

October 4, 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 Board of Trustees during the Board's meeting of September 15, 2004, at Wayne College:

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Proposed Summer 2005 Calendar

Trustees approved the proposed Summer 2005 calendar, which maintains the 15-week summer-session structure. An alternative plan, one that would have allowed for a one-week intersession before and after the summer term, was set aside after the AAUP asserted that implementing such changes without bargaining amounted to a change in the status quo.

2. Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Degree in the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences

Trustees approved a master's degree in fine arts to be awarded by a consortium that consists of The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, and Youngstown State University. The curriculum leading to the Northeast Ohio Universities Master of Fine Arts degree will be lodged in the consortium, and each participating university will be authorized to award the degree. The collaborative program will combine resources from all four universities and make use of technologies in place, such as distributed-learning classrooms and electronic mail services. The program has the recommendation of the Curriculum Review Committee and the Faculty Senate.

3. Final Report From the Information Technology Strategic Planning Committee

Trustees reviewed and approved the final report and recommendations from the committee, which was asked to review the state of I.T. at the University and to make recommendations concerning structure and services. Among the recommendations are: (1) appoint a vice

4. president of information technology, to report to the senior vice president and provost and chief operating officer; (2) integrate I.T. into the curriculum as part of the academic plan; and (3) create a culture of service. The full report is available on Web at <http://www.uakron.edu/provost/reports.php>.
5. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – August 2004

For July-August 2004, new agreements for externally funded research and other sponsored programs drew \$9,561,246 for support of 100 projects. During the same period last fiscal year, the totals were \$11,654,552 for support of 95 projects.

From July-August 2004, one patent was issued to the University, two more have been filed and five disclosures were submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – August 2004

For July-August 2004, total giving was slightly less than \$2 million, as compared with \$3.2 million for July-August 2003. The number of gifts also has decreased, from about 1,500 in July-August 2003 to 1,300 this year.

2. Trustees approved the naming of the University's biological field station at the Bath Nature Preserve in honor of Dr. Paul E. Martin. Dr. Martin initiated talks in 1997 between the University and Bath Township for the 404-acre preserve. He contributed land valued at \$2 million and donated \$200,000 to fund the leasing of a home on the property to serve as the field station.

Facilities Planning and Oversight

1. Barnet-Hoover Farmhouse Restoration, The University of Akron's Wayne College

The Board approved a construction contract for \$442,524.03 for the restoration of the Barnet-Hoover Farmhouse at Wayne College. The facility is the oldest two-story log structure in Wayne County and is a registered historic site. The low bidder was Franklin & Associates of Akron.

Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee

1. Financial and Investment Reports for July 2003-June 2004 (approved subject to audit)

Akron campus tuition and fee receipts for FY2004 fell short of the revised budget by 1 percent, or \$1,455,567. The shortfall is attributed primarily to less-than-anticipated revenue

from the nonresident surcharge. Final revenue from Continuing Education and Departmental Sales and Service activities exceeded the budget by \$2,408,073, while earnings on operating-funds investments and endowments at the close of the fiscal year fell short of estimates by \$180,541. The state appropriations of \$91,381,475 exceeded the budget estimate by \$53,005.

Final expenses in the functional categories are less than budget at year-end by a total of \$17,873,952.

At Wayne College, tuition and fee receipts exceeded the revised budget by \$451,944 or 7.5 percent for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. State appropriations of \$3,664,085 fell short of the budget by \$29,576. The major adjustment was a carryover of \$900,105, representing the final unexpended balances in departmental and "specialized" operating accounts.

The University's operating endowment recorded a gain of \$6,200,578 in FY2004 due to stronger market performance. Combined endowment funds totaled \$165.1 million in FY2004, a gain of 12 percent over the prior fiscal year.

2. General Receipts Bond Issue for New Residence Hall

Trustees authorized the issuance of \$36 million in bonds to build a 460-occupant residence hall on East Exchange Street adjacent to Gallucci Hall. The new facility, to be occupied in the Fall Semester 2006, will have one wing of apartment-style living units, one wing of traditional residence-hall living units and space for other uses. (Note: A special edition of E-mail Digest sent on Sept. 17 reported erroneously that \$31 million in bonds would be sold. The amount approved by the Board was \$36 million.)

