

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, HELD AT THE KOVALCHICK CONVENTION AND ATHLETIC COMPLEX, THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026, 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. Laurie A. Kuzneski, Vice 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. Anne White, Treasurer*
- Mrs. Susan S. Delaney*
- Mr. Mark A. Holman

Mrs. White and Mrs. Delaney did virtually attend all the committee meetings and executive sessions throughout the day. However, they 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. Peter L. Holden, 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

Please note that the minutes presented for approval from the December 11, 2025, meeting reflect a minor change to correct the name of the new program of the proposed IUP College of Osteopathic Medicine. The December meeting materials had Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine. The correct name is Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

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

THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES ON DECEMBER 11, 2025, BE APPROVED.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Michael Driscoll presented the following report:

Before I begin, I'd like to welcome Peter Holden, our new vice president for Administration and Finance. Peter is attending his first IUP Council of Trustees meeting. He has been getting to know the university community, and we are glad to have him on board. Peter, welcome.

We are about three-quarters of the way through our 151st school year, and we have made a lot of progress across the university.

One of the most significant initiatives shaping the future of IUP continues to be our proposed college of osteopathic medicine.

Recently, we took another step in the accreditation process with the on-site visit from a team from the American Osteopathic Association's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation.

Preparing for that visit required tremendous work from many people. It was an opportunity to demonstrate the thoughtful planning that has gone into this project, the strong support it has from both the university and the community, and the impact it can have on our region once it opens. A special thank-you to those trustees who were able to participate. You made a difference.

In April, we'll know more about the results of the visit. We are proud of the progress we have made in this endeavor, and I'm pleased to report that we continue to be on track to begin recruiting students later this year. Our projected opening is still scheduled for the fall of 2027, which will be here very soon.

Last November, we hosted the Pennsylvania Mountains Rural Health Conference, which brought together healthcare professionals, educators, and community leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities in rural healthcare, not just for our proposed college of osteopathic medicine, but also for the people and communities we serve. The conversations that took place reinforced something we have said from the beginning: the commonwealth has a need for physicians who understand rural communities and who are committed to serving them. That goal remains central to the proposed college's mission.

We also recently held an event marking the signing of a collaboration agreement with Indiana Regional Medical Center and the Mountains Health Network. IRMC, Punxsutawney Area Hospital, and Armstrong County Memorial Hospital have been essential partners of IUP for



many years, and this agreement solidifies that working relationship through a variety of initiatives—some yet to be determined.

Projects of this scale are never the result of one office, one division, or even one group. The progress we've made reflects the work of many people—faculty, staff, community partners, and supporters who believe in the merits of our proposed college of osteopathic medicine and who want to see it succeed.

In January, we hosted members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for a House Republican Policy Committee meeting. The hearing was titled “Overcoming Challenges in Rural Health Care,” and committee members, including our own State Representative Jim Struzzi, organized it. IUP's Dr. Chris Koren led the efforts for IUP.

I, along with some other key people from IUP, IRMC, and elsewhere, testified to our efforts to address the commonwealth's ongoing rural health crisis. The hearing focused on workforce shortages, access to care, affordability, and long-term sustainability in rural communities like this one we call home.

Hosting the committee at IUP allowed legislators to hear directly from university leaders and community partners about the critical role institutions like ours play in preparing students for the workforce and supporting regional economies.

It also allowed us to highlight the many ways our programs connect with industry and community needs.

I am also pleased to report that our Eberly College of Business hosted an accreditation visit from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB. This accreditation is recognized worldwide as a benchmark of excellence in business education. Maintaining that accreditation requires ongoing evaluation of faculty scholarship, curriculum quality, and student outcomes, and we are proud to continue to hold such a prestigious designation.

Additionally, our accounting program has separate accreditation from the AACSB, making IUP one of less than 2 percent of colleges and universities in the country—and the only school in the State System—to hold both accreditations.

I am also pleased to share that Dr. Prashanth Bharadwaj has been named the Eberly College of Business's permanent dean after serving as interim dean for the last two years, his second time in the role. Welcome again, Prashanth.

During his time serving in an interim role, he provided steady leadership and a clear sense of direction for the college. His appointment gives the college continuity as it continues to build on its strengths and deepen its connections with industry partners. I look forward to working with him as he leads the college in the years ahead.

