

May 27, 2008

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 April 23, 2008.

Presentation to the Board

Ken Stapleton, the senior economic development adviser and executive director of the University Park Alliance, talked about the progress for University Park.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Name Changes for Academic Units

The Board approved two name changes — The College of Education Office of Student Affairs will now be known as the College of Education Office of Student Services, and the Department of Military Science will now be known as the Department of Military Science and Leadership. In both cases, the new titles better reflect the missions of the groups, and the names are more in line with those used by other universities. Faculty Senate approved the changes.

2. Tentative Graduation List and Statistics for Spring 2008

The Board approved a tentative list of 2,232 candidates eligible for Spring Commencement. Tentative degree totals for the ceremonies are 47 doctoral, 505 master's, 143 Juris Doctor, 1,309 baccalaureate and 228 associate. The 2,232 degrees awarded would be a 10-year high.

3. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – July 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008

For the first nine months of the fiscal year, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$29.5 million to support 369 projects. For the same period in the prior fiscal year, the year-to-date amount was \$17.1 million to support 305 projects. To date this fiscal year, three patents have been awarded, 25 patent applications have been filed, and 34 disclosures have been submitted. For the same period last year, nine patents had been issued, 26 patent applications had been filed, and 49 disclosures had been submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – July 1, 2007 to February 28, 2008

For the first eight months of the fiscal year, total giving was \$30.4 million, or about 74 percent more than the \$17.5 million received during the same period the prior fiscal year. So far this year, 13,520 gifts have been accepted, compared to 11,976 for the same period last year.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. Utility Tunnels and Related Surface Improvements

Trustees authorized the administration to enter into contracts totaling \$210,000 with THP Limited Inc. for professional design services.

2. Wayne College Renovation and Expansion

The Board approved contracts for site excavation, utilities, foundations and concrete work for the second building on the Wayne College campus: the Student Life Building. When it opens in 13 months, the Student Life Building will house Continuing Education and Workforce Development, the bookstore, the cafeteria, the J.M. Smucker Co. Multi-purpose Room and a student lounge. The project also includes renovations to the space in the main building that will be vacated when the new building opens. Wenger Excavating will receive a contract for \$392,198, and Akron Concrete Corp. will receive one for \$724,710. Both submitted the lowest and best bid. The bids were 13 percent below the budgeted amount.

3. Academic Space within Multiplex Stadium Complex

The Trustees authorized the administration to enter into a \$492,300 contract with CBLH Design Inc. for professional design services.

Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee

1. Fees for FY2008-09

Board members approved adjustments to a variety of course fees, room and board rates and miscellaneous fees. Housing rates will increase 5 percent for all options, except Garson Hall, which will remain unchanged. Dining plans will generally increase by 4 percent. Higher utility and food prices were cited as the primary reasons for the recommendations to raise the rates. In addition, Residence Life and Housing and Dining Services will use the new funding to retire bonds related to expansion and renovation projects.

2. Renewal of Lease for the Holmes County Higher Education Center

Trustees approved a three-year lease for the Holmes County center in Millersburg for \$24,720 annually, which is unchanged from the current lease agreement. The current agreement with Eagle B Leasing expires on July 31, 2008.

3. Purchases of more than \$150,000

The Trustees approved a request from Information Technology Services to purchase Cisco networking equipment required for the network refresh project. The equipment will be sold to UA by Sarcom Inc. of Cleveland for \$3.7 million. This purchase will be financed via a municipal lease for five years with monthly payments of about \$64,722.96. UA's Department of Purchasing solicited proposals from five authorized Cisco distributors and advertised a request for proposal. Sarcom submitted the lowest price for the equipment.

Board members authorized the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics to enter into a contract with the Center for Marketing and Opinion Research LLC of Akron for \$222,000 to conduct a random-sample telephone survey of 4,000 U.S. residents. The study will collect residents' opinions on religion and politics.

4. Holiday Schedule

The Board approved the following holiday schedule for the fiscal year 2008-2009:

- Independence Day, Friday, July 4, 2008
- Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1, 2008
- Veterans Day (staff holiday – classes held), Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008
- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008
- Day after Thanksgiving, in lieu of Columbus Day (Monday, Oct. 13, 2008), Friday, Nov. 28, 2008
- Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008
- Christmas holiday in lieu of Presidents' Day (Monday, Feb. 16, 2009), Friday, Dec. 26, 2008
- New Year's Day, Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 19, 2009
- Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2009

Summer hours are scheduled for Monday, May 12 through Friday, August 22, 2008. This schedule includes a work day from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch.

