

November 22, 2004

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 on November 3, 2004.

**Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee**

1. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – September 2004

For July-September 2004, new agreements for externally funded research and other sponsored programs drew \$12,241,524 for 137 projects. During July-September 2003, the totals were \$12,944,223 for 124 projects.

From July-September 2004, two patents have been issued to the University, five more have been filed and nine disclosures have been submitted.

In addition, Akron Scientific Inc. entered into a license option agreement with the University's Research Foundation.

**External Affairs Committee**

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – July-September 2004

For July-September 2004, total giving was more than \$4.9 million, as compared with \$4.3 million for July-September 2003. The number of gifts declined from about 3,000 in July-September 2003 to 1,975 during the same period this year.

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

1. Financial and Investment Reports — July-August 2004 (approved subject to audit)

Akron campus tuition and fee receipts for July-August 2004 were less than budgeted by \$1,341,110, reflecting summer and preliminary fall collections based on generated student credit hours. Earnings from investments, endowments and other sources at the close of August fell short of budget estimates by \$138,513. Total expenses in the functional categories were less than budgeted on August 31 by \$12,133,486.

At Wayne College, tuition and fee receipts through August 31 were less than budgeted by \$345,688. Receipts from continuing education and other departmental sales accounts exceeded budget estimates by \$44,864. Expenses were less than budgeted at the close of August by \$1,000,529.

2. Parking Violation Fine Increases

Subsequent to the miscellaneous fees recommendations approved in April, the Board approved a progressive parking fine schedule. The progressive schedule will be in effect for the spring semester.

3. Purchases of More Than \$150,000

PeopleSoft USA Inc. has been awarded \$624,306 for yearly maintenance and support for software packages related to the following functions: grant/portal, financials, student administration, human relations, contributor relations, PeopleSoft on Campus, HRMS Warehouse and eApplications.

Bruker Optics Inc. has been awarded \$279,377 for a vacuum STEP-SCAN infrared spectrometer for the physics department.

4. Personnel Actions (attached)

**Nominating Committee Bylaws**

1. Pertaining to Changes to Officers of the Board and Their Duties, Rule 3359-1-02

Trustees approved a change to the Bylaws to require the Nominating Committee to meet annually in May, thus allowing its report and recommendation to be voted on at the Board's July meeting.

**New Business**

1. Articles of Incorporation of The University of Akron Research Foundation

Trustees approved the designation of Board members John A. Fink and Richard W. Pogue to the position of director of the University's Research Foundation.

2. Agreement between the City of Hudson Police Department and The University of Akron Police Department as a Member of the Summit County OVI Task Force

Trustees approved a recommendation to enter into an agreement with Hudson's police department to allow the University's police department to participate in the Summit County OVI Task Force, subject to further review and approval regarding any costs that may be involved by the University's participation.

**Notes**

1. **President's Report**

As this was the first meeting conducted in the new Board of Trustees Room in the Student Union, I expressed my sincere gratitude to Board Chair Emeritus Gene Waddell and his wife, Barbara, for providing the funding for the new Board Office and the Board of Trustees Room through the Helen Brown Trust. The Waddells are fiduciaries of the Trust. I offered my appreciation to Ted Curtis, vice president for capital planning and facilities management, and to his staff for their work on the Board facilities and the entire Student Union. I also thanked Russell Sibert, vice president of Board operations and assistant secretary to the Board, and Marcia Fletcher, senior executive administrative assistant, for the seamless transfer of the Board Office from Buchtel Hall to the Student Union.

With the dedications for the new buildings having passed, I noted that the Student Union and the Student Recreation and Wellness Center in particular are contributing to a true sense of place on our campus, manifested by their heavy use by students, faculty and staff, and by the kind of events that we have been able to conduct in these facilities, such as the luncheon for our University Foundation held on the 50-yard-line of the Field House.

Next, I expressed my growing concern over the Ohio Legislature's discussions about the capital budget. Regrettably, it looks as if the funds that are normally available for higher education, which this year would have been in excess of \$500 million, will be reduced significantly to probably no more than \$405 million. This is a continuation of the disinvestment that we have seen from the state over many years, a point that Trustee Richard Pogue and his statewide committee — the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy — so diligently sought to address in their report issued in April.

