



Sept. 9, 2021

Dear Members of the University Community

As we begin another academic year at The University of Scranton, we also look back on the work of the Board of Trustees over what was a busy winter and spring. The challenges arising during those seasons revealed the depth of character of this community, through good and challenging times. These notes cover several regular and special meetings of the board over that span.

The Board of Trustees of The University of Scranton met on February 19, 2021. The board heard a presentation on the work of the Gail and Francis Slattery Center for the Ignatian Humanities including a review of the work of student fellows for the center. Herbert Keller, S.J., provided a report on Jesuit mission and the ways in which it enlivens the life and work of members of the Scranton community. Following a financial update and projections for upcoming years, the board heard about new programs in the academic pipeline and the review of the general education curriculum. Reports on the efforts and status of students returning to campus this spring were discussed from the perspective of student life, academics and human resources. Following a look at the enrollment projections for the next year, the board passed a resolution approving the IRS Form 990 before entering executive session.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees took place on March 19, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the appointment of Provost Gingerich to the role of Acting President following the death of Scott Pilarz, S.J. Board Chair, James Slattery, explained the function of the By-Laws and how this appointment is anticipated in those rules. The board supported the continuing appointment prior to adjourning.

The regular, annual meeting of the Board of Trustees took place on May 7, 2021. Due to the complications of both 2020 and 2021 commencement exercises, the board used the meeting to confer honorary degrees. The recipients this year were Nicole Young '00, Susan St. Ledger '86, and Rev. Otto Hentz S.J. Dr. Gingerich presented the President's Report noting progress on the COVID-19 front and efforts in DEI, particularly tied to its placement in the strategic plan. Enrollment and budget updates followed by discussions of the anticipated class size and the efforts to balance the budget. The capital campaign continues to gain momentum and the

5.06 Day of Giving raised a significant sum from over 3,000 donors. The trustees were briefed on the presidential transition plans and received the annual Rector's Report on the work of the Jesuit community. Jeffrey Colucci '21, the outgoing president of student government offered reflections on serving in that role through the experience of COVID-19. Finally, the board passed several resolutions: it passed the 2021/2022 annual operating budget, it approved a transfer of funds to quasi-endowment, it approved the appointment of new trustees to the board as well as voted to approve trustees to a second term. And finally, it extended the term of Board Chair, James Slattery, and named the other board Vice Chairs, Vincent Reilly '80 and Elizabeth Murphy '83.

The final meeting in the spring of 2021 took place on June 23, 2021. The purpose of this special meeting was to approve two new Jesuit members of the board of trustees, Angelo Rizzo, S.J. and Thomas Neitzke, S.J.

We have much good work for the board this fall and are eager to dive in. I look forward to engaging with that work and with the entire University Community in the coming months.

Yours faithfully,

--Fr. Joseph Marina, SJ