

Student Representative on the Clarion University Council of Trustees: *A Student's Guide to the Trustee Position*

Description:

If you want your voice to be heard, want to make positive change in the University community and believe in civic engagement, apply to become the next student representative on the Council of Trustees.

“One member of each council shall be a full-time undergraduate student in good academic standing (2.0 GPA or above), other than a freshman, enrolled for at least 12 semester hours at the institution of which he / she is a trustee. Student members of the Council of Trustees shall be appointed by the Governor.” (Section 20-2008-A of Act 188 of 1982)

Desired Skills:

The Student Trustee position requires a variety of skills, including, but not limited to:

1. Public speaking
2. Communication
3. Organization
4. Make connections through networking
5. Knowledge of local and campus community
6. Risk management
7. Articulates a vision
8. Time Management
9. Moral Character
10. Focus on both the short-term and long-term

Experience is not necessary to the position, however it does help. Participating in Recognized Student Organizations (RSO) or active attendance at Student Senate meetings allows you to witness the position in action.

Other Responsibilities:

In addition to the responsibilities outlined by the State System of Higher Education, the Clarion University Student Representative on the Council of Trustees has the following responsibilities:

1. Serve as an ex-officio member of the Clarion University Student Senate;
2. Attend weekly Student Senate general assembly meetings as a non-voting member;
3. Attend weekly Student Senate Executive Board meetings;
4. Serve as an active member of the Clarion Student Association, Inc. Board of Directors;
5. Serve as the Committee Chair for the Clarion Student Association, Inc. Board of Directors;
6. Serve as represent the student body of Clarion University at the Council of Trustee meetings;

7. Serve as representation of Clarion University at local and state events;
8. Serve as an active listener to the needs of the Clarion University student body and act on them when appropriate;
9. Organize the search for the next Student Representative of the Council of Trustees when deemed necessary.

Act 188 Powers and Duties:

In accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Governors, the council of each institution shall have the power and its duty shall be:

1. To make recommendations to the chancellor for the appointment, retention, or dismissal of the president following consultation with students, faculty, and alumni.
2. To assist the president in developing proper relations and understanding between the institution and its programs and the public, in order to serve the interests and needs of both.
3. To review and approve the recommendations of the president as to standards for the admission, discipline and expulsion of students.
4. To review and approve the recommendations of the president pertaining to policies and procedures governing the use of institutional facilities and property.
5. To approve schools and academic programs.
6. To review and approve the recommendations of the president pertaining to annual operating and capital budget requirements for forwarding to the Board.
7. To review and approve charges for room and board and other fees except student activity fees.
8. To conduct an annual physical inspection of facilities and make recommendations regarding maintenance and construction to the Board.
9. To review and approve all contracts and purchases negotiated or awarded by the president with or without competitive bidding and all contracts for consultative services entered by the president.
10. To represent the institution at official functions of the Commonwealth.
11. To take such other action as may be necessary to effectuate the powers and duties herein delegated.
12. In accordance with the evaluation procedure established by the Board, each council shall conduct an evaluation of the president and forward the results of that evaluation with recommendation to the chancellor for submission to the Board.

Tenure:

The student member shall serve a term of four (4) years or for so long as the student is a full-time undergraduate student in attendance at the institution of which he/she is a trustee, whichever period is shorter, and is in good academic standing.

Past Student Trustee Experience:

During my time as the Student Trustee I have:

- Approved student fees, room and board rates, and degree programs;
- Debated Parking Fine increases;
- Spoken at University Convocations;
- Attended the Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Trustees (PACT) Conferences at Kutztown, Edinboro and Indiana Universities;
- Worked with the entire Student Senate on multiple projects;
- Lobbied for higher education funding in Harrisburg;
- Attended numerous University functions and dinners with administration;
- Other activities upon request.