

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



LUIS M. PROENZA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 21, 2011

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 January 19, 2011.

Presentation to the Board

Director of Academic Achievement Programs Coleen Curry and two undergraduate student-participants discussed data related to the success of the 22-year-old Strive Toward Excellence Program.

Finance, Fiscal Policy and Investment Committee

1. Approved Purchases for More Than \$150,000

- MTS Systems Corporation was awarded a \$171,044 contract for the purchase of two structural testing actuators for the College of Engineering.
- M. Braun, Inc. was awarded a \$175,509 contract for the purchase of the purchase of a glove-box with thermal deposition system for the Department of Polymer Engineering
- Desire2Learn Inc. was awarded a \$174,300 contract for a revised annual fee for use of the Learning Management Software as a result of an FTE increase during 2007-2010.
- Sean P. Dunn & Associates LLC was awarded a \$270,000 contract to provide governmental affairs consulting for the 2011 calendar year.

2. Personnel Actions

The personnel transactions approved by Trustees as amended are posted online at <http://www.uakron.edu/president/docs/Personnel-transactions-January2011.pdf>.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Curriculum Recommendation

NU-10-002 Professional Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program Nursing

The College of Nursing will implement a professional nursing doctoral degree program that will move the advanced practice tracks and the advanced role track Nursing Administration in the master's degree program to the clinical doctoral level, consistent with recommendations of the American Association of Colleges in Nursing. This proposal was developed in collaboration with Kent State University College of Nursing with six of the courses offered jointly. All other courses in the program will be offered at each university. Authorized by the Ohio Board of Nursing (Ohio Revised Code 4723-Nurse Practice Act), advanced practice nurse roles include certified clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse practitioners, certified nurse anesthetists and certified nurse midwives. In addition, Nursing Administration will be included to prepare nurses for advanced management roles in nursing organizations. Both universities currently have large high-quality master's programs that lead to national certification and State Board credentialing of advanced practice nurses. In 2004, the American Association of Colleges in Nursing established the position that all advanced practice master's degree programs were to transition to the doctoral level by 2015. In 2006, the AACN member institutions endorsed the Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Practice Nursing. Further, in 2008, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the accrediting arm of AACN, approved the revised Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Programs, which now include DNP programs. These guidelines and standards, in combination with the Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs (National Task Force, 2008), were used to develop the proposed DNP program. Faculty Senate approved this recommendation.

2. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report, December 2010

For July-December 2010, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$18.2 million for 223 projects. For July-December 2009, funding was \$24.1 million for 224 projects. For July-December 2010, four patents were issued, 12 patent applications were filed, and 39 disclosures were submitted. For July-December 2009, one patent was issued, 18 patent applications were filed, and 18 disclosures were submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report, November 2010

For July-November 2010, total giving was \$14.4 million, 30 percent less than the \$20.7 million received for the first five months of FY2010 and 10 percent less than the five-year average of \$16 million. The number of gifts increased, from 9,521 for July 2009-November 2009 to 10,038 gifts for this fiscal year to date.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. Guzzetta Fire Suppression System

To bring the original Guzzetta Hall building up to current standards to match the 2006 addition, contracts were awarded to Fire Foe Corporation (\$330,756 for fire protection) and M & M Electrical Contractors, Inc. (\$8,147 for electrical).

New Business

1. Expression of Appreciation to the Zips Men's Soccer Team

Acknowledging the 2010 Zips Men's Soccer Team for becoming the University's first team to earn an NCAA Division I national championship, the Board extended its gratitude and congratulations to the coaches and student-athletes "for their historic triumphs, widespread achievements and consummate representation of The University of Akron and its ideals."

2. Resolution 1-9-11: Expectations for a Shared Leadership Consultative Decision Making Process

WHEREAS, The University of Akron is committed to a process of consultative decision making and shared leadership; and

WHEREAS, a proposed new rule establishing a University Council composed of representatives of campus constituent groups was vetted by the Rules Committee of the Board of Trustees on September 27, 2010; and

WHEREAS, The University of Akron leadership endorses the core principles of consultative decision making embodied in the aforementioned proposed rule; and

WHEREAS, any approach to be taken in this regard will not limit the role or authority of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, university leadership has further engaged with university constituent groups on this matter; and

WHEREAS, consensus has been reached among the representatives of the constituent groups and leadership; and

