

---

## Westchester Administrative Staff Council Meeting

April 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by Michele Camardella

**Guest Speaker:** President Stephen J. Friedman

The president stated that it was a strange time to say goodbye as he will be around for the next 3-4 months. He stated that this was a good time to address you as a group as it gives me the opportunity to thank you for all your hard work and support over the years.

The university is in very good shape and we have a very good foundation for new leadership. The president stated that he intended to watch very carefully.

President Friedman joined the Law group 13 years ago, when he was 66 years old, and thought that it would be his last job. When he discussed this with his wife, she stated that it was a terrific opportunity, but where will it lead you? They certainly did not foresee university president in his future. When the chair of the board of trustees, Aniello Bianco asked him to step up to the president position, he said yes in 3 seconds which astonished Bianco.

Being president has been the single most gratifying experience he has had in his professional life. This experience has led to many proud accomplishments over the last 10 years.

True leadership encourages others to contribute. He expressed his gratitude to all who have contributed to the success of the university. The university has gotten better and better over the years due to the contributions from staff, faculty and alumni.

He goes on to state that he leaves the university in good hands in Marvin Krislov. This will be an adjustment for Krislov, given the profile of Oberlin College. He was vice president and general counsel of the University of Michigan and has a distinguished record in government. President Friedman feels that the next 10 years will be very exciting and he will be watching.

---

## **Announcements:**

### Michele Camardella – WASC co-chair

Elections for the WASC board will be held at the next meeting, in May. Open positions are: Co-Chair and Secretary. Nominations for all positions are welcomed.

### Jonah Safris- WASC Service Committee

The annual staff picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, we will also have the food bank drive again.

Tomorrow is Spirit Setter's Day of Service on the Pleasantville campus.

### Karen Buckwald- Human Resources

Wellness walks take place on Tuesdays at the Summit in Valhalla.

Wellness partnered with Chartwells on healthy cooking initiative there will be events in PLV and NY

Human Resources has a Relay for Life team, please donate if you do not have a team.

### Betsy Garti- Human Resources

Human Resources is changing the performance review process. It was piloted this year by the College of Health Professions.

### Rosemary Mulry- Human Resources

Take your child to work day is on April 27, the registration form is on the portal

### Kathi Reczek – College of Health Professions

Fitness Walk for Earth Month is Wednesday, April 12 starting at 11:30 AM at the Environmental Center Pavilion. Please RSVP to me.

---

### Treasurer's Report - Danielle Catalano-Taylor

The encumbrance was released so we could enough money for the staff picnic and provide coffee, tea and refreshments for President Friedman today. At this time we have \$5, 530.95 in the account.

### Compensation and Benefits – Matt Renna

In a reply to Faculty Council's March meeting where faculty wanted feedback on salaries of top administrators versus faculty, Matt made a presentation that clarified the matter. He stated that pay equity for all of the work force is being worked on.

Regarding benefits, the benefits committee has communicated via e-mails, this year –

It has been a challenging year - There was a 2 step co-pay increase over the last 2 years, to catch up with inflation. No increase is anticipated this year. Initially we were looking at a 20.8% increase. Cigna would not go down to single digits, now we're at 10.9% and we're not done negotiating.

Matt has optimism that things will go right. The Plan is not changing, cost is going up, will know better, next month.

Matt stated that members of the plan are doing the right thing by taking advantage of wellness initiatives and administrative protocols which helps bring the costs down.

Q: Could you provide a *Tip Sheet* that summarizes what patients are to do to help keep costs down?

A: Good idea, I will look into it.

### Kathi Reczek – Health Care Units – College of Health Professions

If you're at work and feeling sick, you can come to the Health Center. We accept Pace's health plan and some other plans - FYI

March 3, 2017 meeting minutes approved.

Meeting Adjourned 10:05 AM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Faillace.