

**East Stroudsburg University
Council of Trustees Minutes
November 05, 2014**

1. **Call to Order:** The regular meeting of the Council of Trustees was called to order at 3:58 p.m. by Chair Pat Ross.

2. **Roll Call:** Completed by the Recording Secretary Marcy L. Cetnar, the following members were present:

Dr. Vincent DeFranco
Ms. Rebecca Keck
Mr. Bruno Klaus

Mr. Harry Lee
Mr. Marcus Lingenfelter
Ms. Nancy Perretta

Mr. Pat Ross
Ms. Amy Welch

The following members were absent:

Mr. Edward Abraham

Ms. Josephine Ferro

Hon. Mario Scavello

2. **Public Comment:**

Winfield Howard Alleger, community member, read a letter and presented it to the Chair (see attached.)

Maury Molin, class of 1976 and presently serves on the Alumni Board. Mr. Molin spoke on his concerns of the division he is hearing between the East Stroudsburg Borough and ESU regarding the building of the Keystone Center.

Pauline Fox, local resident since 1970, active in education and music and has been associated part time with ESU since 2004. Ms. Fox relayed her dismay about the elimination of the music department at ESU. Also spoke on her involvement of the community choir and attending many events on campus.

Chase Weiss, freshman, business management major. Mr. Weiss spoke on his involvement with various choirs on campus and his disbelief when he heard they were cutting the music department at ESU.

Collette Ryder, 1996 graduate of ESU and President of the Alumni Association. Ms. Ryder spoke on her dismay on the decision to eliminate not only the music major but all music courses along with all vocal groups and the orchestra.

Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke, chair of the music department spoke on the importance of music to students and the community involvement in the programs such as orchestra, concert choir, and the band.

James Maroney, 14th year at ESU entire time serviced in the music department. He received a retrenchment letter last week due to the moratorium of the music major and minor. Spoke on the importance and accomplishments of the choirs on campus and is thankful for those here today to speak about the importance of music at ESU. Presented the Trustees with a handout (attached) and also presented recordings of the A Capella ensemble, ESU singers, and ESU concert choir.

Elios Raze, student of ESU here regarding registration. Mr. Raze spoke on the troubles and frustrations he is experiencing registering for the classes he is required to have to graduate.

Dr. Van Reidhead, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs assured the Council, the students, and others in attendance that students will have the courses they need, in the time that they need them, to stay on track for graduation.

William Ronfis, community member and member of the community choir and feels it is a remarkable resource for the community and the students on campus to work together. Asked the Board to reconsider their decision.

Emily Fox, marine science and biology dual major as well as chemistry and woman's studies minor. Ms. Fox spoke on the culture of music in the region and with the cut of the music department is concerned the region will not thrive as it should. Ms. Fox also spoke on the glitch with priority registration and not being able to register for classes that are need.

David Bousquet, Vice President of Enrollment Management spoke on the glitch in priority registration and the steps that were taken to alleviate the problem.

Maria Kitchens-Kintz, chair of biological sciences shared her concerns for the stress the students face each semester during registration due to the classes filling up quickly and the number of students on the waiting still needing to register for the classes. Also shared her concerns on the STEM program and feels administration is not listening to their needs and feels the program is slowing eroding.

Mason Buskirk, sophomore communications major spoke on her concerns regarding the music program which he has been involved in since starting at ESU. Feels ESU will be throwing away a great amount of skill, knowledge, and manpower in the music department.

Robert Cohen, chair of physics department spoke on the enrollment of the physics department and pleased to report they continue to offer all the programs, courses, and service courses as they have before. Feels this is a reflection on the university's commitment to the students of the sciences and illustrates just how difficult it is to predict the impact of cuts.

Michelle DiBella, graduate of 2008 spoke on behalf of the music department, her relationship with ESU, and her involvement in the choir as a student. Ms. DiBella also conveyed her concern for the students in regards to registration and wait lists.

Ken Mash, State President of APSCUF, spoke on behalf of the faculty of the university and to provide prospective of the other 13 PASSHE universities. Mr. Mash spoke on the retrenchment and the elimination of the music programs at ESU. Mr. Mash asked the Council to seriously listen to the faculty and meet with them to hear their concerns.

Robert McDall, a member of the community since 1980 and plays with the orchestra and feels this is a program fostered by the university and nurtured other programs in the county. Mr. McDall feels if you cut organizations you are not only hurting this school and students, you are hurting future students, the community, and not allowing music to flourish.

Michael Doherty, chair of the chemistry department, also a former undergraduate double major in music and chemistry, and a hobbyist musician. His concerns included the music department, registration, full classes, and general education classes.

Eli Raez, English major, and a member of the concert choir. Mr. Raez spoke on his concerns for the cut of the music department.

Laura Beimfohr, graduated last spring with bachelor's degree in environmental science and has returned this semester for her masters in biology. Ms. Beimfohr asked the Council to please reconsider this decision to retrench; the consequences which are much broader than the current students. Consider the future students, community members, and alumni whom are all impacted by this decision.

Jonathan Keiter, assistant professor in the mathematics department spoke on his concerns for the loss in the music department and also his concern for the shortage of staffing at ESU which he feels is why there is a shortage of classes for students.

President Welsh mentioned that we've also lost 50% of graduate student enrollment and a significant number of undergraduate students. We can't keep the same number of faculty when the number of students is going down.

Bob Wehe, community member and a member of the community chorus, band, and orchestra. Stand to lose of about 100 community members that are in these programs who support this university. Feel that when music at ESU goes away this whole town will lose and the community relations and the Town-Gown will lose too.

Justin Amann, senior, believes the Council needs to take into consideration what the students have said here today and a lot of the personal stories from freshman and alumni and what their music experience has been to them. He feels they also need to look at the logic and make sure that we serve the students and invest in the areas that can be successful.

Allan Ben, professor in the English department, stated there was a mischaracterization of the memo that went out from APSCUF to faculty just this week about the strategic plan. This was not resistance to the strategic plan it is about ESU and about our students and doing our job well.

Trustee Ross indicated the strategic plan is still a work in progress and indicated there have been many roundtables with up to 650 people who have attended. Everyone on this campus has had the opportunity to take part in the discussion and the formulation in this plan

Allan Benn indicated he not only participated in one of the roundtables, he went further as he said and not really as a representative of APSCUF, and made sure he spoke to people who he knew were participating in an important way to get their views.

President Welsh stated she read them memo and tends to disagree with Dr. Ben's interpretation of this, and offered to discuss this later.

Jennifer Heilakka, an earth and space science major and Vice President of the band and President of the national honorary band fraternity Kappa Kappa Psi. Ms. Heilakka shared her concerns for Kappa Kappa Psi and the cuts in the music department. Music is a special part in everybody's lives and it is still a large part of the students' lives.

Trustee Ross felt we've reached a point where everyone has been able to speak their opinion and give an idea of what should be done and what shouldn't be done. Thank you and we will now move on with our agenda.

Trustee Lingenfelter thanked those that spoke today for their enthusiasm, passion, and commitment and encourages those same individuals that if they reached out to their legislators and new governor-elect Wolf and display that same kind of passion and enthusiasm seen here today, their voices will be heard for potential further funding.

3. **Approval of Minutes: Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2014 meeting; Trustee Welch seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
4. **President's Report: The One Book One Campus book *Postmortal* was given to every entering student during summer orientation. The reading was incorporated into many classes as well as six organized evenings with faculty leading conversations focused on the book. Thanked co-chairs Dr. Peter Pruiem and Dr. Doreen Tobin and SAA for their support in bringing the author to campus, and the entire book selection committee for all their work on the program.**

Veteran's Day Ceremony will be held November 6 from 2-4 p.m. in the Keystone Room followed by laying of the wreath at the Julia Statue. ESU Marching band will be in the local Veterans' Day Parade on Sunday.