During this, our 151st school year, we have been looking back at the first 150 years of our great institution with pride while also looking ahead. A key part of our future is the Impact 150 campaign, which we publicly launched in August with a goal of raising \$150 million for the health of our students, our university, and our communities.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni, friends, and partners, we have reached a significant milestone in our fundraising efforts. You'll hear more specifics in the report of the University



Advancement Committee. While we still have work to do before reaching the campaign's final goal, this milestone reflects the strong support that exists for this university and its mission.

Across the university, we have also continued to focus on maintaining open communication and creating opportunities for faculty and staff to share ideas and ask questions about the university's status and direction.

Our Informal Conversations series has continued throughout the semester. These sessions provide a setting where members of the university community can hear updates on university initiatives and share their perspectives and concerns.

We have discussed topics ranging from the budget and academic programs to broader strategic priorities. The feedback we receive during these conversations is valuable, and I appreciate the thoughtful participation of everyone who has taken part.

In the same spirit, we held an all-employee meeting on February 9. The meeting allowed us to provide updates on several university initiatives and discuss broader challenges facing higher education today. And again, I'm grateful to everyone, especially our students, who participated and contributed to a productive discussion.

As we work toward a bright future of innovation, discovery, and transformation, I want to share another initiative that recently launched.

The Fusion Fellows Program encourages collaboration across disciplines by bringing faculty together to explore new ideas in teaching, research, and innovation. Some of the most creative and impactful work happens when people from different fields come together, and this program is intended to create space for those kinds of partnerships to grow.

The program provides selected faculty fellows with time and resources to work with students and develop collaborative projects that address complex challenges and strengthen academic programs. These efforts may take many forms, including interdisciplinary research, new academic offerings, and innovative approaches to experiential learning.

By encouraging faculty and students to work across traditional departmental boundaries, the Fusion Fellows Program reflects an essential priority for the university—fostering creativity, strengthening collaboration, and ensuring that our academic programs continue to evolve in ways that prepare students for a rapidly changing world.

I would be remiss in not thanking Mr. and Mrs. [Tim and Debra] Cejka for getting this program defined and off the ground.

Some of our student-athletes are rolling toward the end of the winter sports season, while others are just kicking off the spring season. For both groups, we are proud, encouraged, and excited.

In IUP Athletics, the steady crescendo of our winter sports season is reaching its conclusion just as our spring season is in motion.

In basketball, our men's and women's teams are in the midst of March Madness. Last night, both teams won to advance to the semifinals of the PSAC tournament. The women's team trounced Millersville here at the KCAC by 34 points, and our men's team beat West Chester



on the road by one point. That was an exciting game. Both teams will play Saturday, and if they win, they will play Sunday for the conference championship.

After that, we are hoping both are invited to their respective NCAA Division II tournaments.

In swimming, our women's team recently placed second and our men's team fifth at the PSAC championships, highlighted by the efforts of Gem Crittenden, who was named the women's Most Outstanding Swimmer at the event. Up next is the NCAA Division II individual championships next week.

Our baseball, softball, women's lacrosse, men's golf, women's tennis, and track and field teams have begun—or are about to begin—their spring schedules, and we look forward to more success from those student-athletes as they seek conference, regional, and national championships.

To wrap us up, let me highlight an initiative that speaks to the broader role universities play in our society.

IUP recently received a \$2.3 million grant from the US Department of Education to support the creation of the Constructive Dialogue and Civic Life Center.

The center's goal is to encourage thoughtful conversation and civic engagement by providing students with opportunities to explore complex issues in a respectful and informed manner.

At a time when public discourse often feels increasingly combative or even absent, higher education has an important role in helping students learn how to listen to different perspectives, engage in meaningful dialogue, and participate fully in civic life. This center will support that work and help ensure that our students are prepared not only for their careers but also for thoughtful involvement in their communities.

It's just another way of showing how IUP has always been, and will always be, a leader in the region for higher education. We are proud of the work we have done, and we are excited for what's to come.

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 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 125 through 142 in the Docket Report and in Exhibits 1 through 5, which depict highlights of the Administration and Finance Division.



PRESENTATION: Comments by Vice President

Vice President Peter Holden presented action and discussion items related to the Administration and Finance Committee. He provided comments related to the general business, administrative, and financial operations of the university. Mr. Holden discussed proposed tuition and fees for the proposed college of osteopathic medicine. A recommendation will be presented for approval at the May IUP Council of Trustees meeting.

