

State System's Board of Governors recognizes student-athletes, retiring presidents; elects new officers

Harrisburg – The Board of Governors of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education today recognized student-athletes from Clarion, Shippensburg and West Chester Universities who brought home National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II national championships in the last year.

The field hockey team from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania captured its second NCAA title in the fall, capping a 20-3 season with a 2-1 victory over LIU Post in the championship final. The championship marked the 23rd time in 26 years a team from the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference won the NCAA Division II field hockey title.

Shippensburg led the nation in four major statistical categories—winning percentage (.870), goals-against average (0.46), save percentage (.900) and shutouts (14). Head coach Bertie Landes was named 2016 Front Rush/National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division II Coach of the Year.

Collin Vest, a senior at Clarion University of Pennsylvania, won the 1-meter dive for the third time at the NCAA swimming and diving national championships held earlier this year in Birmingham, Alabama. Vest finished his collegiate diving career as an eight-time All-American and four-time NCAA Division II national champion, having also won the 3-meter dive last year.

Georgia Wright, a freshman at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, won both the 1,000- and 1,650-yard freestyle events at the swimming and diving national championships, breaking the NCAA Division II record in the 1,000 on the first night of the competition. She also finished seventh in the 500-yard freestyle, earning a total of three All-American citations. She was named the PSAC Freshman of the Year for her regular season performance and also won four individual events—setting two conference records in the process—and was a member of the winning 400-yard medley relay team at the PSAC Championships, where she was named Swimmer of the Meet.

The West Chester University baseball team wrapped up the championship performances in June, capturing the NCAA Division II title with a 5-2 win over the University of California-San Diego in its final game. The Golden Rams went a perfect 4-0 in the double-elimination championship tournament to win its second national title.

West Chester is the only team from the northeastern United States to win the Division II championship, and the only team from any school in Pennsylvania to win the national championship at any level. Junior designated hitter Shane Dressler was named a second team All American by the American Baseball Coaches Association and sixth-year head coach Jad Prachniak was named the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference's Coach of the Year.

Retiring Slippery Rock, Mansfield university presidents honored

The Board recognized the contributions of two retiring university presidents— Cheryl J. Norton of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania and Francis L. Hendricks of Mansfield University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Norton has served as Slippery Rock’s president since June 2012, when she became the first woman to lead the institution in its 128-year history. Under her leadership, the university regularly was cited for excellence by national publications, including being recognized as a national, regional and public “College of Distinction” and being named a “Great College to Work For” by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Her support of sustainability efforts resulted in Slippery Rock being named a national “Green Ribbon School” by the U.S. Department of Education, making it one of only 11 colleges and universities in the country to earn such distinction. She will retire July 21.

Mr. Hendricks was the first graduate of Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education to be named president of a State System university. He graduated from the then Mansfield State College in 1979, then returned to lead his alma mater as president in May 2013. Previously, Hendricks spent 33 years serving in the U.S. Air Force, retiring as a brigadier general. Under his leadership, Mansfield implemented several innovative programs, including the Commonwealth Scholar and TEAM programs, and was named to the annual Colleges of Distinction listing for three consecutive years. He will retire as president in August.

Shapira re-elected Board chair; Maser, Shields, vice chairs

The Board re-elected Cynthia D. Shapira of Pittsburgh as chair and David M. Maser of Philadelphia as vice chair. Harold C. Shields of Allison Park also was elected vice chair. All three will serve one-year terms.

Ms. Shapira is president of the David S. and Karen A. Shapira Foundation and a community activist. She previously was a management consultant, providing strategic management services to education and non-profit institutions. She is chair of the Greater Pittsburgh Jewish Federation and serves on the boards of the Allegheny County Airport Authority, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Point Park University and Brandeis University in Massachusetts.

