Chairman Claibourne D. Smith welcomed all to the April Board of Trustees meeting. Following the agenda, Dr. Smith administered the oath of office to two new Trustees: 1) Mr. David Turner for a term of four years, filling the unexpired term of Mrs. Richelle Vible, expiring on January 4, 2012, and 2) Dr. Lillian M. Lowery who was sworn in for a term of six months, filling the unexpired term of Mr. Norman Oliver, expiring on August 19, 2008. Dr. Smith yielded to Dr. Land.
Dr. Land introduced the 2007 Football Team Members and Coaches to the Board of Trustees and yielded to Dr. Smith who read the attached resolution, as presented. Following a standing ovation, Coach Lavan and Athletic Director, Rick Costello presented the 2007 championship footballs to the Board of Trustees and President Sessoms. Chairman Smith accepted the game balls on behalf of the Board. Chairman Smith yielded to Coach Lavan who gave brief remarks on behalf of his coaches and players regarding their pursuit of excellence on and off the field.

Chairman Smith returned to the chair and stated that he wanted to move into executive session to discuss the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and legal issues.

He asked for and received a motion that was seconded to go into executive session to discuss the CBA and legal matters at 1:55 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting resumed in open session at 2:30 p.m.

Chairman Smith announced that if anyone wished to record the audio portion of the meeting, Delaware law requires that they announce their intention before they begin recording and that minutes of this meeting will be taken and made available once approved. For the record, no one indicated that they wanted to record the meeting proceedings.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2008, meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The motion passed unanimously.

After the motion was passed, Chairman Smith called for Committee Reports.

THE STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Dr. John Land, chair)

Dr. Land reported that the Student Affairs Committee met with the Dean of the College of Health and Public Policy and Medical Director for University Health Services, Dr. Lisa Barkley, on March 19, 2008. He indicated that she gave an impressive presentation and was confident in her leadership abilities as it relates to the health services provided to the students at Delaware State University. Dr. Land reported that the committee met on April 9, 2008 with the Academic Enrichment Department, under the leadership of Ms. Phyllis Collins. Dr. Land commented that Ms. Collins gave a presentation on mentoring in 2006 and the meeting on April 9, 2008 was an update of the goals and mission of the Academic Enrichment Department.
4/10/08

Dr. Land stated that the committee felt comfortable with the changes taking place within the Department of Academic Enrichment in that they are on target with the goals that were established two years ago. They are still working on things and projects are in progress, but they are on point with the responsibilities set two years ago.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the committee meetings mentioned above; i.e. mentoring and student health services provided for our students. Dr. Mackie commented that he felt that mentoring and retaining students were a priority here at Delaware State University. Dr. Barros commented that the meeting with Dr. Barkley enlightened him on the status of student health services. He commented that the presentation given by Ms. Collins and her team was exceptional and he commended them for utilizing the Library as a place for providing tutoring and other valuable services for our students.

President Sessoms commented that students with mental health issues and providing counseling services are a national epidemic at colleges and universities. He stated that these topics have been discussed extensively at the national level.

There were no items for Board action.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Student Affairs Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (Dr. A. Richard Barros, chair)

Dr. Barros reported that the Educational Policy Committee met on April 7, 2008 with the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate which was the second meeting with this group in an effort to communicate and encourage open dialog on topics mutually agreed upon by both committees. Dr. Barros reported that the Educational Policy Committee met on April 9, 2008 and have recommended items that require Board action, as presented in the following motions: Prior to reading the first motion, Dr. Barros yielded to Dr. Bell who explained the policy as it related to University costs, and the process of sabbatical leave, in accordance with the faculty collective bargaining agreement. Dr. Barros returned to the chair and read the following items for Board action:

MOTION: Move that the application for Dr. Gustav Ofosu, be approved for Emeritus status, as recommended by the Department Head, Dean, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the President of the University. Emeritus appointment is to be effective June 30, 2008.
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It was properly moved and seconded to approve Dr. Gustav Ofosu for Emeritus status, effective June 30, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Move that the application for Dr. Kenneth Bell, be approved for Emeritus Status, as recommended by the President of the University. Emeritus appointment is to be effective May 30, 2008.