5. Personnel Actions (as amended)

Committee on Rules

1. Officers of the Academic Administration (O.A.C. 3359-2-01)

Trustees approved a rule change that addresses the specifics about the role of the chief operating officer within the Senior Vice President and Provost position. In addition, the title for the Chief Diversity Officer position has been changed from Associate Provost and Chief Diversity Officer to Associate Vice President for Inclusion and Equity and Chief Diversity Officer.

2. Academic Reassessment and Discipline(O.A.C. 3359-60-03.4)

The Board endorsed a rule change that reconfigures academic reassessment for undergraduate students returning to the University after three or more years of non-attendance in a manner that will better serve our returning students and enable them to have successful re-entry to the University. Faculty Senate approved the change in March.

3. Graduation (O.A.C. 3359-60-03.6)

Trustees approved changes to this rule that addresses requirements for students wishing to earn more than one baccalaureate or associate degree. The proposed change would allow students to apply credits earned during their pursuit of a prior degree toward an additional degree, if these credits were not already applied toward a previous degree. The change was approved by Faculty Senate at its March meeting.

New Business

1. Rescheduling of June Board Meeting

The Trustees agreed to move their regularly scheduled June meeting to May 19, 2008.

2. Board Schedule for FY09

Trustees agreed to a meeting schedule for the 2009 fiscal year. All meetings will be held on the third floor of the Student Union, except where noted:

- Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2008
- Wednesday, Sept. 3, at the Medina County University Center
- Wednesday, Oct. 15 at Wayne College
- Wednesday, Dec. 10
- Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009
- Wednesday, March 25
- Wednesday, April 29
- Wednesday, June 17

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my remarks by noting that this seems to be an exceedingly busy time for The University of Akron, as we have participated in many important actions throughout the state. Certainly, the Northeast Ohio Study and Collaboration Commission was one such item among many matters that have been unfolding under the University System of Ohio, leading up to the recent release by Chancellor Eric Fingerhut of the 10-year Strategic Plan for higher education. During a recent visit by the Chancellor, he met with students, faculty and the Trustees. Also while on campus, the Chancellor talked about the state's new stimulus package as well as how it relates to the 10-year Strategic Plan; of course, within the \$1.57 billion package are several items that will fit very nicely into our goals and opportunities.

I invited all present to join us for spring commencement on Saturday and Sunday, May 10 and 11. On these days, we will award 2,232-plus degrees, which would become the largest number of degrees conferred in the last 10 years.

Just a few days ago, we held our Campus Spotlight Day, which was attended by more than 500 prospective students who received an inside look at our campus life and the many excellent opportunities for their educational advancement. Events such as Spotlight Day have helped us increase our freshmen enrollment by about 25 percent since 2005. We are anticipating another strong class this fall, and I want to express my personal gratitude to all who have organized these kinds of events on our campus and for the many staff and faculty members who were here on Saturday to show the students all that The University of Akron has to offer. Certainly, I express my thanks to the Board for the support that we have received, which has enabled the University to be one of the fastest growing four-year institutions in the state of Ohio, if not the country.

Last Thursday, we also honored the faculty, staff and contract professionals who are celebrating milestone service anniversaries. The honorees included two people who have been with us for 40 years – Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Bill Francis and Professor of Physical and Health Education in Sports Science and Wellness Education Mary Jo MacCracken. We also had someone who was honored for 55 years of service and was absolutely speechless. This is sort of a figure of speech, if you'll forgive me, because that individual has been speechless for all of the 55 years with us and I, of course, am referring to our national award-winning mascot Zippy.

The preceding week, on April 11-12, more than 700 people came together here for our hosting of the Black Male Summit. The program's goal was to identify ways to overcome the challenges that prevent more African American males from earning a college degree. I want to congratulate everyone who contributed to that event, including our new Chief Diversity Officer Lee Gill, as well as the team in our Office of Multicultural Development.

We have a number of other things happening: The Institute for Teaching and Learning and the University Park Alliance, Campus Engagement Council and Ohio Campus Compact will jointly present a two-day conference at Quaker Square.

And let me just highlight a couple of personal achievements:

- Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Kristina English has been chosen president-elect of the American Academy of Audiology, which is the world's largest professional organization for audiologists. Dr. English will be the academy's second national president from The University of Akron; the first was Dr. Carol Flexer.
- A team of UA students recently won the Launch Town regional business idea competition. The team proposed using polymers to develop therapeutic drug delivery systems. The UA team bested teams from five other universities in the entrepreneurship education consortium. Those others were Kent State University, Cleveland State University, John Carroll, Ashland and Baldwin-Wallace College. Congratulations to the team and to its adviser Todd Finkle.