The 4th Annual Zoot Fest will be held on November 9 from noon to 6 p.m. in the Innovation Center. The event will honor jazz legends Al Cohn and Zoot Sims with all proceeds going to support ESU's Al Cohn Memorial Jazz Collection.

"The Strauser Circle, Selected Works from the Robinson Family Collection" will be held on November 15 from 6 p.m. at the Innovation Center. The event will include a live and a silent auction and all proceeds will support the Sterling Strauser Gallery.

The last of the Fall Open House programs will be held on November 8. At present over 1700 guests are registered to attend, over 600 of whom are prospective students. The first two Open House programs accommodated 2,362 visitors, of which 955 were prospective students. In the area of transfer students, an increasingly important part of our enrollment, 15 articulation agreements with four community colleges in PA and NJ have been signed. Another 24 agreements with 13 community colleges in PA, NY, and NJ are in various stages of completion, including reverse transfer agreements. The admissions staff is recruiting heavily in PA, NY, and NJ. While it is early in the admissions cycle, the President is cautiously optimistic that ESU will experience another enrollment increase next fall, and sincerely appreciates the efforts of everyone involved with the open house events, the recruitment process, and upcoming orientation sessions.

The last football game against our arch rival West Chester will be on Saturday, November 8. Women's soccer earned the PSAC regular season title this past Saturday with a 1-0 win in double overtime. The team is currently ranked 3rd nationally. They defeated IUP 5-0 on Tuesday in the PSAC quarterfinals. ESU is hosting the PSAC tournament Friday and Saturday. The Championship game will be on November 8 at 6pm.

Discussions regarding the moratorium of the B.A. in Fine Arts – Music, both major and minor, has been ongoing for about 2 ½ to 3 years, and the actual moratorium was announced over a year ago. At the time we had 12 students over a four year curriculum in three different concentrations. We now have five students who will have completed their music major requirements by the end of the Spring term. As required by the APSCUF Collective Bargaining Agreement, last week two retrenchment letters were sent to faculty remaining in the department. Closing the music major and minor, and eliminating most general education music courses from the curriculum, does not mean we have to eliminate co-curricular music programs from our campus. We do not want to cur music performance groups. Change is difficult, but we must find other ways to have music on our campus.

The Strategic Planning process continues with implementation plans. The Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Committee posted their draft plan. The next roundtable will be November 10. Please attend and let your voice be heard.

5. **Chair's Report:** None

6. **Secretary's Report:** Trustee Welch brought to the Trustees attention a letter which was received in the ESUCOT email and was forwarded to all Trustees.

7. **Committee Reports**

A. **Administration & Finance: (Trustee Lee)**

- (1) The committee reviewed the Cash Disbursement Reports for 03/01/14 thru 07/31/14, and found that all were handled appropriately and were in order. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Lingenfelter made a motion to approve the cash disbursement journals for 08/01/14 – 09/30/14; Trustee Ross seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**

- (2) The committee reviewed the 2013 and 2104 Audited Financial Statements and supplementary information presented to them at the A&F Committee meeting. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily. **Trustee Ross made a motion to approve the 2013 and 2014 Audited Financial Statements; Trustee Perretta seconded; no abstentions. The motion carried.**
- (3) **Project Status Review:** The Committee reviewed the Project Status Review reports dated November 5, 2014. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- (4) **Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts:** The Committee reviewed the Notice to Proceed on Construction Contracts dated November 5, 2014. All questions and concerns were answered satisfactorily.
- (5) **Online and Extended Learning Fee:** The committee was updated on the need to waive the fees for students participating in online and extended learning classes. The students participate in these classes without coming to campus and do not use the services that are covered by the fees. Discussion was held. Questions and concerns were addressed.
- (6) **Annual Facilities Tour:** The annual facilities tour was held at 10:30 a.m. today beginning at the ESU Innovation Center, facilitated by Syed Zaidi, Director of Facilities Management.