As chair of the Inter-University Council of Ohio, I sent a letter with Executive Director James McCollum to Ohio Governor Bob Taft explaining to the governor and the legislature the consequences of reducing the capital appropriation in such a way.

What it means to us is that the University's allocation will be reduced in proportion to the formula that is used for allocating these funds. This is likely to be a substantial reduction, and in response, we are adjusting our capital priorities — delaying some of them and deferring maintenance on existing facilities, which as you know, increases expenses in future years.

Several highlights were shared with the Board.

- The College of Nursing honored 11 area nurses Nov. 6 during its Cameos of Caring celebration, sponsored by the College and the Johnson & Johnson Co.
- I received a letter from John Blickle, president of the Akron-area McDonald's restaurants, thanking the University for its interaction that will result in a new site for McDonald's on Exchange Street. That new site will blend into the plans for the University Park Alliance. In the letter, Mr. Blickle pointed out that the new restaurant will not be your normal McDonald's; it will be very tasteful in the setting, and the pièce de résistance will be a 6-foot high, stainless steel Zippy — in a classic, fighting kangaroo pose — guarding the entrance to the business.
- Jeffrey Comer, a senior physics major, received an honorable mention in the 2004 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program.
- Dr. Wieslaw Binienda, chair of the civil engineering department, recently was honored with the Turning Goals into Reality Award from NASA for his work on the Jet Engine Containment Concepts and Blade-Out Simulation Team. We have a dedicated team of propulsion engineers collaborating with NASA, the Air Force and the Air Force Research Laboratories.
- Ken Stapleton, director of the University Park Alliance, has been awarded a fellowship from the Knight Program in Community Building. Knight Program fellowships are awarded annually to economic development and planning professionals who are leaders in the interdisciplinary process of community building. This fellowship is testament to the leadership that Ken has exhibited and to the success that he has engineered.
- The University has received special recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives for its McNair Scholars Program. Under the leadership of Billi Copeland, this flourishing program helps underrepresented undergraduates gain entrance into the Graduate School.
- Students will be creating art displays on city-owned property adjacent to our art school as part of the University Park Alliance.

- I noted that alumnus Jason Taylor, who is now playing for the Miami Dolphins, would be honored at halftime of the Nov. 5 football game against Marshall. Taylor was to bring 15 guests – an indication of his excitement at being inducted into the University’s Ring of Honor.
- I closed by mentioning that the October issue of Careers & Colleges magazine cited the University as an example of a school that deserves a closer look. We were one of 14 institutions described as “schools that rule.” In compiling this list, the magazine considered factors such as strong academic programs, terrific professors, a vibrant student life, and other opportunities for personal development. This is yet another instance of UA being a far, far better institution than any one of us seemed to have acknowledged years ago.

**2. Next regular meeting**

**December 1, 2004, at 10 a.m. in Student Union Room 337**

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Luis Proenza

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees  
November 3, 2004**

**Appointments**

**Dana Allen**, coordinator projects, Educational Foundations and Leadership, 9/15/04; **Cynthia L. Branham**, cook, University Dining Services, 9/13/04; **Jay Brown**, associate director, Admissions, 9/20/04; **Robyn K. Brown**, examiner associate, International Programs, 9/13/04; **Traci Carmony**, admissions counselor and coordinator of student activities, Wayne College, 9/13/04; **Judy A. Casserman**, HRIS specialist, Human Resources, 10/11/04; **Stephen C. Collar**, recruiting/operations/marketing officer, Military Science, 9/20/04; **Catherine Cutlip**, coordinator projects, Education Dean's Office, 8/30/04; **Anthony Eaglowski**, adjunct assistant professor, Military Science, 9/21/04; **Robert R. Fairbanks**, assistant building services worker, Student Recreation and Wellness Center, 10/11/04; **Dianna Ford**, assistant professor, Bibliography and archival special materials cataloger, UL Cataloging, 9/15/04; **Ruth A. Kelly**, assistant building services worker, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, 10/11/04; **Chun-Yi Kuo**, research associate, Civil Engineering, 8/30/04; **Kyle Kutuchief**, admissions counselor, Admissions, 9/7/04; **Frank Landis**, postdoctoral research associate, Biology, 9/20/04; **Hongmin Li**, research assistant, Mechanical Engineering, 8/30/04; **Kimberlee Mathews**, admissions counselor, Admissions, 9/20/04; **Trent McIlvain**, assistant baseball coach, Athletics, 9/15/04; **Crystal M. Robinson**, student services counselor, Admissions, 9/20/04; **Carol D. Shreiner**, postdoctoral research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 8/30/04; **Larry P. Smith**, supply custodian, Military Science, 9/15/04; **Richard Stephens**, professor emeritus, Sociology and senior research associate, Institute for Health and Social Policy, rehire per renewal reemployment agreement, 8/22/04; **Michael A. Strong**, associate director, Residence Life and Housing, 9/29/04; **Jeremy L. White**, additional duty officer, Aerospace Studies, 9/14/04; and **Fred Ziegler**, visiting assistant professor, Counseling, 8/30/04.