WHEREAS, the University Council proposal reviewed by the Rules Committee on September 27, 2010 will serve as the a principle resource for the development of the new rule; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that university leadership is expected to implement a new process of consultative decision making and shared leadership in spring 2011, the structure and function of which will include a substantive role for the aforementioned constituent groups and their at-large campus representatives in the development of policies and in planning, recommendation and operationalization of campus-wide initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that university leadership is expected to propose appropriate rule changes—formalizing the structure and function of the new process, conforming existing processes with the new process, and including expectations that those in university leadership positions will engage actively with and utilize the new process to its fullest extent—to be considered by the Rules Committee and, upon its favorable recommendation, to be considered by the full Board of Trustees as soon as practical following the proposal submission by university leadership.

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my report by reiterating the Board's welcome to new Student Trustee Katie Duff, and I welcomed the Board to this new year of opportunities with a new governor, state legislature and congressional delegation. I reported having attended the inaugural festivities for Governor John Kasich and Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor, a University of Akron alumna whose accomplishments, demonstrated acumen and new success are points of pride for us. I noted that Lieutenant Governor Taylor also will head the state Department of Insurance and has been charged by the Governor to lead efforts in regulatory relief in a number of areas.

I reported that The University of Akron's stature and visibility continue to grow through invitations to participate at regional, national and international levels. For example, the University was invited to submit recommendations to the President's National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship on how to increase the economic impact of federally funded research. Our University of Akron Research Foundation is a model in this regard.

Second, I informed Trustees that I had just returned from sharing the Akron Model in Hawaii at the invitation of the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Science, Technology and Economic Policy. Other participants included members of the White House National Economic Council, National Academies Scholar and Director Charles Wessner, former NASA administrator Daniel Goldin, other members of the President's administration, Hawaii Senators Inouye and Akaka and Representatives Hanabusa and Hirono. While there, we learned that a team from Hawaii will likely come here and study what we have done to move the Northeast Ohio economy forward.

On the day before the Board meeting, the University had teamed with the Greater Ohio Policy Center, the Greater Akron Chamber, Summit County and the city of Akron to present a day-long forum on building prosperity in this region and, again, we were asked to share the Akron Model. A series of discussions focused on the interconnections between select strengths in our area, supporting talent and workforce development. Carol Colletta, president of CEOs for Cities, commented that, "If a region does not have a talent-development/attraction strategy, it does not have an economic-development strategy." I reminded the Board that I have been saying this with regard to Northeast Ohio for some time, adding that some now are catching on. The featured keynote speaker was Paul S. Grogan, president and CEO of The Boston Foundation. During the forum, we learned that the Milken Institute likely will invite the University to participate in its Global Innovation Summit in May to share what we have been doing and possibly to serve as a case example in an upcoming study for the Ohio Board of Regents.

I then reported that we also are working with the National Academy of Sciences and the Northeast Ohio Technology Coalition to organize a symposium on Building the Next Ohio Innovation Economy. Vice Chair Pogue, together with our colleague David Morgenthaler, the president of Case Western Reserve University and the president of Nortech are helping to organize this event, which will take place in late April.

I underscored the invitation that was extended earlier to Trustees to join Austen BioInnovation Institute President Dr. Frank Douglas and me for a celebration of the joint triumph by our University

of Akron Research Foundation and the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron on the \$1-million i6 Innovation Challenge grant award to be presented by U. S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce John Fernandez on January 26 at the Goodyear Polymer Center.

I encouraged Trustees to attend another important upcoming event featuring best-selling author and Princeton Professor Cornel West speaking on “Diversity and Multiculturalism” on January 31 in E. J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall.

In closing, I thanked the Board for its continued support of the University, including that which was extended to Coach Caleb Porter. I expressed my deep gratitude for Coach Porter’s choice to remain in Akron and, thereby, to continue to distinguish our men’s soccer program and our institution.

2. Provost’s Report

Dr. Sherman continued his practice of reporting from the perspectives of the “Three Rs” of Retention, Reorganization and Revenue. He noted, in addition, overarching themes of Collaboration, Collegiality and the results of Consultation for Common Good.

Regarding **Retention**, Dr. Sherman reported:

- the formation of a Higher Learning Commission Committee to guide and assist in the University’s preparation for its reaccreditation visit in 2013;
- an approximate 7 percent increase in the number of students recognized as honors students or on the Dean’s List for the fall 2010 semester; and
- progress on scholarship strategy since conversations with the Education Policy/Student Affairs Committee last month.

