

## Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

(Excerpt from the *Standing Orders* of The Pennsylvania State University.)

*Standing Order IX, "Governance of the University"*

(1) Role of the Board of Trustees in University Governance

(c) Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall carry out certain responsibilities as a Board, without delegation. These responsibilities are:

1. The selection, support, compensation, and evaluation of the President of the University. This responsibility includes a commitment to grant the President broad delegated authority, to support the President in his/her exercise of such authority, to judge the performance of the President, and if necessary, to remove the President. In the selection of a President, the Board shall consult with representatives of the faculty and the student body.
2. The determination of the major goals of the University and the approval of the policies and procedures for implementation of such goals. The determination of the major goals of the University shall include the establishment and review of long-range plans for the educational, financial, and physical development of the University.
3. The review and approval of the operating and capital budget of the University.
4. Such other responsibilities as law, governmental directives, or custom require the Board to act upon. Among these are included:
  - a. Amend the Charter and Bylaws
  - b. Buy and sell real estate, with the exception of the sale of real estate of up to \$3 million in value gifted to the University for the express purpose of sale with proceeds benefitting the University
  - c. Borrow money
  - d. Transfer trust assets
  - e. Transfer securities
  - f. Authorization to receive certain government grants
  - g. Establish appropriate investment policies and exercise prudent oversight of the University's endowment, finances, and other tangible assets
  - h. Ensure an independent audit of the University's finances
  - i. Review and continuously improve the Board's performance

It is recognized that the performance of some of these responsibilities does involve the Board to some extent in the day-to-day operations of the University. Whenever possible, the Board shall devote its major time and consideration to its broader responsibilities for the welfare of the University.