

October 11, 2006

Members of the University Community

I am pleased, Dear Colleagues . . .

. . . to forward for your information a summary of actions approved by The University of Akron's Board of Trustees at its meeting on Sept. 20, 2006.

**Presentation to the Board**

Dr. James Lynn, interim dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, discussed the addition to Guzzetta Hall and the programming at the college.

**Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee**

1. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – July 2006

For the first month of the fiscal year, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$2.16 million to support 33 projects. For the same period in the prior fiscal year, \$4.41 million was awarded to support 26 projects. In July 2006, two patents were awarded, one patent application was filed, and seven disclosures were submitted. In July 2005, two patents were issued, one patent application was filed, and 10 disclosures were submitted.

### **External Affairs Committee**

#### 1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – July 2006

For July 2006, total giving was \$967,000, about 25 percent less than what was received in July 2005. In July 2006, 691 gifts were accepted, compared to 648 received during the same period last year.

### **Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee**

#### 1. Medina County University Center

Eight construction contracts totaling \$3.2 million were awarded for the \$8 million project. The low bid was accepted in each case. Contracts were awarded to Meridian Construction (general), Moser Construction (concrete), Superior Erection (structural steel), Duer Construction (masonry), Schindler Elevator (elevator), S.A. Comunale (fire, plumbing, HVAC), and Speelman Electric (electrical).

#### 2. Architecture and Design Services for Proposed Multi-use Facility

A contract for up to \$2 million was awarded to HNTB Ohio Architecture for professional architecture and design services necessary to obtain accurate estimates for a possible multi-use facility that would include a football stadium. HNTB was one of 11 firms to respond to the University's request for qualification proposals; three companies were interviewed. HNTB was selected based on its presentation and the firm's experience with similar projects.

### **Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee**

#### 1. Purchases of More Than \$150,000

Trustees approved the renewal of an agreement with Oracle/PeopleSoft for maintenance and support of software packages, including modules for financials, student administration and human resources. The agreement for \$683,323 was reviewed and approved as a sole source selection by the Department of Purchasing and the Office of General Counsel. As such, the purchase was not submitted for competitive bidding.

#### 2. Personnel Actions (attached)

## **New Business**

### 1. Naming of Marketing Laboratories

Trustees approved the naming of the Benjamin and Nancy Suarez Applied Marketing Research Laboratories in the College of Business Administration. The labs will be constructed on the fifth floor of the Polsky Building with funding donated by the Suarezes. The gift will also cover scholarships, graduate assistantships, and research awards for students.

## **Notes**

### 1. President's Report

I began my remarks by welcoming new Student Trustee Joseph D. Crawford and students from Dr. Sandra Coyner's Educational Foundation and Leadership class.

I then discussed the Forum Section of the Sept. 17 issue of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The newspaper teamed up with The Columbus Dispatch and The Dayton Daily News for a series of articles about the future of Ohio's public universities. The purpose of these stories was to prompt public debate about the issues in higher education that the next governor must address. As The Dayton Daily News pointed out, "What happens in the next four years can help propel us forward – or accelerate an indisputable decline." I also encouraged the Trustees to watch the gubernatorial debate later on the day of the meeting, the focus of which was education.

On Sept. 16, The University of Akron hosted, for the second time, the Voices and Choices regional town meeting, sponsored by the Fund for our Economic Future. Some 1,000 people came together to learn more about strengthening and promoting the economic well being of Northeast Ohio as a region. It was appropriate that this community dialogue take place on a university campus, because universities are sources of innovation, and they continue to play a critical role in driving the economic development of our region. I was kindly asked to introduce Rob Briggs at the opening of the meeting, and as you might expect, I reflected on the very deep commitment that this institution has to its own regional impact and to the growing realization that this region is not an isolated collection of municipalities, cities, and counties. To underscore that point, I showed the Trustees the satellite image of Northeast Ohio taken at night that clearly reveals the region to be one luminous whole. The image has been the focal point of UA's advocacy campaign promoting regionalism.

I also reported about the Urban Land Institute, which gathered here to discuss how to add even more value to the revitalization that is occurring around our campus through the University Park Alliance. The purpose of the meeting was to engage in a discussion on a unique kind of public-private real estate partnership – one that involves universities as key facilitators and partners in the revitalization of the neighborhoods and downtowns that surround them. The Urban Land Institute is arguably the nation's most prominent gathering

place for these kinds of issues and for the promotion of sound use of urban real estate for positive growth.

