strategic Partnerships collaborated on four solicitation strategies and supported five experiential learning opportunities. Stewardship metrics show a 20 percent donor retention rate and more than \$1 million in retained revenue.

University Events planned and implemented 16 events during the first quarter of fiscal year 2025–26.

Overall, University Advancement began fiscal year 2025–26 with strong momentum. Data-informed strategies, expanded engagement, and deepening partnerships continue to strengthen philanthropic progress and advance institutional priorities.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **President Michael A. Driscoll's 2024-25 Annual Review Report**

The 2024-25 annual review for President Michael A. Driscoll was completed and submitted to the chancellor.

### **Approval of the Trustee Emeritus Policy**

Mr. Smith explained that this policy is being implemented to provide a tangible way to recognize a trustee at the conclusion of service to the university.

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

**THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE PROPOSED TRUSTEE EMERITUS POLICY AS DISTRIBUTED.**

### **Approval of the Revised Bylaws**

Mr. Smith explained that, with the change in bylaws, officer elections and committee member assignments will take place biennially instead of annually.

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

**THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS AS DISTRIBUTED.**

## **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 MARCH 5, 2026.**

In closing, Mr. Smith noted that while a lot of routine business was addressed today, the steps forward for the proposed IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine are a significant achievement for everyone involved.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 5:35 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**