Proposed Five-Year, Priority Capital Project Spending Plan

The committee reviewed the proposed five-year, priority capital project spending plan covering fiscal years 2026-27 through 2030-31, as distributed.

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

THAT THE FIVE-YEAR, PRIORITY CAPITAL PROJECT SPENDING PLAN BE APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED FOR SUBMISSION TO PENNSYLVANIA'S STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2026.

AY2026-27 and AY2027-28 Revised Consolidation and Simplification of Fees; New Service Fee to Include IUP Site and Regional Campus

The committee reviewed the AY2026-27 and AY2027-28 Revised Consolidation and Simplification of Fees; New Service Fee to Include IUP Site and Regional Campus, as distributed.

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

THAT THE AY2026-27 AND AY2027-28 REVISED CONSOLIDATION AND SIMPLIFICATION OF FEES; NEW SERVICE FEE TO INCLUDE IUP SITE AND REGIONAL CAMPUS, BE APPROVED.

REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

On behalf of Mark Holman, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Laurie Kuzneski presented the following report:

Approval of Honorary Degree

The Academic Affairs Committee recommended the approval of an honorary doctor of humane letters degree to be presented to Curtis Cignetti.

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

THAT THE AWARDING OF AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS DEGREE TO CURTIS "CURT" CIGNETTI AT COMMENCEMENT ON MAY 9, 2026, BE APPROVED. THE AWARDING OF THIS DEGREE HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND, FOLLOWING ITS MEETING ON MARCH 3, THE APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE, CONTINGENT ON APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES AT ITS MARCH 31 MEETING.

Approval of IUP-APSCUF Representative Council and University Senate Actions

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. Mrs. Kuzneski 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 December 4, 2025, meeting as follows:
 - From the Department of Biology
 - Biology/Pre-Medical, BS
 - From the Department of Nursing
 - Nursing, BS
 - Nursing/Licensed Practical Nurse, BS
- Program moratorium approved by the IUP-APSCUF Representative Council at its December 4, 2025, meeting as follows:
 - From the Department of Language, Literature, and Writing
 - English 7-12 Teaching Graduate Certificate

At its December 2, 2025, meeting, the University Senate approved revisions to the following undergraduate policies:

- Change of Major Policy
- Dual Baccalaureate Degrees Policy
- Undergraduate Course Attendance Policy

At its December 2, 2025, meeting, the University Senate approved revisions to the following graduate policies:

- Academic Credits and Student Status
- Dissertation/Thesis Approval Process
- Time-to-Degree Master's/Doctoral Dismissal Appeal Policy
- Graduate Fresh Start Policy

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

THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE (1) THE ACTIONS APPROVED AT THE DECEMBER 2, 2025, MEETING OF THE IUP-APSCUF REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL AND (2) THE POLICIES APPROVED AT THE DECEMBER 2 MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY PRESIDENT DRISCOLL.

Provost Lara Luetkehans provided a brief update on initiatives in the Academic Affairs Division and on progress toward filling three college dean positions. She introduced Prashanth Bharadwaj, dean, Eberly College of Business. She also provided updates on searches for the deans of Health Sciences and Arts, Humanities, Media, and Public Affairs. Dr. Luetkehans gave updates on the visit from AACSB (the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) to extend accreditations for the Eberly College of Business and for the Accounting programs. She also discussed progress toward pre-accreditation approval for the proposed college of osteopathic medicine.

Provost Luetkehans then introduced Gwen Torges, associate professor of political science; Elise Glenn, chief diversity and inclusion officer and Title IX coordinator; Adam Jones, dean of Students; and Monserrat Lopez Villagomez, senior political science/pre-law major; Dominick Ditoro, senior economics major; and Elizabeth Fox, political science/pre-law and economics major, all three of whom are students in the first Civic Savvy course. The group provided an overview of a \$2.295-million grant that IUP received from the US Department of Education. This



initiative will include the creation of a new Center for Dialogue and Civic Life and will embed dialogue and civic readiness throughout the IUP student experience.