8. Academic Affairs & Enrollment Management: (Provost & VP of Academic Affairs)

Trustee Lingenfelter was pleased to welcome the new Vice President of Enrollment Management, Mr. David Bousquet. The Committee reviewed the Fall 2014 Enrollment Overview and the Fall 2015 recruitment update. Trustee Lingenfelter was pleased to report deposits for enrollment are up 88%. The Interim Dean of Education presented to the committee plans on improving the teacher education programs and the university's relations with IU20.

9. Research & Economic Development: (Trustee Lee)

Trustee Lee reported on the many positive programs currently taking place at the Innovation Center and with the amazing young entrepreneurs and faculty at East Stroudsburg University. With The Design Lab and C.R.E.A.T.E. lab, students and faculty are working together to help each department to encourage them to be as creative as they can both in the classroom and outside the classroom. The committee was also updated on the Business Accelerator, Workforce Development, Sponsored Projects and Research, the Schisler Museum, the McMunn Planetarium, and University Advancement activities such as phone-a-thon and homecoming.

10. Student Affairs: (Trustee Keck)

Trustee Keck thanked the students for coming to the meeting and speaking. Dr. Michael Sachs addressed the developing stages of the Minors Policy and "Stop it Now" initiatives at ESU. Alyson Patascher and Chief Olson discussed and shared information on the new Diversion Program. Dr. Linda Van Meter presented on the new OASIS Center. Vice President Tobin provided a report on the One Book One Campus program and the visit of the author Drew Magary on November 4. VP Tobin updated the committee on the following; Career Expo, 4th Annual Mental Health Awareness Fair, Homecoming 2014 review and upcoming changes regarding the Housing process and learning communities. Trustee Keck reported the candidate for Student Trustee is undergoing the interview process.

9. Old Business:

None

10. **New Business:**

- A. **PACT Workshop:** Trustee Lingenfelter invited the Trustees to attend the Spring PACT which will be held April 16-17, 2014 in Harrisburg. Encouraged them to join their colleagues around the State System and be a part of the conference.
- B. **Next Meeting:** Trustee Ross stated the next Council of Trustee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 2014.

11. **Executive Session:** Trustee Ross called for Executive Session at 5:43 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

12. Meeting called back to order at 5:59 p.m.

13. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. by Trustee Ross.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy S. Welch
Council Secretary

Recording Secretary: Marcy L. Cetnar

Chairman Ross, President Welsh, Trustees and Administrators of East Stroudsburg University, I thank you for this time to speak.

My name is Winfield Howard Alleger. I am a January, 1972 graduate of then East Stroudsburg State College. I graduated "cum laude" with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. Upon graduation I was asked by Dr. Kurt Wimer to serve as a graduate assistant to the Political Science Department. I served as such for two semesters. My wife and son are also graduates of ESU, making us a proud legacy family.

During my early career I was a member of the Staff of ESU as a Budget Analyst and in that capacity worked with our computer professionals designing a budgetary accounting system for the University.

During the past two decades my wife, Patti, and I have been loyal supporters of the Athletic Programs and alumni contributors through the ESU Foundation. We also made an additional contribution for the construction of the Science Building.

Currently, Patti and I are members of the ESU Concert Choir as Community Members. Under the Direction of Dr. James Maroney, we have successfully performed works that would not even be attempted by most Concert Choirs our size. We have performed pieces in at least 7 languages. This program offers one of the few opportunities for the community to participate and perform with the students. I am here to express my extreme concern for the total loss of choral music at ESU. Dr. Maroney is not just a director, he is an outstanding educator. I have learned more from him over the past 7 semesters about choral performing than I did as a Music Major at Mansfield University in the mid 1960's. We are also very proud of ESU's A Cappella Ensemble's invitation to perform during last year's Christmas celebration at the White House. I understand that ESU has been under tremendous financial strain because of the unwillingness of Harrisburg Legislators to adequately fund the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. But, let's not throw out the baby with the bath water.

It may not be possible to offer a Music Major at this time, but not offering elective music classes or choral performance opportunities is, I feel, overkill. How can an institution offering a BA degree without including music call itself a university? Many university students have had choral and orchestral experience prior to coming to the university, but should be offered the opportunity to continue these experiences.