3. Purchases of More Than \$150,000

Polytec Inc. has been awarded \$236,640 for a Scanner Laser Doppler Vibrometer system for the Department of Civil Engineering.

4. Personnel Actions (attached)

Notes

1. President's Report

After thanking John Kristofco, dean of Wayne College, for hosting the meeting, I began my report by inviting the Trustees to attend the public celebration of the completion of the final four buildings in this phase of the New Landscape for Learning program.

With this phase completed, The University of Akron now has one of the most attractive metropolitan campuses, a point supported by statistics from Ted Curtis, vice president for capital planning and facilities management. For instance, the ratio of green space to building space here is comparable to many campuses in rural settings.

I also invited the trustees to the annual Convocation on October 4 in the Student Union Theatre, at which time, the Provost and I will focus on the two principle themes of the new academic year: Asserting the academic primacy of the University and strengthening its operational excellence.

Several highlights were shared with the Board:

- The University's own Anne Lazzarini was selected as a Wall Street Journal 2004 Student Achievement Award winner.
- The U.S. Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board asked me to chair its Science and Mathematics Education Task Force on behalf of the Department of Energy. One goal of that task force will be to find ways for federal laboratories to better support science and mathematics education. The Provost, together with our science and engineering faculty, has made great inroads in this arena, and I will draw upon that success as I carry out my duties.
- I noted that I am chairing a working group on intellectual property for the Council on Competitiveness. This group is making some bold recommendations concerning what our nation needs to do to remain competitive.
- I also reported that I have begun my term as chair of the Inter-University Council. My colleagues on the council and I have agreed that the report from the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy, led by Trustee Richard W. Pogue, provides the groundwork for setting the council's platform. On behalf of my colleagues on the council, I met with key staff in the governor's office, and I sensed they are taking the report very seriously. In addition to supporting the recommendations in the commission's report, the governor in the coming weeks will bring the K-16 communities together with the business community to advance a better future for all Ohioans in the 21st century.

- Turning to collective bargaining, I passed out the administration's response to questions posed by the Buchtelite for a September 14 article. (The response is available at http://www3.uakron.edu/info/Reply_to_Buchtelite091304.pdf.) I expressed concern that the increasingly public campaign conducted by the Akron-AAUP will cast a negative light on the University. In addition to making its case in the press, the Akron-AAUP plans to conduct informational picketing at Convocation, at the dedication ceremonies for the new buildings, at the homecoming football game and at the next Board meeting in November. I continue to believe that the University is best served by negotiating at the bargaining table and not in the newspaper or other public forums.

I stressed that the administration has given its best efforts to negotiate in good faith. There are some sincere differences in opinion on many proposed articles in the contract, but that does not mean that either side is dragging its feet or not taking the negotiations seriously.

Next regular meeting

November 3, 2004, at 10 a.m., in the Trustee Meeting Room, Student Union, Third Floor

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Luis Proenza

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees
September 15, 2004**

Appointment

Richard B. Batman, postdoctoral research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 9/01/04; **Ronald Beck**, adjunct assistant professor, Military Science, 8/20/04; **Scott Bungard**, inventory accountant, Hardware and Operations System Services, 8/23/04; **Michael Camarata**, visiting instructor, Management, 8/30/04; **Kathryn Chain**, assistant softball coach, Athletics, 8/30/04; **Maureen L. Davis**, administrative assistant, Law, 9/13/04; **Bonnie Filer-Tubaugh**, college lecturer, Developmental Programs, 8/30/04; **Susan Gainer**, interim assistant director, Greek Life, 8/31/04; **Mohammad H. Goldan**, assistant manager, Dining Services, 8/26/04; **Suzanne Gradisher**, visiting instructor, Accounting, 8/30/04; **Ruby Hicks**, adjunct instructor, Nursing, 9/01/04; **Nancy M. Krajewski**, visiting instructor, Management, 8/30/04; **Fredric Marich**, instructor, Marketing and International Business, 8/30/04; **Rebecca A. McDonald**, college lecturer, Developmental Programs, 8/30/04; **Joshua Nations**, retail manager, University Dining Services, 8/10/04; **Ronald Otterstetter**, assistant professor, Education, 8/30/04; **Charlene Reed**, adjunct assistant professor, Education, 8/17/04; **Barbara Shriner**, college lecturer, Developmental Programs, 8/30/04; **Stephanie Stapleton**, assistant softball coach, Athletics, 9/01/04; **Sheila Sternecker**, counselor, Small Business Development Center, Office of Technology Transfer, 10/01/04; **Kristine Still**, visiting assistant professor, Education, 8/30/04; **Than H. Thein**, counselor, Small Business Development Center, Office of Technology Transfer, 10/01/04; **Janet Thompson**, college lecturer, Developmental Programs, 8/30/04; **Simon Tong**, assistant manager, Dining Services, 8/25/04; **Antoaneta Tzenova**, coordinator, training, Small Business Development Center, Office of Technology Transfer, 5/01/04; and **Stephen Washington**, visiting instructor, Finance, 8/30/04.