The Trustees were invited to tour the Guzzetta Hall addition after the meeting. I also invited them to attend the Sept. 29 dedication of the world-class center for dance and theatre. The facility includes seven large, technology-enhanced studios and an alternative/experimental performance venue.

In addition, I invited the Trustees to the Sept. 26 dedication of the second phase of the Taylor Institute for Direct Marketing on the 5th floor of the Polsky Building.

Several brief items were shared with the Board:

- The University recently compiled its preliminary 14-day enrollment numbers for the 2006-07 academic year, which are required by the State of Ohio. Some highlights:
  - Headcount enrollment is up 4 percent University-wide. The total student population is now 23,539. More important, full-time equivalent enrollment is up 5.3 percent, to 18,037. A major factor is our freshman class of 3,763 – the largest freshman class in 15 years.
  - Indeed, one of the major student attractions to our University is the quality of our faculty.
- Our faculty's ability to work so well with students is a special competency of the University. Recent faculty accomplishments include:
  - A biology course taught by Professor Dr. Richard Londrville has been named one of the nation's top examples of best practices in a study conducted by the Center for Educational Policy Research. Dr. Londrville's course was one of 149 from across the country reviewed by the study, conducted on behalf of the College Board. In addition to being cited among “best practices overall,” it was designated an “exemplary practice” course by a panel of national experts in biology.
  - Dr. Cynthia Flynn Capers, professor of nursing and coordinator of academic leadership initiatives and former dean of the College of Nursing, is a recipient of the 2006 ATHENA Award.
  - Dr. Roberta DePompei, director of the School of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, has been chosen a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
  - Dr. John Queener is being awarded the Kenneth and Mamie Clark Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Professional Development of Ethnic Minority Graduate Students.

- This fall, Dr. Sucharita Ghosh, associate professor of economics, will share her expertise in international economics as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Lecce in Italy.

I closed my remarks by noting that so many of us are excited about what is going on at The University of Akron, and that the Board shares this pride in the accomplishments of our staff, faculty, and students.

2. Next Regular Meeting

October 25, 2006, 10 a.m., Wayne College

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Luis Proenza

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees  
September 20, 2006**

**Appointments**

**Patrick M. Allen**, coordinator, Workforce Development and Continuing Education, 08/07/06; **Robin Angell**, instructor, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, 08/28/06; **Joe Augustine**, visiting artist, Music, 08/28/06; **Rebecca Barrett**, visiting assistant professor, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 08/28/06; **Lisa R. Boyd**, accounting clerk II, Controller's Office, 07/31/06; **Kevin P. Brennan**, instructor, Accountancy, 08/28/06; **Tim Campbell**, assistant strength and conditioning coach, Athletics, 08/28/06; **David Cockley**, instructor, Marketing, 08/28/06; **Mark de Socio**, assistant professor, Geography and Planning, 08/28/06; **David M. Devany**, visiting assistant professor, Paralegal Studies, Public Service Technology, 08/28/06; **Kristina M. English**, associate professor, Audiology, 01/16/07; **Patricia Galon**, associate professor, Nursing, 08/28/06; **Bryan T. Huettmann**, director, merchandising and licensing, Athletics, 08/21/06; **Robert Gessel**, college lecturer, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, appointment per University rule 3359-20-06.2, 08/28/06; **Jaelyn P. Gordon**, visiting assistant professor, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 08/28/06; **Thomas Hausman**, visiting assistant professor, Accountancy, 08/28/06; **Baki Hazer**, visiting scientist, Polymer Engineering, 09/04/06; **Danica S. Houle**, administrative assistant senior, College of Business Administration Dean's Office, 09/01/06; **Leon Howard III**, coordinator, Residence Life, 08/08/06; **Suresh K. Jewrajka**, research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 07/21/06; **William M. Johnston**, assistant director, marketing, promotions and fan development, Athletics, 08/07/06; **Brad Justice**, college lecturer, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, appointment per University rule 3359-20-06.2, 08/28/06; **John Kovatch**, associate vice president and controller, Business and Finance, 09/25/06; **Rick McFadden**, director, men's basketball operations, Athletics, 08/24/06; **Mauro J. Monz**, director, football operations, Athletics, 07/31/06; **S. Michael Murphy II**, coordinator, service learning, Student Affairs, 07/22/06; **Adam D. O'Connell**, assistant director, ticket operations, Athletics, 08/28/06; **Deborah Okonieski**, instructor, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 08/28/06; **Laroy Parker**, academic adviser, Academic Achievement Programs, 09/05/06; **Thomas V. Porten**, head golf coach, Athletics, 08/14/06; **Julie Pratt**, assistant softball coach, Athletics, 07/26/06; **Catherine Sahley**, visiting assistant professor, Biology, 08/28/06; **Katharine Sheppard**, visiting assistant professor, Economics, 08/28/06; **Alexis Shuler**, coordinator, Residence Life, 08/28/06; **Marsh Allen Smith**, coordinator, Residence Life, 08/08/06; **Carolyn Sutter**, instructor, Nursing, 08/28/06; **Sivaram Swaminathan**, Harold A. Morton Distinguished Visiting Professor, Polymer Science, 09/01/06; **Railene Thorson**, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics, 08/08/06; **Courtney Vinson**, assistant director, compliance, Athletics, 09/11/06; **Cheryl L. Ward**, visiting assistant professor, Educational Foundations and Leadership, 09/01/06; **Paul Warner**, assistant director, media relations, Athletics, 09/08/06; **Jeffrey T. Wyshner**, head women's tennis coach, Athletics, 08/25/06; **Nancy Yoder**, visiting assistant professor, Educational Foundations and Leadership, 09/01/06; and **Julie Yuhua Zhao**, visiting assistant professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, 08/01/06.

**Changes**

**Donald R. Appleby**, library specialist, University Libraries Circulation, title change from interim manager, Access Services, 08/28/06; **Cynthia F. Capers**, professor, Nursing, fellow, Institute for Lifespan Development and Gerontology, coordinator, Academic Leadership Initiatives, additional title of coordinator, Consortium of Eastern Ohio Master of Public Health Program, Nursing, 08/28/06; **Brian Davis**, associate vice president, Treasury and Financial Planning, title change from associate vice president, Finance and Administration, 09/01/06; **William Droddy**, assistant director, sports medicine, Athletics, promotion and title change from assistant athletics trainer, additional title of head football trainer, 08/01/06; **Rosemary Cannon**, assistant dean, finance and administration, Law Dean's Office, reclassification via job audit, 01/01/06; **Bridgie Ford**, professor, Education, additional title of interim department chair, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 08/28/06; **Sherry L. Gamble**, assistant professor, Surgical Technology, Allied Health Technology, title change from assistant professor, Surgical Assisting Technology, 08/28/06; **Jean A. Garcia**, administrative assistant, Sociology, promotion and title change from secretary, 07/24/06; **Lloyd Goettler**, director emeritus, Institute of Polymer Engineering, title change from director, 06/30/06, additional title of interim assistant to the dean, Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, 09/01/06; **Avraam I. Isayev**, distinguished professor, Polymer Engineering, additional title of interim director, Institute of Polymer Engineering, 08/28/06; **Bruce Keillor**, professor, Marketing, interim director, Institute for Global Business, relinquish title of interim director, Executive Education, 08/29/05; **Peggy S. Kraft**, coordinator grants, senior, Research Services and Sponsored Programs, promotion and title change from grants coordinator, 06/26/06; **Donald V. Laconi**, assistant dean, Advising Services, Summit College, professor, Hospitality Management, adjunct professor, Family and Consumer Science, additional title of interim director, Training Center for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, 07/01/06; **Laurie Madden**, associate vice president, Auxiliary Enterprises, title change from assistant vice president, 07/01/06; **Rodney A. McHood**, field service worker, Parking Services, status change from part time to full time, 06/26/06; **Martha Meconi**, college lecturer, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, title change from instructor, appointment per University rule 3359-20-06.2, 08/28/06; **Aiesha L. Miller**, academic adviser II, Honors, promotion and title change from academic adviser I, status change from part time to full time; 08/01/06; **James A. Newhall**, technology support analyst, Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, reorganization and department change from Hardware and Operating Systems Services, 06/26/06; **Matthew Powell**, assistant law librarian, Law Library, promotion and title change from library associate senior, 05/15/06; **Cheryl Purefoy**, director, Materials Handling, Printing Services, reclassification via job audit and title change from director, Printing Services, 08/01/06; **Rex Ramsier**, director, Institute for Teaching and Learning, professor, Physics, professor, Chemistry, promotion and transfer from Physics to Office of Senior Vice President and Provost, basis change from 9 to 12 months, 08/28/06; **Patrick R. Roberts**, director, Development – college-centered programs, promotion and title change from executive director, alumni development, 07/31/06; **John Savery**, associate professor, Education, director, Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, promotion and title change from interim director, transfer from Educational Foundations and Leadership, 07/01/06; **Theresa A. Schillig**, accounting clerk II, Controller's Office, transfer from Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering Dean's Office and title change from program assistant, 09/04/06; **Mark D. Soucek**, associate professor, Polymer Engineering, associate professor, Chemistry, joint appointment with Polymer