She sits on the Governor's Advisory Board for Education and Workforce Development and previously served on the Pennsylvania Women’s Commission under Governor Tom Corbett. Ms. Shapira has been a board member of the United Way of Allegheny County, The Pittsburgh Promise, WQED and Vibrant Pittsburgh. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Wellesley College and a Master of Public Administration degree from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

Mr. Maser is *Of Counsel* with Chimicles & Tikellis, a nationally known securities and consumer class action law firm. He works primarily with the firm’s institutional clients, representing 25 public funds with more than \$300 billion in assets. He has worked in both law and government for 20 years and has been involved with multiple presidential campaigns and numerous other federal, state and local campaigns.

Mr. Maser also is active in his community, serving as chairman of Philadelphia 3.0; as a founding member and chairman of the Board of the Garces Foundation; and as a member of the Pennsylvania Society and the Union League of Philadelphia. He also is chair of the Board's Finance, Administration and Facilities Committee.

Mr. Shields is the principal in Harold C. Shields HR Consulting LLC. He is a member of the Council of Trustees at **Edinboro University of Pennsylvania**, from which he earned both bachelor's and master's degrees, and chair of the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees.

A career human resources professional, he previously was human resources director of Global Business Services and HR director of Pittsburgh Resource Units for Alcoa for 28 years until retiring in 2009. He also worked for the Opportunities Industrialization Center in Erie, a self-help program founded by the late Leon H. Sullivan, as well as for Bucyrus-Erie and WICU-TV in Erie. He has served as a member of the Edinboro University Foundation Board of Directors and the Edinboro University Alumni Association Board of Directors. His other civic efforts include serving as board president of Three Rivers Youth and as a board member of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Pittsburgh. He was the first African-American elected to the Erie School Board and served a term as president. He also is chair of the Board's Human Resources Committee.

Mansfield University vice president selected to serve as university's interim president

Harrisburg – The Board of Governors of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education today selected Mansfield University of Pennsylvania Vice President of Administration and Finance Scott W.H. Barton to serve as interim president of the university beginning Aug. 19.

Mr. Barton, who came to the university in February, will assume the duties of president following the retirement of Francis L. Hendricks next month.

"The role of interim president is a vital one. It is important that an institution maintain its momentum during the transition to new, permanent leadership," said Board of Governors Chair Cynthia D. Shapira. "Mr. Barton's strong leadership will be essential to the entire university community."

Mr. Barton holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla., and a Master's in Business Administration from Regis University in Denver, Colo.

He has nearly two decades of experience as a financial administrator, in the areas of both accounting and information technology. He previously worked as a

financial credit examiner for the state of Colorado, a bank examiner for the state of Montana and northwest area controller for LandAmerica.

“I am honored to serve in this capacity as we work together to ensure the future of Mansfield University is both sustainable and well-positioned to meet the needs of the Northern Tier and all of the Commonwealth,” said Mr. Barton. “We look forward to welcoming back our students in the Fall, and are ready for an exciting year ahead.”

Mr. Barton will serve as interim president at Mansfield until the successful conclusion of a national search for a permanent president.

The Board of Governors is responsible for hiring university presidents within the State System. When the need for temporary leadership at a university occurs, the chancellor—in consultation with the chair of the Council of Trustees—makes a recommendation to the Board of Governors, which then meets to ratify the selection. An interim president serves as the university’s chief executive officer, with the same responsibilities and authority as a permanent president.

“Even as we say farewell to President Hendricks and thank him for his service to the university, we also look to the future to ensure a seamless transition in leadership,” said Council of Trustees Chairwoman Bobbi Kilmer. “The Council and I are confident that Scott Barton won’t miss a beat as we head into the new academic year.”

Board of Governors approves eight degree programs

New offerings in business, engineering, social media, sustainability and health information management

Harrisburg – The Board of Governors of Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education today approved eight new degree programs, in areas including international business; environmental, mechanical and biomedical engineering; social media; sustainability; and health information management.