It was properly moved and seconded to approve Dr. Kenneth Bell for Emeritus status, effective May 30, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Move that, Sabbatical Leave be granted to the following persons as recommended by the Departmental Personnel Committee, the Departmental Chairperson, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Dean, Provost and the Educational Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees:

Dr. Cynthia Mayo, Associate Prof., Hospitality & Tourism Mnnt. Fall 2008
Dr. Dae R. Kim, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Management Spring 2009
Dr. Young S. Kwak, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Acctg, Econ. & Fin. Fall 2008
Dr. Elizabeth Nielsen, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of English & Foreign Lang. Fall 2008
Dr. Kevina Vulinec, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Agri. & Nat. Resources Spring 2009

It was properly moved and seconded to grant sabbatical leave to the persons listed above, for the periods indicated.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Move that, requests to postpone Sabbatical Leave be approved for the following persons:

Dr. Rodney McNair, Assoc. Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Mathematics Fall ’09 and Spr ‘10
Dr. Steve Newton, Professor, Dept. of History, Pol. Sci. & Phil. Fall 2008

It was properly moved and seconded to approve requests to postpone sabbatical leave for the persons listed above.

The motion passed unanimously.
MOTION: Moved, that those faculty members and other AAUP unit members named in the attached list, as presented, be appointed for the academic year 2008-2009, per established procedures.

It was properly moved and seconded to approve the appointment of faculty members and other AAUP unit members named in the attached for the academic year 2008-2009, per established procedures.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: The Educational Policy Committee moves that the Board of Trustees accept for promotion and/or tenure in 2008, those persons who have been recommended by the President, as presented in the attached list.

It was properly moved and seconded to approve for promotion and/or tenure in 2008, those persons in the attached list who have been recommended by the President.

The motion passed unanimously.

Prior to the final action item, discussion ensued regarding the list of potential graduates for 2008, as presented, and whether the Board should act on this item or wait until the Faculty Senate approved the list at their next meeting. Dr. Barros wanted to act on the item in today’s open session so that a Board decision did not have to be done via teleconference and that there would not be any violation of FOIA regulations. He continued with the motion as follows.

MOTION: The Educational Policy Committee moves that the Board of Trustees approve for graduation, those students who are finalized as recommended by the Faculty Senate and approved by the President, as presented in the 2008 list of potential graduates.

It was moved and properly seconded to approve the 2008 list of candidates for graduation, who are finalized by the Faculty Senate and approved by the President, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

Following the motion, and for the record, Chairman Smith asked Mr. Farley to give a brief overview of the Attorney General’s opinion regarding the FOIA complaint against Delaware State University, dated February 20, 2008, as presented. Mr. Farley summarized the AG’s findings stating that electronic participation via teleconference was not a violation of FOIA open meeting requirements. Among the points raised were:
4/10/08

- a quorum was defined, that one was present and was acceptable,
- proper posting of notice with subject and location of meeting be included, and
- that participants could hear and be heard during the teleconference.

Dr. Smith returned to the chair and thanked Mr. Farley for the summarization.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Educational Policy Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (Mr. Marvin Lawrence, chair)

Mr. Lawrence reported that there were no items for Board action and that the Finance Committee met on April 10, 2008. He stated that in dealing with finances this fiscal year, the University is operating on a balanced budget as it nears the end of FY 08.

Mr. Lawrence commented that in light of the economy, the University is being managed well and that the final work for 2008/2009 is on target with the budget process.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Finance Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENTS (Mr. James Stewart, chair)

Mr. Stewart reported that there were no items for Board action and that the Development and Investments Committee met on April 10, 2008. He commented on the following points:

- that the University will be selecting a new investment manager and Haverford has submitted a proposal as well,
- that the Capital Campaign requires staff augmentation in the Development Office to ratchet up donor relationships, and
- that the annual giving campaign will be finished in June 2008.

Mr. Stewart yielded to Mrs. Curry who introduced Mr. George Robinson who is the new Director of Athletic Development. Mrs. Curry commented that Mr. Robinson hails from Norfolk State University. Mr. Robinson was not available for comment.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Committee on Development and Investments.

The motion passed unanimously.
THE AUDIT COMMITTEE (Mr. Jose Echeverri, chair)

Mr. Echeverri reported that there were no items for Board action and that the Audit was completed on time. He commented that the audit was filed on time and that the Board of Trustees would be able to review the management letter soon.