An adjusted strategy, which includes the complete continuum of college-ready individuals plus a new metric to identify higher-than-projected academic accomplishment among students with economic need, has been reviewed with the vice presidents. Dr. Sherman said the scholarship continuum is being expanded to increase market share and be more competitive, but more important, to affirm Student Success Is Our Success through investment in those students who are academically prepared and who are showing outstanding academic progress.

Turning to **Reorganization**, Dr. Sherman said that Trustees would be asked to endorse a resolution related to the evolution of a shared leadership, consultative, decision-making University leadership council. He reminded Trustees that the Rules Committee previously had considered a rule to implement the council, with the matter having been tabled for further interaction with constituency groups to resolve an adjusted approach that would achieve those objectives. Following consultation with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and leadership of the AAUP, the resolution before the Board today would charge the President and Provost to implement and test a shared leadership, consultative, decision-making approach to supporting the success of the University. Dr. Sherman expressed his gratitude to those groups for their conversations related to this adjustment and for their endorsement of testing this new, unique and different approach from what was presented originally. He said their participation reflects exactly the success anticipated with regard to shared leadership and consultative decision making.

Dr. Sherman also announced some adjustments to responsibilities of individuals associated with the Office of Academic Affairs to stimulate and enable academic excellence.

- The title of Dr. Charles J. Fey will be changed to Vice President for Student Engagement and Success in alignment with the expectations, roles and responsibilities of that office. The extended expectations are to work with faculty to implement, subject to the Board's endorsement, a certifiable co-curricular transcript; and to offer to the University's non-resident students programs to enhance their success as they experience The University of Akron in a much different way than do resident students.
- The title of William Kraus will be changed to Associate Vice President for Strategic Enrollment reporting directly to the Senior Vice President, Provost and Chief Operating Officer in alignment with the imperative expectation of renewing an enrollment strategy that, with the Board's endorsement, will guide the University to its expected levels of excellence and eminence.
- Dr. Stanley Silverman will assume the titles of Associate Provost and Acting Dean of University College while retaining his title of Dean of Summit College. As Associate Provost, Dr. Silverman will be part of the Office of Academic Affairs leadership team.
- Dr. Karla Mugler will become the Associate Vice President for Integrated Student Services with responsibilities for focusing on the Akron experience of each of our students according to academic preparation, goals and aspirations to ensure wrap-around services of tutoring, mentoring, counseling, financial aid, and the like to help them to achieve their objectives.
- Dr. Chand Midha will assume the additional title of Acting Dean of the College of Creative and Professional Arts while retaining his title of Dean of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences. This is an administrative adjustment only that is anticipated to streamline and enhance the business and operational processes of the two colleges. It is anticipated that Dr. Midha will work with the faculty in both colleges over the next three semesters to create appropriate academic adjustments such that the quality of academic programs not only is maintained, but enhanced, through the convergence of these two colleges. These adjustments must be achieved (1) without negatively affecting faculty promotion and tenure processes or the success of students in completing their degrees, (2) with transparency to the entire University community, and (3) as simply as possible.

Regarding **Revenue**, Dr. Sherman indicated that there have been encouraging conversations toward extending the University's relationships with Stark State College, Lorain County Community College and, more recently, Lakeland Community College. He indicated the likelihood that our Bachelor of Organizational Supervision degree will be offered at those locations and would articulate directly with two-year associate degree programs of the respective institutions. He also reported that applications for fall semester are up by approximately 6 percent over the same time in 2010. He indicated that this, combined with the scholarship strategy mentioned earlier, could lead to expectations being exceeded.

Dr. Sherman gave Trustees printed copies of the recent first issue of an electronic campus communication titled *Across the Commons*, News from the Office of Academic Affairs. He described it as a new mechanism through which regular and open communication will be delivered to the University community regarding progress of our academic-excellence agenda.

In closing, Dr. Sherman reported that he has completed his visits with every college and almost every vice presidential unit. He said that it has become clear to him that he must seek the same level of understanding of the student experience as he has gained of the faculty and staff experience through these visits. To that end, he said he would work with Associated Student Government and other student leaders to extend his inquiry to understand the experience of students at The University of Akron.

3. Next Regular Meeting

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will occur on Wednesday, March 23, 2011 in the Student Union, Board Room 339, with an executive session to begin at 7:30 a.m. and the public session to begin no earlier than 10 a.m.

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