Various State System universities developed the new programs, designing them to respond to changing student and workforce needs. The new degrees, which the universities will offer beginning as soon as this fall semester, are:

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in international business at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
- Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering at Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Bachelor of Science in social media theory and strategy at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
- Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
- Bachelor of Science in sustainability at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

- Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering at West Chester University of Pennsylvania
- Master of Science in health information management at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
- Doctor of Philosophy in business at Indiana University of Pennsylvania

“Our universities continue to be forward thinking and innovative in redesigning their academic programs to meet the evolving needs of students, their future employers and the Commonwealth,” said State System Chancellor Frank T. Brogan. “We are convinced that these degree programs will prepare a new generation of students for success.”

The Bachelor of Science in business administration in international business at Bloomsburg University beginning this fall will prepare students with a wider set of skills and a global mindset. Graduates will be able to pursue successful careers with profit, nonprofit and government organizations in an increasingly global, interconnected world. It will combine liberal arts learning with the functional business disciplines, experiential learning and leadership training.

The Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering IUP will offer beginning in the spring semester will combine a solid grounding in college level basic sciences and mathematics with environmental engineering and technical courses. The program will prepare students to apply scientific and mathematical principles to the design, development and operational evaluation of systems controlling living environments, and to monitor controlling factors in the natural environment. These systems include pollution control, waste and hazardous material disposal, health and safety protection, conservation, life support and requirements for protection of special materials and related work environments.

The Bachelor of Science in social media theory and strategy at Kutztown University will prepare graduates with the skills needed for careers rooted in social media content development, management, administration, marketing and analysis. Degree recipients will be able to apply social media knowledge to lead generation, public advocacy, digital marketing management, concept promotion, e-commerce, digital content marketing, pay per click (PPC) ad construction and evaluation and content marketing. Completion of the program will require an internship and a capstone course incorporating pre-professional mentoring and a public presentation. The program will begin in August.

The Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering at Shippensburg University will prepare students for a wide variety of careers, including in the design and manufacturing of mechanical and electromechanical components and systems. The curriculum will include a focus on professional engineering practice and access to the latest Computer Assisted Design (CAD) and Computer Assisted Manufacturing (CAM) tools, with an emphasis on design for manufacturability, modeling, simulation, process control and rapid prototyping. It will balance theory and hands-on practice that will prepare students to be effective and practical engineers when they graduate. The program will begin in the fall 2018 semester.

The Bachelor of Science in sustainability at Shippensburg University will prepare graduates to be environmental scientists with expertise in sustainability, coupled

with technical skills in geographic information systems (GIS) and real-world work experience through required internships. The program will begin this fall.

The Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering program West Chester will offer beginning in fall 2018 will build on the university's expertise in the health and life sciences, including its existing pharmaceutical product development major. Biomedical engineering has emerged as a professional discipline largely in response to the increasing dependence of modern healthcare on complex diagnostic, screening, monitoring, prosthetics, surgical instrumentation and biotechnology. The new program will offer tracks in biosystems, bioinstrumentation and imaging; biomolecular and biochemical; biomechanics; and biomaterials and tissues.

The Master of Science in health information management at Slippery Rock will join two existing graduate programs in data analytics and health informatics as data-oriented supplements to the university's health and wellness focus. The 33-credit professional degree program will complement the existing programs, focusing on designing, storing and utilizing data for daily operational decisions. Courses, which will be offered in a blended format, will be held at the Regional Learning Alliance just outside of Pittsburgh beginning in fall 2018. Flexible scheduling will accommodate working practitioners.

The Doctor of Philosophy in business degree program at IUP will be offered in a weekend, cohort-based format for working professionals in the Pittsburgh region. The program is designed to be offered on a part-time basis, consisting of two years of coursework, a comprehensive examination and a dissertation. It will be the first such program in the region to enable working professionals to complete their doctorate in a convenient and cost-effective format, enabling them either to transition into academic positions at universities or to enhance their abilities and credentials related to modern business data analytics and strategic analysis to advance their careers in business and industry. The first program cohort is expected to begin in spring 2018.

For more information on any of the new programs, please contact the appropriate university.