In other matters, Mr. Echeverri commented on the extraordinary work of the University’s Internal Auditor, Mr. Ed Watson. He stated that Mr. Watson is training the staff on University efficiency, i.e. energy cost savings, and checks and balances.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Audit Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE (Dr. John Land, chair)

Dr. Land reported that there were no items for Board action and that the Buildings and Grounds Committee met on April 10, 2008. Among the points raised were:

- Wellness and Recreation Project is on target and under budget
- Student Center Project, which includes a pool, has a targeted completion date of August 2008
- Minor Capital Improvement Projects – overall budget is $3.5M ($1.5M spent)
- Commercial Center Plot – RFP’s (Request for Proposals) will be going out to Developers on potential operations depending on results of the RFP’s to go forward to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Mr. Charles McDowell, chair)

Mr. McDowell reported that there were no items for Board action. He commented that the Board consists of 15 members and the Nominating Committee is comprised of the Board’s Chair, Vice Chairman, and himself. He stated that the Board of Trustees currently has one vacancy for them to fill and appoint someone to as they are currently reviewing a list of potential candidates. Mr. McDowell indicated that the Governor of the State of Delaware appoints eight members to the Board of Trustees and the other seven are appointed by the Board Members.
Chairman Smith asked for and received a motion that was seconded to accept the report from the Nominating Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

THE PRESIDENT’S REPORT (Dr. Allen Lee Sessoms, president)

President Sessoms indicated that he did not have a report, instead wanted to showcase students in two video clips as follows: 1) Mission in Technology Innovation – Award-winning You-Tube video and 2) A Broadcast from Beijing. Dr. Sessoms yielded to the Dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Technology, Dr. Beverly Hartline. Dr. Hartline introduced the students featured in the first video clip: Sharmaine Jackson, Asia Brown, James Poland, and Aaron Zelinskas. She also introduced Dr. Vincent Ciammaichelli, instructor and studio manager, in the Department of Mass Communications. Dr. Hartline congratulated all the students for their accomplishments, and thanked the faculty for providing the leadership. Dr. Ciammaichelli gave an overview of each video clip that was presented. The videos received national and international award recognition and exposure of our student’s talents in the field of mass communications. Chairman Smith returned to the chair, and led a round of applause for the students’ award-winning performances.

Chairman Smith called for public comments. There was one person who signed up, Bob Reeder, who left the meeting prior to being called for public comment.

Chairman Smith reminded Board Members that the AGB (Association of Governing Boards) Conference will be held from April 12-15, 2008 in Boston, MA.

Chairman Smith indicated that he wanted to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

It was properly moved and seconded to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 3:30 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

For the record, the meeting resumed in open session at 3:45 p.m.

Chairman Smith yielded to Dr. Barros who remarked that Mr. Farley would send a resolution, as presented, to the Board Secretary regarding a faculty members’ appeal of President Sessoms’ promotion and tenure decision.

Chairman Smith returned to the chair and the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Claibourne D. Smith, Chairman

Cynthia Williams, Board Secretary
DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY
DOVER, DELAWARE
ADDENDUM OF MOTIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE MEETING OF APRIL 10, 2008

1. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss the CBA and legal matters.
2. The Board reconvened in regular session.
3. Approved the minutes of the meeting of January 10, 2008.
4. Accepted the report from the Student Affairs Committee.
5. Approved Dr. Gustav Ofosu for Emeritus status, effective June 30, 2008.
7. Approved the following sabbatical leave requests:
   - Dr. Cynthia Mayo, Associate Prof., Hospitality & Tourism Mngt.    Fall 2008
   - Dr. Dae R. Kim, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Management    Spring 2009
   - Dr. Young S. Kwak, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Acctg, Econ.& Fin.    Fall 2008
   - Dr. Elizabeth Nielsen, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of English & Foreign Lang.    Fall 2008
   - Dr. Kevina Vulin, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Agri. & Nat. Resources    Spring 2009
   - Dr. Rodney McNair, Assoc. Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Mathematics    Fall ’09 & Spr ’10
   - Dr. Steve Newton, Professor, Dept. of History, Pol. Sci. & Phil.    Fall 2008
8. Approved the requests to postpone sabbatical leave for the following persons:
   - Dr. Rodney McNair, Assoc. Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Mathematics    Fall’09 & Spr ‘10
   - Dr. Steve Newton, Professor, Dept. of History, Pol. Sci. & Phil.    Fall 2008
9. Approved the appointment of faculty members and other AAUP unit members
   named in the attached list for the academic year 2008-2009, per established
   procedures.
10. Accepted and approved for promotion and/or tenure in 2008, those persons who
    have been recommended by the President, per the attached list.
11. Approved the 2008 list of candidates for graduation, who are finalized by the
    Faculty Senate and approved by the President, as presented.
12. Accepted the report from the Educational Policy Committee.
13. Accepted the report from the Committee on Finance.
14. Accepted the report from the Committee on Development and Investments.
15. Accepted the report from the Audit Committee.
16. Accepted the report from the Committee on Buildings and Grounds.

17. Accepted the report from the Nominating Committee.

18. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

19. The Board reconvened in regular session.

20. Approved adjournment.