THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Temple University-Of The Commonwealth System of Higher Education

Friday, December 6, 2013, at 12 Noon

SPECIAL MEETING
Room 200, Sullivan Hall
Liacouras Walk and Polett Walk

MINUTES

Secretary’s Note: The Trustees first met in Executive Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

PARTICIPANTS


President: Neil D. Theobald (by phone)

University Counsel: George E. Moore

Non-Voting Advisory Members: Darin Bartholomew, Mark Rahdert

Administration and Staff: William T. Bergman, Raymond Betzner, Janet Carruth, Kevin Clark, Karen Clarke, Larry Dougherty, Kristen Foley, Michael Jackson, Jodi Laufgraben, Anne Nadol, Michael Sitler

Mr. O’Connor, chair of the Board, called the Public Session to order.

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION:

1. Restructuring of Intercollegiate Athletics

Mr. O’Connor, chair of the Board of Trustees, summarized the Executive Session meetings of the Athletics Committee on December 4, 2013 and the Board of Trustees today. The trustees received a comprehensive briefing and had the opportunity to ask questions at each meeting. In summary, Kevin Clark, the Athletics Director, conducted a detailed analysis of the sports programs over the past year. The analysis included, but was not limited to, a review of the university’s facilities, the amount of funding, and gender equity issues. Following the analysis, a recommendation was made to discontinue seven sports. The seven
sports to be discontinued effective July 1, 2014 are as follows: men’s baseball, men’s crew, men’s gymnastics, men’s indoor and outdoor track and field, women’s rowing and women’s softball.

Mr. Katz, chair of the Athletics Committee, reported on the meeting of the Athletics Committee on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at which all members participated. A presentation was made by the Athletics Director, Kevin Clark, related to the proposed discontinuation of seven sports. A 12-month review was undertaken, including review of budgets, facilities, and the amount of funds spent on sports played by men and women. The goal was to come up with strategies to strengthen the university’s overall athletic program.

Mr. Katz stated that each sport was analyzed. In determining the sports to be discontinued, the focus was on competitiveness, including budget, quality of available facilities, and improving gender equity compliance.

The recommended action included that the discontinued sports could become club sports. The affected student-athletes will continue to receive scholarship aid and students wishing to transfer to another school, which is permitted under NCAA regulations, will be assisted as much as possible.

Mr. O’Connor stated that after consideration of the detailed analysis by the Athletics Director, and after review in Executive Session by the Athletics Committee on Wednesday, December 4 and the Board of Trustees in Executive Session today, the recommendation was read.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the Athletics Committee, unanimously approved the plan of the Director of Athletics and the President to discontinue seven intercollegiate athletic programs, specifically: baseball, softball, men’s crew, women’s rowing, indoor and outdoor men’s track and field, and men’s gymnastics, effective July 1, 2014.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT