



THE UNIVERSITY PARK
UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

The University Park Undergraduate Association

The Pennsylvania State University

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Penn State Board of Trustees Expands Student Representation on Committees

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – Aug. 10, 2016 – The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) commends Penn State Board of Trustees Chairman Ira Lubert’s decision yesterday to expand student constituent representation on the Board’s committees starting in September.

Currently the presidents of the UPUA, the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) and the Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) have seats on committees every year while the UPUA and CCSG vice presidents switch off each year on the Governance and Long-Range Planning committee. The expansion now allows the presidents and vice presidents of the UPUA, GPSA and CCSG to each be members of one of the Board’s six standing committees, including the Committee on Legal and Compliance and the Committee on Audit and Risk. Additionally, the change will allow the student representatives to choose which committees to sit on, rather than being assigned to one each year.

“This is certainly a victory for all Penn State students and will strengthen the position of students on the Board for generations to come,” said Terry Ford, President of the UPUA. “Such a victory would not have been possible without collaboration between UPUA, CCSG, and GPSA and the genuine partnership that exists between our organizations. We thank Chair Ira Lubert and Vice Chair Mark Dambly for their consideration of our proposal and their willingness to amplify the voice of students at the highest level of University governance.”

Kevin Horne, President of the GPSA also expressed his excitement. “We are so pleased that the Board has committed to furthering the student voice on its committees. A true university can only succeed if shared governance -- that is, the ability for students to have real participation in the decisions that affect their lives -- is accepted and celebrated. Today's news shows that this spirit is alive and well at Penn State.”

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The University Park Undergraduate Association works to provide students representation at the highest levels of administration and build programs to the benefit of undergraduates at University Park.