I respectfully ask the Trustees and Administrators of ESU to consider continuing music electives for our students. As a retiree I am free to meet with anyone to discuss this matter. I am sure there are possibilities to continue vocal music that have not been considered at this time.

Thank you very much for your willingness to listen to this plea.

Winfield Howard Alleger
570-424-1423
halleger@ptd.net

Syllabus
Practice Recordings
for 2014-2015

A CAPPELLA ENSEMBLE

Director: [Dr. James Maroney](#)

LISTEN to
A Cappella Ensemble
How to Audition



Performance at the White House - December 2013



Selected from members of Concert Choir, **A Cappella Ensemble** is an auditioned group of 14-18 singers specializing in unaccompanied music. In addition to concerts on campus every semester, the group performs at university and community functions.

A Cappella Ensemble was most recently honored by an invitation to perform at the White House in Washington, DC on December 14, 2013. The group was also selected to appear at the inaugural Fall Conference of the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Choral Directors Association in October 2011.

A Cappella Ensemble rehearses Mondays 1-2:50 pm and is offered for 1 credit (MUS 243).

Syllabus
Practice Recordings
for 2014-2015

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Director: [Dr. James Maroney](#)

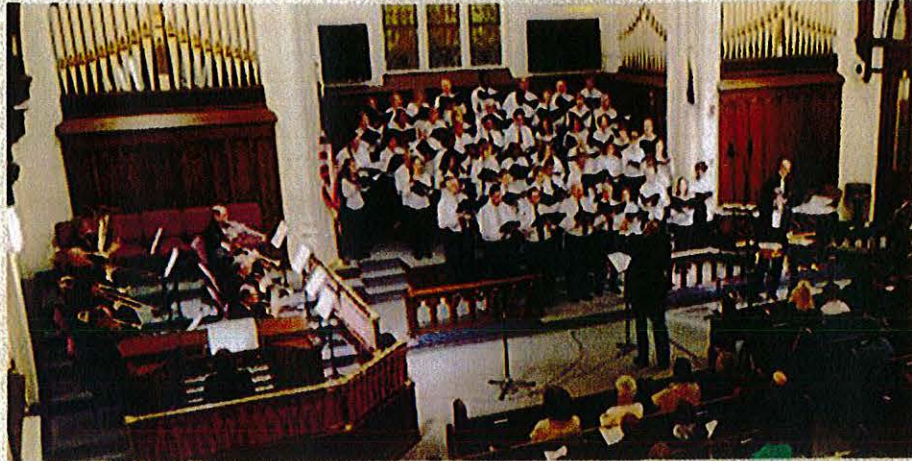
LISTEN to
University Singers
How to Audition



Selected from members of Concert Choir, **University Singers** is an auditioned group of 10-14 singers with rhythm section specializing in jazz and pop music.

University Singers rehearses Wednesdays 1-2:50 pm and is offered for 1 credit (MUS 240).

CONCERT CHOIR

Director: [Dr. James Maroney](#)

Performance of Rutter's Gloria

Concert Choir is open to all ESU students, faculty/staff, and community members who have had previous musical experience. The 70-voice ensemble performs a wide range of music in concert every semester, including major works such as Handel's *Messtiah*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Poulenc's *Gloria*, Rutter's *Requiem* and *Gloria*, and at campus events such as the Holiday Tree Lighting.

Concert Choir rehearses Tuesday evenings 7:15-9:15 pm in the Recital Hall of the University's Fine & Performing Arts Center on Normal Street. **Rehearsals for the Fall 2014 semester begin on August 26 in preparation for the Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 3.** Community members age 16 and over may join within the first three rehearsals of each semester. There is **no audition**, but all newcomers will be heard very briefly in private to assure they can accurately match pitches. There is **no membership fee**, but first-time community members must submit a \$20 music deposit which is refunded upon return of the music.

No prior signup is required - interested singers should simply come to rehearsal. May be taken repeatedly for credit as GE.MUS 130 (1 credit; grade is based on attendance).

For more detailed information, consult the [Concert Choir syllabus](#).