



**RICHARD DIRK MATSON '77**

### **Biographical Sketch**

Dr. Matson graduated from Penn State in 1977. His degree was in Law Enforcement and Corrections. He attained his Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh in 1994 and his Ph.D. from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania in Administration and Leadership in 2011.

Dr. Matson is a Life Member of the Penn State Alumni Association, Nittany Lion Club, Penn State Wrestling Club and is a Penn State Season ticket holder. He has participated as a mentor for the Penn State Sociology Department. He is a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Dr. Matson attended Penn State Behrend from 1973-1975, where he lettered in wrestling. He wrestled at Penn State at University Park in 1976-77.

He has been employed by Adelphoi USA for 35 years. He has held numerous positions including Human Resource Director and Chief Operating Officer. He is currently President of the Adelphoi Foundation and Assistant to the CEO for Public Policy and Development. Adelphoi USA is a nonprofit agency that works with at-risk youth and their families, including abused youth. Adelphoi USA is headquartered in Latrobe, PA.

He is married to Theresa Pozonsky and have a son, Brett. They live in Ligonier, PA. He is active in his community having served on numerous boards such as the Ligonier YMCA, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Westmoreland County, and Westmoreland County Penn State Cooperative Extension.

### **Position Statement**

The unfolding of the recent scandal has motivated me to submit my name for election to the Board of Trustees. The negative perception of Penn State from outside our ranks and how ineffectively the current Trustees managed these events from inside our ranks calls for a change of the Board of Trustees.

I will work to create an environment of increased transparency between the Trustees, the faculty, the employees, the students, the alumni and the public. This will start with regularly scheduled dialogues with each of these groups. Two-way communication must be a first step.

If elected, I will work toward changing the Trustee bylaws so a majority of Trustees are elected at-large by alumni. Currently, there are only nine elected at large alumni on a Board of Trustees numbering 32. The alumni need a larger voice in how Penn State's interests are served.

Penn State must do everything legally and morally possible to prevent and address future abuse issues. This is an area of my professional expertise. I will call for a review of all current policies to close gaps and increase accountability.

I will work to increase Penn State's visibility and branding as a world class leader in undergraduate, graduate, and medical education without diminishing the strength of our sports programs.

If the numerous investigations vindicate Joe Paterno from wrongdoing, I will advocate for an apology from the University and his status at the university restored as much as possible.