

State System News Highlights

West Chester University still basking in glow of NCAA baseball title

Monday, June 5, 2017

The players and coaches of the West Chester baseball team returned from Texas on Monday on a variety of different flights. But collectively the Golden Rams brought back the prize they were after — and in the process they also doubled up on the program's national championship hardware.

By Neil Geoghegan, The (West Chester) Daily Local News

Lawmakers call for study of every public college, university in Pennsylvania

Wednesday, June 7, 2017

In an effort to ensure a quality higher education system for students and for Pennsylvania's future workforce needs, state Rep. Mike Hanna, D-Lock Haven, today joined other state lawmakers to push for a comprehensive study of every public college and university in the state.

The (Lock Haven) Express

Interim presidents named at Slippery Rock, Cheyney universities

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education on Wednesday appointed interim presidents to lead Slippery Rock University and Cheyney University. The board of governors selected Philip K. Way, provost and vice president for academic and student affairs at Slippery Rock, to serve as acting president at the Butler County campus, and former Highmark executive Aaron A. Walton to serve as interim president at Cheyney in suburban Philadelphia.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Task force recommends changes to save historic Cheyney University

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

In its fight for survival, Cheyney University should streamline its academic offerings and establish an Institute for the Contemporary African-American Experience in hopes of creating a "niche" that will lift the university to national prominence, a task force recommends.

By Sarah Mearhoff, The (Harrisburg) Patriot-News

Clarion U. president stepping down next summer

Monday, June 5, 2017

Clarion University President Karen Whitney is leaving office, effective June 30, 2018, the school announced Monday morning. Ms. Whitney is in her eighth year as president of the 5,200-student university, located about 80 miles northeast of Pittsburgh. She said her decision to retire from the position followed recent reflections about future goals.

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Mansfield president to retire in August

Monday, June 5, 2017

Mansfield University President Fran Hendricks today announced his intent to retire on Aug. 18. Hendricks, a 1979 Mansfield graduate, has been president at the institution since May 28, 2013.

Wellsboro Gazette

Boosters rally for struggling black college

Monday, June 5, 2017

Has Cheyney University been given a lifeline or a death sentence by a task force that recently proposed a host of reforms to overhaul academic instruction, business operations, and fiscal

management? That question was on the table Monday night during a public meeting at Zion Baptist Church, 3600 N. Broad St., on saving the nation's oldest historically black college.
By Mensah M. Dean, The Philadelphia Daily News

[State system appoints board member as new interim president for Cheyney](#)

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Cheyney University will get a new interim president, effective immediately – a long-time member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's board of governors, who co-chaired a task force this spring charged with charting a new course for Cheyney. Aaron A. Walton, a former senior vice president of Highmark Inc., takes over for Frank G. Pogue, who has been interim president since November 2014, the state system announced Wednesday.

By Susan Snyder, The Philadelphia Inquirer

[Former Highmark executive appointed interim president of Cheyney University](#)

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

A former Highmark Inc. executive and longtime member of the oversight board of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education has been appointed interim president of Cheyney University. Officials at the state system said Aaron Walton, 70, of Pittsburgh will take the reins at the troubled, historically black institution near Philadelphia effective today at an annual salary of \$248,000.

By Debra Erdley, The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

[Pogue Retires from Cheyney University, Ready for Next Challenge](#)

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

A successful, veteran higher-education executive who has been characterized by peers as among a group of "presidents-for-rent" has retired for the fifth time in his career, saying he already has plans to continue working in higher education. Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, the financially troubled state institution is facing a major and growing deficit and the risk of losing its accreditation at the end of the year, says Dr. Frank Pogue Jr., who is "retiring again," having served as interim president of the institution since November 2014.

By Reginald Stuart, Diverse Issues in Higher Education

[Non-traditional college will serve rural counties](#)

Friday, May 26, 2017

The Rural Regional College of Northern Pennsylvania announced Friday that it has state approval to operate an institution for low-cost instruction serving nine counties lacking a community college. Officials said the OK from the state Department of Education means plans will proceed to enroll RRC's first students in the fall, through a partnership with Gannon University in Erie.

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

[Closing Pitt-Titusville an option](#)

Friday, June 2, 2017

A structure enrollment decline that is affecting college campuses across western Pennsylvania is continuing to drive a conversation about the viability of the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville campus; and officials on Thursday released a draft analysis of the multitudes of problems and a few potential solutions for the local school.

By Joshua Sterling, The Titusville Herald

[Future of Pitt's Titusville campus unclear](#)

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

With enrollment down 40 percent this past decade, the University of Pittsburgh is weighing options for its struggling Titusville campus ranging from major program changes and eliminating residence halls to closing the campus, a draft report says.

By Bill Schackner, The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette