

August 24, 2007

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 regular meeting on August 1, 2007.

**Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee**

1. Tentative Graduation List and Statistics for Summer 2006

The Board approved candidates for a total of 1,038 degrees to be conferred during commencement ceremonies on August 25. The total includes 43 doctoral degrees, 374 master's degrees, and 621 undergraduate degrees.

2. Guidelines for Student Absence Because of University-Sponsored Events

Trustees approved recommendations from the Academic Policies Committee that define attendance guidelines for students who miss class because of University-sponsored events such as athletic games, academic field trips or disciplinary hearings. The guidelines spell out responsibilities for event sponsors, students and faculty members. The Faculty Senate approved the policy.

3. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – Fiscal Year 2007

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2007, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$32.8 million to support 459 projects. In the prior fiscal year, \$30.7 million was awarded to support 407 projects. In the recently concluded fiscal year, 12 patents were awarded, 35 patent applications were filed, and 71 disclosures were submitted. For the year prior, eight patents were issued, 37 patent applications were filed, and 57 disclosures were submitted.

**External Affairs Committee**

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – Fiscal Year 2007

Between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007, total giving was \$32.5 million, the highest annual total in UA history, and 28.9 percent more than the \$25.2 million received during the prior fiscal year. This fiscal year, 15,109 gifts were accepted, compared to 16,761 for the same period last year.

**Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee**

1. Medina County University Center – Furniture, Fixture and Equipment Supplier

The Board approved a \$322,188 contract with My Office Products of Akron to supply furniture, fixtures and equipment for the Medina County University Center. My Office Products was the low bidder, coming in about 20 percent below the budgeted amount.

2. Medina County University Center – Site Improvement Contractors

Trustees approved contracts totaling \$515,894 with low bidders Northstar Asphalt (general contractor), Speelman Electric (electrical work) and Tony Zumbo & Son (site and concrete). The total is less than 1 percent over the budgeted amount.

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

1. Revisions to Rec Center Miscellaneous Fees

Trustees approved minor revisions to the fee schedule approved in June. The items were inadvertently omitted from the schedule presented to the Board at that time.

2. Purchases of more than \$150,000

Board members approved a two-year service agreement with AVAYA for the campus telephone switch. The cost will be \$334,836 per year. No competitive bidding was required because AVAYA was determined to be the sole source.

3. Personnel Actions (approved as amended)

4. Budgets for 2008 Fiscal Year

The University of Akron's proposed budget for FY08, based on estimated revenues, will be \$317.5 million for the main campus – an 8.1 percent increase from the FY07 budget of \$293.6 million. The resolution also included the budget for Wayne College (\$11.9 million) as well. Assumptions include a 7 percent increase in the State Share of Instruction (in exchange for no increase in tuition and fees), a 4 percent increase in most room rates, a 6 percent

increase in the meal plans, and a 5 percent increase in student credit hours. Strategic investments will be made in Honors College scholarships, new faculty hires to open more general education courses, academic investment funds for faculty and the second phase of the New Landscape for Learning initiative. The budget also included rates for the Medina County University Center: \$245.50 per credit hour, except for Medina County residents, who will pay \$215.50 per credit hour for the next five years; the in-county discount is "repayment" to Medina County residents in an amount estimated to be equal to the value of the donated MCUC land.

### **New Business**

#### 1. Construction and Financing of Multi-complex Facility Including Stadium

Trustees authorized the construction and financing plans for a multi-complex facility including a 30,000-person stadium to be located within the area bounded by Brown-Union to the west, Spicer Street to the east, Exchange Street to the south and Vine Street to the north. Financing would transpire preferably through an alternative funding approach proposed by Welty Stadium Association/RBC Capital Markets that includes a guarantee by Welty that its debt financing plan will save the University at least \$2 million over the standard issuance of tax-exempt bonds financing through general receipt bonds. However, the form and substance of the guaranty was made subject to approval of the University's general counsel and vice president for finance and administration, as well as final approval by the Board of Trustees; and, the alternative funding proposal was further made subject to a determination by University officers, in consultation with the University's financial advisor and bond counsel, that the alternative financing would be more favorable to the University than an issue of general receipts bonds.

#### 2. Capital Improvement Projects and the Method of Financing

Trustees authorized the financing for the construction, equipping and furnishing of four projects: (1) Quaker Square, (2) a new parking deck, (3) an additional residence hall and (4) renovations to Robertson Dining Hall. The University will issue general receipt bonds to finance the projects.

### **Notes**

#### 1. President's Report

I began my remarks by noting two significant appointments.

First, Dr. Charles Fey was appointed vice president for student affairs. He served as vice president for student affairs at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Prior to that assignment, he was dean of students at the University of Texas at El Paso. I thanked Provost Stroble and Candace Campbell Jackson, vice president and chief of staff, for having served in the oversight capacity of the student affairs units during this transition period.

Second, Dr. Stephen Z. D. Cheng has been appointed dean of our College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, replacing Dr. Frank Kelley. Dr. Cheng is well known to the campus community and the international community, and he will bring great energy and enthusiasm to this endeavor. I thanked Dr. George Newkome for having served as interim dean, doubling up on his hats of vice president for research and dean of the graduate school and president of our research foundation.

As we look forward to the new academic year and to all of the excitement that comes with it, including continued strong growth in our enrollment, it is also time for a measure of reflection – a sort of snapshot of where we have been and where we want to go. You will find that image reflected in our most recent report to the community titled, "Inventing the Future." As I point out in that report, our future is whatever we envision it to be. For if we succeed in creating a common vision built on bold and powerful ideas, we will lay the foundation for a prosperous and vibrant tomorrow. Vision, however, is only the first step. It must be followed with resolute and decisive action. As Goethe reminds us, "Boldness has genius, power and magic to it." It has transformative power. "Begin it now," he said. The recent accomplishments of our University stand as clear evidence of this fundamental truth.

I thanked the Trustees for their strong leadership, for having worked tirelessly and diligently to help us to implement this vision and for making us proud of this great University. Indeed, our most noticeable achievements are tied to the physical renewal of our campus, with 10 new buildings, 15 major additions and renovations, and 30 acres of new green space. And, there are more projects nearing completion, including our new Exchange Street Residence Hall and the renovation of our Robertson Dining Hall. In January, we will open the doors to our Medina County University Center – one of the premier public-private educational partnerships of its kind in Ohio, if not the nation.

And now, we enter the next phase of our New Landscape for Learning.

We also have had much success in collaborating with partners outside the University. The University Park Alliance has moved some of its initiatives from the vision stage to implementation, which will add tens-of-millions of dollars to the economy and bring hundreds of jobs to Akron. Recently, Akron City Council approved Phil Maynard's project for Spicer Village, and we will certainly laud the great accomplishments of Phil and his colleagues as this begins.

Now, while all of these initiatives are highly visible, our vision extends well beyond our own backyard, as we continue to expand our academic footprint and thus help strengthen the regional and national economies. Earlier this year, we formed an Innovation Alliance with Lorain County Community College to improve educational efficiencies, knowledge creation and economic development. This partnership is about redefining our boundaries and recognizing the reality of Northeast Ohio as one large, powerful economic entity. Last year, the University entered into an agreement with Akron Public Schools to create an Early College High School. The program starts this fall and will enable students to simultaneously earn a high school diploma while pursuing up to 60 college credits, which is enough to earn

an associate degree by the time they finish high school. The University also entered into an agreement with Akron Public Schools, the City of Akron, and the National Inventors Hall of Fame to create a middle school inside the Hall of Fame that focuses on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. We also are actively involved in improving the learning environment before a student enters college as a partner in the Northeast Ohio Center of Excellence for Mathematics and Science Education.

The University's identity as the public research university for Northern Ohio is based on a strong foundation, and we are heartened by early remarks from Chancellor Fingerhut that he would like to see this dominant position, this exciting leadership position, of our University continue. Indeed, as the Milken Institute tells us, we are first worldwide in patents issued per million dollars of research expenditures, and according to Ohio's Board of Regents, the University is first in Ohio ahead of The Ohio State University and Case Western Reserve University for its rate of return per research dollar leading to the commercialization of technologies.

In all, The University of Akron is involved in more than 600 collaborative projects, programs and agreements with partners throughout the region, state and nation that contribute significantly to the well-being of our economy. Just an example – nearly one million people visit our campus each year and they create an economic impact of approximately \$27 million. In fact, conservative estimates of the University's annual direct impact on Ohio's economy is \$538 million. When we include all of the educational outcomes, as well as the new knowledge created and transferred into the marketplace by students, faculty, and staff, the total annual economic impact of the University exceeds \$2 billion.

And we're just one player, albeit a significant one.

Together with Nancy Zimpher, president of the University of Cincinnati, we are leading a national effort to establish an urban renaissance act that will position universities as leaders in their communities and the conveners, the developers, of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century engine for community well-being.

I closed by noting that every vision needs a discernible goal. And, our goal, as many of you have heard me say, is to forge nothing less than a new gold standard for a great American university – a standard that creates and adds value for our students, community, and nation; that forms collaborations and partnerships to address the problems of today; and that continuously advances our common future.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees  
August 1, 2007**

**Appointments**

**Kathleen S. Crooks**, coordinator, STEM project, Senior Vice President and Provost, 8/1/07; **John Cuzzocrea**, assistant professor, Educational Foundations and Leadership, 8/27/07; **Blair Danner**, assistant director for athletics development, Athletics, 6/5/07; **Rachel S. Deleveaux**, coordinator, residence life, Residence Life and Housing, 7/2/07; **David M. Devany**, assistant professor, Paralegal Studies, Public Service Technology, 8/27/07; **Shanon Donnelly**, visiting assistant professor, Geography and Planning, 8/27/07; **Jared Embick**, assistant men's soccer coach, Athletics, 7/9/07; **Charles J. Fey**, vice president, Student Affairs, 9/28/07; **S. Victor V. Fleischer**, associate professor, Bibliography, head, Archival Services, UL Archival Services, 9/17/07; **Dimitria E. Gatzia**, visiting assistant professor, Philosophy, 8/27/07; **Benjamin C. Hartman**, manager, fitness and wellness, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, 7/16/07; **Jennifer P. Hodges**, director, undergraduate programs, CBA Dean's Office, 6/11/07; **Jessica M. Hopkins**, assistant professor, Biology, 8/27/07; **Keenya M. Horton**, coordinator, residence life, Residence Life and Housing, 7/2/07; **Travis M.R. Hreno**, assistant professor, Philosophy, 8/27/07; **Herman Jara-Droguett**, visiting instructor, Modern Languages, 8/27/07; **Barbara M. Jenkins**, director, outreach, Education Dean's Office, 8/8/07; **Raouth Kostandy**, assistant professor, Nursing, 8/27/07; **Sarah J. Lane**, public relations representative, Institutional Marketing, 7/30/07; **Glenn Lauzon**, assistant professor, Education, 8/27/07; **James V. Lenavitt**, associate professor, Art, rehire in accordance with re-employment agreement, 8/27/07; **Christine L. Martuch**, corporate services center librarian, UL Science and Technology, 6/18/07; **Melvin Mauney**, assistant director, athletics development, Athletics, 6/5/07; **Gina R Orozco**, administrative assistant, Physical Facilities, 7/9/07; **Karla L. Owens**, assistant director, Admissions, 7/16/07; **Anil Patnaik**, associate professor, Civil Engineering, 8/27/07; **Joshua D. Rice**, systems administrator, Hardware and Operations Systems Services, 7/16/07; **Michelle D. Riedinger**, secretary, Student Life, 7/30/07; **Micah T. Robertson**, college lecturer, English, 8/27/07; **Robert M. Schwartz**, associate professor, Emergency Management, Public Service Technology, 8/27/07; **Matthew Shawkey**, assistant professor, Biology, 1/14/08; **Stephen Skiles**, assistant professor, Theater Arts, Paul Daum Professor, <<Department>>, 8/27/07; **Monica Soler**, visiting assistant professor, Chemistry, 8/27/07; **Catherine A. Stoyhoff**, college lecturer, English, 8/27/07; **Andrew Swift**, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics, 6/28/07; **Christopher Tankersley**, director, New Student Orientation, 8/6/07; **Alyssa R. Underwood**, goldbar recruiter, Military Science, 6/11/07; **Jan von Spiegel**, college lecturer, Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Kelly A. Wade**, visiting instructor, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, 8/1/07; **Deborah Walker**, instructor, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 8/27/07; **Eric Wasserman**, visiting assistant professor, English, 8/27/07; **Kristen L. Weimer**, administrative assistant, English, 7/9/07; and **Yongfang Zhang**, instructor, Modern Languages, 8/27/07.

**Changes**

**Robin Angell**, visiting instructor, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, correction in title from instructor, 6/25/07; **Kathleen F. Bame**, director, development-Center for Gift and Estate Planning, Development, promotion and title change from director, 7/2/07; **Brian Beckett**, master building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from master building services worker, 5/14/07; **Barbara Berasi**, coordinator, Student Life Administration, reclassification via job audit, 9/18/06; **Angie M. Boothe**, administrative assistant, Workforce Development and Continuing Education, temporary job reclassification and title change from test monitor, 5/28/07; **Chad Bronner**, building services worker, Student Union, transfer from Residence Life and Housing, 5/7/07; **Stephen Z. Cheng**, dean, Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, R.C. Musson professor, Polymer Science, professor, Polymer Science, Trustees professor, Polymer Science, basis change from 9 to 12 months, 08/01/07; **Bernadette Citano**, academic adviser II, Academic Advisement Center, basis change from temporary to regular, 8/1/07; **Coleen Curry**, director, Academic Achievement Programs, special assistant for Community Engagement, Academic Achievement Programs, relinquish title of interim director, Office of Multicultural Development, 6/1/07; **Diane Dennis**, office assistant, Dining Services, title change from team coordinator, basis change from part time to full time, 5/14/07; **J. Thomas Dukes**, professor, English, change to effective date of transfer from Office of Senior Vice President and Provost from 07/01/07, 7/16/07; **Donald Eisenhut**, lead team coordinator, Auxiliary Enterprises, transfer from Dining Services, promotion and title change from food production worker, 6/11/07; **Erin E. Elosh**, administrative secretary, Engineering Co-op, promotion and title change from office assistant, 7/1/07; **Kristina K. Feagan**, manager, Employment Services, deputy appointing authority, Human Resources, title change from supervisor, Employment Services, 7/1/07; **Marcia A. Fletcher**, coordinator, Office of the Board of Trustees, reclassification via position analysis and title change from senior executive administrative assistant, 3/26/07; **Michele R. Fowkes**, interim head teacher, assistant director, Center for Child Development, promotion and title change from head teacher, 5/21/07; **Roberta M. Fox**, coordinator, Student Recreation and Wellness Center Business Operations, promotion and title change from administrative secretary, 6/25/07; **Karen Francek**, office assistant, Dining Services, basis change from part time to full time, 5/14/07; **Billie Gingo**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Isiah Grant Jr.**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Alan Herbert**, software training specialist, Hardware and Operating Systems Services, Help Desk Services, reclassification via job audit and title change from manager, 5/1/07; **Pamela J. Hollinger**, coordinator, Student Academic Success, reorganization and department change from University College Dean's Office, title change from coordinator, Academic Development Programs, 8/1/07; **Avraam I. Isayev**, interim director, Institute of Polymer Engineering, distinguished professor, Polymer Engineering, relinquish interim director title, 6/12/07; **Anne G. Jorgensen**, director, Academic Advisement Student Athletes, reorganization and department change from Academic Advisement Center, 8/1/07; **Tina M. Klein**, administrative assistant, Engineering and Science Technology, promotion and title change from secretary, 5/21/07; **Christine Kolaczewski-Ferris**, coordinator, Student Academic Success, reorganization and department change from Academic Advisement Center, title change from coordinator, Academic Development Programs, 8/1/07; **Linda K. Malachin**, administrative assistant, Curricular and Instructional Studies, transfer from Sociology, promotion and title change from office assistant, 6/4/07; **Joseph Massey**, director,

technology, Chemistry, reclassification via job audit and title change from computer lab support specialist, 2/12/07; **Emily S. McGee**, director, Development, promotion and title change from assistant director, 5/24/07; **Darryl McGrady**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Patricia L. Miller**, departmental records specialist, Multicultural Development, promotion and title change from office assistant, status change from temporary to regular, 7/1/07; **Douglas Miller**, network engineer, Hardware and Operation System Services, reorganization and title change from computer operator senior, change from exempt to non-exempt, 6/25/07; **John Miller**, associate professor, Bibliography, UL Archival Services, relinquish additional titles of director, American History Research Center, director, Archival Services, 9/17/07; **Randall J. Mitchell**, professor, Biology, director, field station, additional title of Mary E. Glenny and Dr. Fred H. Glenny Professor, 8/27/07; **Cathy F. Moore**, administrative assistant senior, Arts and Sciences Dean's Office, transfer from Political Science, promotion and title change from administrative assistant, 6/25/07; **Thomas Moreland Jr.**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Robert A. Neylon**, office assistant, Parking Services, promotion and basis change from part time to full time, 6/18/07; **William Palmeri**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Kara S. Park**, academic adviser II, Academic Advisement Student Athletes, reorganization and department change from Academic Advisement Center, 8/1/07; **Helen K. Qammar**, director, Institute for Teaching and Learning, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Senior Vice President and Provost, transfer from Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, basis change from 9 to 12 months, 7/23/07; **Rex D. Ramsier**, associate provost, academic policies, procedures and reviews, professor, Physics, professor, Chemistry, Senior Vice President and Provost, additional title of NCA Liaison, 7/1/07; **Brian Renner**, police officer II, University Police, promotion and title change from police officer I, 3/8/07; **Joe S. Scheible**, building services worker, Student Union, transfer from Residence Life and Housing, 5/7/07; **Theresa A. Schillig**, accounting clerk II, Associate Vice President and Controller, basis change from temporary to regular, 5/7/07; **Mae N. Schreiber**, associate professor emeritus, Bibliography, UL Reference, title change from associate professor, 7/31/07; **Trenda B. Stephenson**, cashier senior, Wayne Business Office, promotion and title change from assistant to supervisor, Wayne College Bookstore, 7/1/07; **Douglas Stevenson**, director, Environmental Health and Occupational Safety, temporary job reclassification and title change from coordinator, University Radio Communication, 3/26/07; **James Stewart**, master HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, transfer from Residence Life and Housing, 5/7/07; **William E. Torgler**, director, Development, Education and Nursing, transfer from Academic Advisement, promotion and title change from Academic Adviser II, 6/18/07; **Richard Webster**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; and **Denise Wilburn**, lead team coordinator, Auxiliary Enterprises, transfer from Dining Services, promotion and title change from team coordinator, 6/11/07.

### Separations

**Melissa A. Anderson**, administrative secretary, Registrar, 5/29/07; **Thomas Baclawski**, associate director, maintenance and operations, Physical Facilities, 7/31/07; **Taneisha Buchanan**, psychology intern, Counseling, Testing and Career Center, 6/25/07; **Michael J. Carley**, professor, History, 8/31/07; **C. Andre Christie-Mizell**, associate professor, Sociology,

6/23/07; **Alethia H. Cook**, academic adviser II, Political Science, 8/10/07; **Benjamin Cox**, irrigation specialist, Physical Facilities, 7/6/07; **Edward D. Dalessandro**, supervisor, Wayne College Bookstore, 6/30/07; **Sandy K. Dolan**, college lecturer, English, 5/12/07; **Tony L. Frost**, visiting assistant professor, Chemistry, 5/12/07; **Karl Gissingner**, senior engineering technician, Institute of Polymer Engineering, 6/30/07; **Ryan Higginbotham**, assistant men's soccer coach, Athletics, 5/31/07; **Pamela J. Hollinger**, coordinator, Student Academic Success, 8/31/07; **Amber M. Hutchison**, accountant, Treasury Services, 7/9/07; **James V. Lenavitt**, associate professor, Art, (retire/rehire), 5/31/07; **Susan A. Marks**, director, Development, Center for Gift and Estate Planning, 6/15/07; **Adam D. Meigs**, building services worker, Student Union, 5/23/07; **Justin M. Molenaur**, assistant to the director, Akron Global Polymer Academy, 7/18/07; **Rosalyn S. Pinkard**, coordinator, recruiter employment services, Human Resources, 6/4/07; **Thomas V. Porten**, head men's golf coach, Athletics, 6/29/07; **Loreto Prieto**, professor, Education, Harrington Professor, Education, 7/17/07; **William W. Schloman Jr.**, supervisor, Chemical Laboratories, Chemistry, 12/31/07; **Melanie Schneider**, assistant director, media relations, Athletics, 7/27/07; **Ronald R. Shaw**, director, Academic Success Program, School of Law, 6/30/07; **Rahul Shingte**, research scholar, Polymer Science, 6/22/07; **Yergou Tatek**, postdoctoral research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 6/30/07; **Diane Underman**, administrative assistant, Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, 8/31/07; **Steve J. Weygandt**, lead team coordinator, Dining Services, 7/16/07; and **Robert White**, building services worker, Physical Facilities, 5/24/07.

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