Changes

Ronald Buterbaugh, master painter, Physical Facilities, title change from painter, 6/28/04; **Mukerrem Cakmak**, professor, Polymer Engineering, additional title of associate director, Akron Global Polymer Academy, 8/30/04; **Jared Coleman**, computer support analyst, Parking Services, reclassification via job audit, title change from office support specialist, 3/22/04; **Thomas Costigan**, instructor, Finance, title change from visiting instructor, 8/30/04; **Rocky Cross**, master carpenter certified, Physical Facilities, title change from painter, 6/28/04; **Susan DiRenzo**, assistant professor, Bibliography, and head, Library Systems, title change from systems coordinator, 7/01/04; **David Ellis**, master painter, Physical Facilities, title change from painter, 6/28/04; **Benjamin Grossholz**, master HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, title change from HVAC technician, 6/28/04; **Stacey Haas**, assistant manager, Dining Services, title change from master cook certified, 8/25/04; **Peggy L. James**, administrative assistant senior, Honors, transfer from Office of the President, 7/01/04; **Jennifer Lash**, department budget/fiscal administrator senior, Education Dean's Office, job reclassification via job audit and title change

from projects coordinator, 7/01/04; **Beth Mandl**, enrollment services specialist, Registrar, title change from SR enrollment services associate, 8/23/04; **Trudy E. Munford**, assistant manager, Dining Services, title change from food service worker, 8/25/04; **Carl Myers**, master plumber certified, Physical Facilities, title change from plumber, 6/28/04; **Thomas Reed**, master carpenter certified, Physical Facilities, title change from carpenter, 6/28/04; **William W. Schloman**, supervisor, chemical laboratories, Chemistry, transfer from Chemistry Stores, 7/01/04; **Daniel Shoemaker**, master HVAC technician certified, Physical Facilities, title change from HVAC technician, 6/28/04; **Steve Simmons**, HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, transfer, title change from maintenance repair worker, 8/23/04; **Joanne Smith**, grant administrator secretary, Nursing, title change from program assistant, 8/09/04; **Limin Sun**, visiting scientist, Institute of Polymer Science, title change from research associate, 8/01/04; and **Eric Turner**, recruiter/advisor, Nursing, appointment status change from temporary part-time to regular full-time, 8/02/04.

Separations

Daniel Abood, coordinator, Athletics Facilities and Operations, 12/31/04; **Dana Atkinson**, enrollment services associate, Registrar, 8/11/04; **David P. Garcea**, assistant departmental systems administrator, Institute for Health and Social Policy, 8/24/04; **Kristi Green**, clinical instructor, Family and Consumer Sciences, and associate director, Center of Child Development, 8/30/04; **Robert Guyette**, HVAC technician, Physical Facilities, 9/3/04; **Justin Kaye**, police 911 telecommunicator, University Police, 8/30/04; **Byron R. Pipes**, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Professor and director, Akron Global Polymer Academy, 8/20/04; **Margie R. Smith**, enrollment services associate, Registrar, 8/31/04; **Shannon Smith**, assistant professor, Education, 8/23/04; **Matthew W. Swarthout**, building services worker, Physical Facilities, 9/01/04; and **Joann Toth**, research assistant II, Institute for Health and Social Policy, 8/24/04