And let me close with our recognition of our Chairman Dr. William Demas, who will be receiving the President's Award from the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine and Pharmacy during the medical school's commencement ceremony on May 17. The award recognizes Dr. Demas's extraordinary service and commitment to NEOUCOM, its students, Northeast Ohio and, of course, to research and his patients.

2. Next regular meeting

The Trustees met on May 19. A summary of the actions that took place at that meeting will be sent to you shortly. The Board will reconvene next on Wednesday, August 6, in the third-floor Board Room of the Student Union, with an executive session to begin at 8 a.m. and the public session to begin no earlier than 10 a.m.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees
April 23, 2008**

Appointments

Shanna Caldwell, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics, 3/18/08; **Bonnie Chojnacki**, assistant professor, Bibliography, University Libraries Science and Technology, 5/19/08; **Betty L. Deeb**, manager, Enrollment Services, Registrar, 3/3/08; **Joshua D. Dinger**, HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, 3/17/08; **Aline Dossantos**, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics, 4/14/08; **Sara C. Hallowell**, instructor, Nursing Instruction, 8/25/08; **Lisa A. Hart**, instructor, Nursing Instruction, 8/25/08; **Kathy D. Heinlen**, technical support assistant, eReads Ohio, Education Dean's Office, 3/3/08; **Kathleen M. Horning**, instructor, Nursing Instruction, 8/25/08; **Beth A. Houseman**, assistant director, University Park Alliance, Office of the President, 3/31/08; **Tricia E. Howard**, administrative assistant, Education Dean's Office, 2/26/08; **Robert S. Kendrick**, HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, 3/31/08; **Wendy Lampner**, manager, Learning Technologies Development, Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, 4/14/08; **Goy T. Lim**, research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 3/17/08; **James McClinton**, assistant director, Marketing and Promotions, Athletics, 3/26/08; **Rebecca A. McElfresh**, instructor, Educational Foundations and Leadership, 8/25/08; **Barbara O'Malley**, associate vice president for communications, chief communications officer, Office of the President, 5/1/08; **Christine M. Smith**, administrative secretary, Parking Services, 3/10/08; **Shaddrick A. Stinson**, academic adviser Upward Bound, Academic Achievement Programs, 3/31/08; and **Yongqian Xu**, research scholar, Chemistry, 2/28/08

Changes

Juanda K. Cloyd, master building services worker, Student Life, promotion and title change from building services worker, 3/17/08; **David A. Culbertson**, assistant building services worker, Residence Life and Housing, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, status change from temporary part time to regular full time, 2/18/08; **Michael F.D'Amico**, professor emeritus, Marketing, title change to award emeritus status, 6/1/08; **Howard M. Ducharme, Jr.**, professor, Philosophy, Intellectual Property Center fellow, relinquish department chair title, 3/14/08, basis change to 9 months, 7/1/08; **R. Joel Duff**, associate professor, Biology, relinquish associate department chair title, 5/10/08; **Susan Dukeman**, manager, Workforce Development, Education Dean's Office, transfer and department change from Medina County University Center, 3/28/08; **Kenneth A. Dunning**, professor emeritus, Management and Information Systems, title change to award emeritus status, 6/1/08; **Walter Evege**, director emeritus, Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity, title change to award emeritus status, 2/29/08; **Virginia L. Fitch**, professor emeritus, Social Work, title change to award emeritus status, 10/31/07; **Sidney C. Foster**, assistant vice president and associate general counsel, assistant attorney general, transfer and title change from senior assistant vice president, department change from Human Resources, 3/26/08; **Kamil Gierszal**, research associate, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, start date change from 2/21/08, to 3/4/08; **Douglas R. Hausknecht**, associate professor, Marketing and International Business, interim chair, Marketing, basis change from 9 months to 12 months, 10/15/07; **Paul A. Herold**, associate vice president, Public Affairs and Development, additional title of special assistant to the president,

