

Alvin F. de Levie '73

Biographical Sketch

After my father was discharged from the Army in 1946, he and my Mom moved to State College. My father was the first Chairman of the Liberal Arts Study Abroad Committee and the Founder and Director of the PSU Foreign Studies Program. He had a deep respect and love for Penn State and believed in its potential to rival the greatest Universities in the world. I share his love for Penn State and I too believe Penn State offers a world-class education. I am running for the Board to preserve his vision that Penn State forever remains an affordable world-class university.

I grew up in State College, graduated from the State College High School in 1969 and Penn State in 1973. I was imbued with the culture and atmosphere that makes State College and Happy Valley a great place to study, live and visit.

I graduated from Villanova Law in 1976 and have ever since maintained an active presence and practice in State College, where my Mom still lives, Centre County and Philadelphia.

I have a proven record of tenaciously and successfully representing those who otherwise had little chance of prevailing in complex disputes against large corporations and institutions, including Penn State. I will bring that tenacity and skill set to the Board and will be a strong, effective voice and defender of our Penn State values. I will not be afraid to speak up and let the voice of the Alumni be heard.

Follow my campaign on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Alvin-de-Levie-for-Board-of-Trustees-164800964148304/>

Position Statement

Penn State's tuition rates are out of control. Since 2001, the cost of a double room and a mid-level meal plan increased by 250%. I will call for an independent audit to identify cost inefficiencies and waste in order to provide accessible, quality and affordable education for all.

The composition of the Board is unmanageable and ineffective. The average public university board has 13 members. Penn State's bloated, 36-member Board results in secretive decision-making by a clique of Board members in committees where transparency and accountability take a back seat. The Board leadership is tightening its control and stamping out dissent, hiding in executive-session and refusing to share information. Changing the size and composition of the Board is certainly no easy task, but one from which I will not shrink.

(See my Op-Ed: <http://www.centredaily.com/opinion/article189466914.html>).

Time to restore good town-and-gown relations. I am acutely aware of the need for Penn State to be a good neighbor. The Board must work with local communities to ensure both University and community needs are met.

Our legacy must be restored. The Board's conduct has distanced us from our past. We must heal old wounds, re-establish relationships with those who made our name great, and restore Penn State to its full glory.

Accessibility. I will remain accessible, communicate with you and will protect the values and principles cherished by Penn Staters. I have already started and I will continue to visit Alumni clubs.