

**Feuchtenberger, Karen**

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**From:** Ammerman, Paula <PRA4@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2011 12:47 PM  
**Subject:** Communication from Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees  
**Attachments:** SAG JPS Communication to Board.pdf

**Importance:** High

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

Steve Garban and John Surma asked that I distribute the attached communication for information.

In the event you are unable to open or access the attachment, please advise and a print copy will be provided.

Paula

Paula R. Ammerman  
Director, Board of Trustees Office  
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(814) 865-2521; (814) 863-4631 (FAX)  
[pra4@psu.edu](mailto:pra4@psu.edu)

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Board of Trustees  
The Pennsylvania State University  
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814-865-2521  
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**DATE:** November 15, 2011

**FROM:** Steve A. Garban *Steve A. Garban*  
Chairman

John P. Surma *John P. Surma*  
Vice Chairman

**TO:** Members of the Board of Trustees

We want to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues on the Board for their extraordinary efforts and attention over the past week. Our challenges were many, and we addressed them head on.

We now have the appropriate leadership in place with President Erickson, and he must focus on the business of managing this complex University and educating our students. He has pledged to update the Board on a regular basis and the communication we received last evening is evidence of that.

Many of the Trustees have commented that conducting discussions with the full Board and Emeritus members in attendance can be a cumbersome process. We are concerned that this is not helpful to President Erickson to conduct the myriad duties that he has.

Therefore, from this point forward, we need to streamline the communications among and with the members of the Board. We must do this for two reasons: First, and foremost, there have been serious breaches in confidentiality of our discussions and we will take the necessary steps to address those.

Second, a smaller group will be more effective to provide feedback to President Erickson on a regular basis. The Executive Committee will be tasked for this purpose.

You have our assurance that this approach is to streamline the communications process and to better assist the President; it is not designed to limit input or debate. We will insure that no major policy steps are taken without appropriate participation by the full Board of Trustees.

We will plan weekly briefings for the voting membership, and Paula will be in touch with you for those details.

**Feuchtenberger, Karen**

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**From:** Ammerman, Paula <PRA4@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 07, 2011 2:41 PM  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT Message Re Transmitted Email

**Importance:** High

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

You were the recent recipient of an email from Trustee Joel Myers. Trustee Myers has asked that we advise that any response to that message should be through University Counsel at [cab71@psu.edu](mailto:cab71@psu.edu) and marked **ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE**.

Paula

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