5/1/08; **Becky Hoover**, director, Employee Relations, Title IX coordinator, ADA coordinator, Human Resources, title change from HR Development coordinator, Title IX coordinator, ADA coordinator, interim director, Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action, 7/1/08; **Michael J. Jalbert**, associate dean, Summit College, professor, Social Science, professor, Labor Studies, Intellectual Property Center fellow, additional title of interim director, Training Center for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, 7/1/08; **Charles Kelades**, director, Nursing Outreach and Workforce Development, Nursing, reclassification via job audit and title change from coordinator, Nursing Outreach Programs, 12/1/07; **William E. Klingele**, professor emeritus, Education, Curricular and Instructional Studies, title change to award emeritus status, 6/1/08; **LaShawn D. Knuckles**, storekeeper, University Dining Services, promotion and title change from team coordinator, status change from temporary part time to regular full time, 3/3/08; **Linda M. Sansom**, coordinator, Business and Operations Summit College, Summit College Dean's Office, reclassification via job audit and title change from administrative secretary senior, 9/17/07; **Bonita Prewitt**, assistant director, Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity, Human Resources, reclassification via job audit and title change from coordinator, Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance, 11/26/07; **Nettie L. Riddick**, budget analyst, Resource Analysis and Budgeting, promotion and title change from budget assistant, 3/17/08; **Julie E. Rochon**, assistant building services worker, Residence Life and Housing, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, status change from temporary part time to regular full time, 2/18/08; **Deborah Roper**, director, Learning, Development and Communication Services, Human Resources, title change from director, Training and Development, 4/1/08; **Carolyn S. Rosenal**, assistant building services worker, Residence Life and Housing, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, status change from temporary to regular, 3/3/08; **James P. Ryan**, building services worker, Student Life, title change from master building services worker, 3/3/08; **Stanley B. Silverman**, dean, Summit College, professor, Social Science, additional title of special assistant, Regional Initiatives, 7/1/08; **Andrew Thomas**, assistant professor, Marketing and International Business, director, Center for Organizational Development, additional titles of associate director, Taylor Institute for Direct Marketing and associate director, Suarez Market Research Laboratories, 3/31/09, relinquish director, Center for Organizational Development, 05/11/09; **David E. Tiller**, life safety inspector, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety, status change from temporary to regular, 3/3/08; **William H. Viau**, assistant vice president, Human Resources, appointing authority, title change from assistant executive director, Human Resources, appointing authority, 3/1/08; **Ernst D. Von Meerwall**, distinguished professor emeritus, Polymer Science, distinguished professor emeritus, Physics, distinguished professor emeritus, Chemistry, title change to award emeritus status, 7/1/08; **Baodong Wang**, postdoctoral research associate, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, start date change from 1/25/08, 3/3/08; **John T. Welch**, associate professor emeritus, Electrical and Computer Engineering, title change to award emeritus status, 5/31/08; **Michael M. Williams**, professor emeritus, Computer Information Systems, title change to award emeritus status, 5/31/08; **Nikki Wingerson**, associate professor emeritus, Social Work, title change to award emeritus status, 5/31/08; and **Laverne C. Yousey**, professor emeritus, Respiratory Care Technology, Allied Health Technology, title change to award emeritus status, 7/1/08.

Separations

Michael R. Beard, visiting assistant professor, Music, interim assistant director, University Bands, interim director, Marching Band, 5/31/08; **Pascal Buma**, associate professor, English, 8/27/06; **Xuan-hien Thi Dang**, assistant professor, Computer Science, 5/9/09; **Susan Dukeman**, manager, Workforce Development, Education Dean’s Office, 6/30/08; **Kenneth A. Dunning**, professor, Management and Information Systems, Fitzgerald Institute fellow, Management, 5/31/08; **Richman W. Haire**, professor, Art, 5/31/08; **Bruce Keillor**, professor, Marketing and International Business, Marketing, 5/10/08; **William E. Klingele**, professor, Education, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 5/31/08; **Eleanor Klosterman**, coordinator, training opportunities for professionals, Senior Vice President and Provost, 6/30/08; **Thomas Mayer**, manager, informal recreation, Recreation and Wellness Services, 6/30/08; **David A. McConnell**, professor, Geology and Environmental Science, 7/26/08; **Cheryl A. O’Dear**, secretary, Biology, 6/30/08; **Marc C. Ozanich**, professor, Dance, 5/31/08; **Carol Rife**, human resources information services assistant, Human Resources, 5/31/08; **Barbara J. Rowles**, college program specialist, Law Dean’s Office, 6/30/08; **Eric A. Sponseller**, assistant director, Institutional Research, 3/14/08; **Mary F. Strukel**, administrative assistant senior, Law Dean’s Office, 6/30/08; **Courtney Vinson**, assistant director for compliance, Athletics, 4/25/08; and **Ernst D. vonMeerwall**, associate dean, College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, distinguished professor, Polymer Science, distinguished professor, Physics, distinguished professor, Chemistry, faculty research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 6/30/08.

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