The meeting concluded with an introduction of Amber Racchini, vice provost for Academic Success and dean of the University College, who gave an overview of how IUP is meeting its obligations under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The overview focused on institutional resources, training, and support systems in place to help faculty and staff uphold compliance and advance IUP's commitment to equitable access.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

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

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

Lou Garzarelli, CEO and executive director of the Student Cooperative Association, Inc., provided an update on the Co-op. He spoke about its finances, long-term sustainability, and investment in facilities.

He then introduced two students to speak about their participation in areas within the Co-op. Olivia Hughes, executive member of STATIC, the official campus programming board, and Ryan Rankin, of Campus Recreation, spoke about their experience and roles, including planning events and serving in leadership positions within STATIC and Campus Recreation. They shared how their involvement played a significant role in creating a sense of belonging not only for them, but for other IUP students and for the community.

An update on IUP Athletics' winter and spring sports was presented by Todd Garzarelli, director of Intercollegiate Athletics.

REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

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

University Advancement reports strong momentum across all areas of the division for the first half of fiscal year 2025-26. Total giving nearly doubled year-over-year, rising 97.27 percent, from \$8.58 million to \$16.93 million. The Impact 150 campaign has reached \$102.4 million, or 68.28 percent of goal, as of December 31, 2025.

Strategic Partnerships cochaired the fourth Pennsylvania Mountains Rural Health Conference, which grew to 452 attendees from 370 the previous year. Attendees included five members of Governor Josh Shapiro's cabinet.

Alumni and Friends event attendance increased by 42.38 percent. Digital engagement surged: Facebook watch time increased from 24 to 292 hours (+1,116.7 percent).

Solicitation segmentation and A/B testing efforts produced a 33.76 percent increase in year-over-year fundraising results for the Fall Donor Appeal.

Stewardship metrics show a 39.28 percent overall donor retention rate and 9.40 percent first-year donor retention. University Events supported 20 events with 1,673 attendees, including Winter Commencement.



Overall, University Advancement exceeded activity expectations, strengthened donor engagement, and secured significant philanthropic investments that position the university for continued campaign success.

OTHER BUSINESS

Certifying Resolution—Order of Succession Plan

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Board of Governors Policy 1983-14-A: *Appointing Interim and Acting Chief Executive Officers* requires that each State System university president develop and publish an Order of Succession, identifying in rank order members of the university’s executive management team who will act on behalf of the president in the president’s absence; in the event the president is temporarily unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position; or in the event there is a vacancy;

WHEREAS, Board of Governors Policy 1983-14-A: *Appointing Interim and Acting Chief Executive Officers* requires that, at the beginning of each academic year, before September 30, the president deliver the university Order of Succession plan to the chancellor after a resolution and vote by the university’s council of trustees;

WHEREAS, the attached Order of Succession plan, provided by the president of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, lists in rank order the members of Indiana University of Pennsylvania’s executive management team to act on the president’s behalf in the president’s absence, in the event the president is temporarily unable to fulfill responsibilities of the position, or in the event there is a vacancy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Trustees of Indiana University of Pennsylvania approves the Order of Succession plan (attached to this resolution) as required by Board of Governors Policy 1983-14-A: *Appointing Interim and Acting Chief Executive Officers*.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
University Order of Succession
2025-26

1. Name: Dr. Lara Luetkehans
Title: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
2. Name: Mr. Peter Holden
Title: Vice President for Administration and Finance
3. Name: Dr. Thomas Segar
Title: Vice President for Student Affairs
4. Name: Ms. Jennifer DeAngelo
Title: Vice President for University Advancement

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



THAT THAT THE COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE CERTIFYING RESOLUTION—ORDER OF SUCCESSION PLAN AS REQUIRED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS POLICY 1983-14-A: APPOINTING INTERIM AND ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

Appointment of the Nominating Committee

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

THAT THE FOLLOWING IUP COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS SERVE ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND REPORT THEIR FINDINGS AT THE MAY 7, 2026, PUBLIC MEETING, IDENTIFYING THE SLATE OF OFFICERS TO SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM DURING THE 2026-27 AND 2027-28 ACADEMIC YEARS:

**Laurie Kuzneski, Chair
Tim Cejka
Nathan Spade**

Approval of Future Meeting Dates

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

THAT THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2026-27 BE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2026
DECEMBER 10, 2026
MARCH 4, 2027
MAY 6, 2027**

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 MAY 7, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

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

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 5:27 P.M.

Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman
Secretary, IUP Council of Trustees

On behalf of Mrs. Joyce R. Fairman