**Changes**

**Ivory Alexander**, athletics maintenance assistant supervisor, Athletics, reclassification via job audit and title change from building maintenance assistant supervisor, 5/3/04; **William M. Beasley**, assistant building services worker, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, 10/11/04; **Matthew R. Bungard**, senior technology support analyst, Hardware, Operations and Operating Systems Services, title change from PC support assistant and appointment status change from temporary to regular, 8/23/04; **Linda Bussey**, administrative assistant, Faculty Senate, promotion and title change from administrative secretary, 9/13/04; **Hangseok Choi**, assistant professor, Civil Engineering, change in start date from 1/8/05, 9/15/04; **Jared Coleman**, computer support assistant, Parking Services, job reclassification via job audit, 3/22/04; **Scott D. Dickerhoof**, senior technology support analyst, Hardware, Operations and Operating Systems Services, title change from PC support assistant and appointment status change from temporary to regular, 8/23/04; **Johnny Fletcher**, equipment maintenance superintendent, Physical Facilities, temporary assignment title change from master mover, 9/8/04; **Richard A. Golden**, master building

services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from assistant building services worker, 10/4/04; **Walter Hixson**, professor, History, additional title of Americanist coordinator, 8/30/04; **Mary Quinlan-Randolph**, coordinator, benefits, Human Resources, promotion and title change from HRIS specialist, 9/20/04; **Megan E. Richardson**, HRIS specialist, Human Resources, promotion and title change from senior enrollment services associate, 10/11/04; **Denine M. Rocco**, associate vice president and dean of student life, title change from associate vice president, Student Affairs, 8/2/04; **Sharon L. Sirpilla**, interim director, Development, temporary job reclassification and title change from director, 8/1/04; **Kathleen G. Smith**, enrollment services specialist, Registrar, promotion and title change from senior enrollment services associate, 8/30/04; **Barbara A. VonGunten**, secretary, Vice President Capital Planning and Facilities Management, job reclassification via job audit and title change from office support specialist, 8/9/04; **Scott Widmier**, associate professor, Marketing and International Business, additional title of associate director, Fisher Institute for Professional Selling, 8/30/04; **Jane Wolfe**, administrative assistant senior, Education Dean's Office, promotion and title change from administrative assistant, 9/6/04; and **Gerald W. Young**, professor, Applied Mathematics, additional title of program coordinator, 8/30/04.

### Separations

**Paula M. Dungjen**, administrative assistant, Mechanical Engineering, 9/30/04; **David P. Garcea**, assistant departmental systems administrator, Institute for Health and Social Policy, 10/1/04; **Jessica C. Gardner**, library associate senior, University Libraries Dean's Office, 9/24/04; **David Hitchens**, academic adviser, Academic Achievement, 8/31/04; **John Horn**, associate director, Recreation and Wellness Services Programming, 9/17/04; **Shi Jin**, research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 8/31/04; **Avis Johnson**, associate professor, Management, 1/1/05; **Michael P. Sailer**, chef, Dining Services, 8/12/04; and **Brent Viau**, recruiting/operations/marketing officer, Military Science, 9/17/04.