Engineering (primary) and Chemistry, 08/28/06; **Gary Sponseller**, senior enterprise systems programmer, Hardware, Operations and Operating Systems Services, reclassification via job audit and title change from enterprise systems programmer, 03/01/06; **Russell J. Tinkham**, assistant professor, Bibliography, interim chair, Cataloging, additional title of interim chair, Access Services, University Libraries - Collection Management, 08/28/06; **Andrew Thomas**, assistant professor, Marketing and International Business, additional title of director, Center for Organizational Development, Marketing, 08/28/06; **Jeannie Thomas**, assistant director for academics, Athletics, title change from manager, athletics study table, additional title of life skills coordinator, status change from temporary to regular, 08/15/06; **Frank Tompkins**, lead enterprise systems programmer, Hardware Operations and Operating Systems, reclassification via job audit and title change from senior enterprise systems programmer, 02/27/06; **Stephanie Woods**, associate professor, Nursing, additional title of interim assistant dean, nursing research, 08/28/06;

### Separations

**Thomas P. Andonian**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, 02/01/05; **William M. Beasley**, building services worker, Recreation and Wellness Services, 07/27/06; **David Black**, assistant professor, Geology, 07/31/06; **Robyn Brown**, examiner associate, International Programs, 09/04/06; **Carol A. Brodbeck**, coordinator, Nursing Outreach Program, deceased, 08/09/06; **Christen Cardina**, assistant professor, Bibliography, 08/30/06; **Daniel L. Dahl**, executive director, E. J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall, campus special performances coordinator, 08/31/06; **Kelly E. Daw**, assistant director, Alumni Association, 08/11/06; **Subhranil De**, postdoctoral research fellow, Polymer Engineering, 08/11/06; **Jaime L. Emery**, office assistant, Admissions Office, 08/01/06; **Tony Fox**, head women's tennis coach, Athletics, 08/31/06; **Dawn Harsch**, academic adviser II, Education Dean's Office, 08/14/06; **Ruan He**, research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 07/30/06; **Jeffrey Hughes**, director/choreographer, Ohio Ballet, 08/31/06; **Kwang-Un Jeong**, postdoctoral research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 09/01/06; **Patrick Kreiger**, director, Development – intercollegiate athletics annual fund, 08/31/06; **Jennifer Laughner**, accountant, Controller's Office, 08/31/06; **Evelyn Lehman-Trzynka**, assistant professor, Nursing, 08/05/06; **Aiesha L. Miller**, academic adviser II, Honors, 09/08/06; **Scott A Miller**, data warehouse database administrator and customer applications developer, Institutional Research, 08/11/06; **Lori L. Morris**, coordinator, word processing center, Law, 09/01/06; **Charles R. Parsons**, assistant to the dean for distributive education, Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering Dean's Office, 08/04/06; **Kia L. Quinn**, academic adviser, Academic Achievement Programs, 08/16/06; **Megan E. Sermersheim**, employee training and development specialist, Human Resources, 08/11/06; **Kimberly Shapiro**, assistant director, Recreation and Wellness Support Services, 08/31/06; **Rebecca Stultz**, academic adviser II, Student Services Administration, 09/08/06; **Jermel Wilkerson**, Web graphics designer, Application Systems Services, 08/02/06; and **Gary A. Yankovich**, building services worker, Physical Facilities, 08/31/06.