The University of Akron

Graduate Student Government

Presents

The Annual Graduate Students’
Social Engagement with
University Administrators

Date: Friday, Sept. 14th 2012
Venue: FirstMerit Foundation Club Level

**Infocision Stadium (5th floor) **

Time: 1:30pm – 4:00pm
# 2012 Luncheon Schedule

Compiled by the Graduate Student Government

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 pm – 1:45 pm</td>
<td>Meet and Greet</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45 pm – 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Chris Opoku-Agyeman&lt;br&gt;GSG President</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm – 2:05 pm</td>
<td>Welcome Address</td>
<td>Dr. Luis M. Proenza&lt;br&gt;President</td>
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<td>2:05 pm – 2:13 pm</td>
<td>Key highlights of the vision 2020 of the University: The role of graduate students</td>
<td>Dr. William M. (Mike) Sherman&lt;br&gt;Provost</td>
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<td>2:13 pm – 2:18 pm</td>
<td>Cultural Competency and Success in graduate School</td>
<td>Mrs. Candace Campbell Jackson&lt;br&gt;Vice President and Chief of Staff</td>
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<td>2:18 pm – 2:26 pm</td>
<td>Graduate Students Responsibilities and Rights</td>
<td>Denine M. Rocco&lt;br&gt;Associate VP and Dean of Students</td>
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<td>2:26 pm – 2:34 pm</td>
<td>Diversity and Internationalism</td>
<td>Mr. Lee Gill&lt;br&gt;Assoc VP Inclusion &amp; Equity/CDO</td>
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<td>2:34 pm – 2:42 pm</td>
<td>Grants, Dissertations and Thesis</td>
<td>Dr. Mark B. Tausig&lt;br&gt;Professor &amp; Associate Dean of the Graduate School</td>
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<td>2:42 pm – 2:52 pm</td>
<td>Questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:52 pm - 3:12 pm</td>
<td>Lunch, Refreshments &amp; Socialization</td>
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<td>3:12 pm - 3:25 pm</td>
<td>Special Address: Achieving Excellence through the Akron Experience</td>
<td>Jim Tressel&lt;br&gt;Vice President of Strategic Engagement</td>
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<td>3:25 pm - 3:35 pm</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Dr. George R. Newkome&lt;br&gt;Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School</td>
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<td>3:35 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Network Session</td>
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Speakers

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Dr. Luis M. Proenza is the chief executive officer of The University of Akron. He has led its transformation into a powerful engine for regional economic development, a catalyst for collaborative initiatives, and the preeminent public university in Northeast Ohio. Under his leadership, the University has financed $620-million in capital construction to completely transform its campus, adding 21 new facilities, 18 major renovations and additions and 34 acres of new green space, thereby becoming one of the most attractive metropolitan campuses in the nation. Dr. Proenza also led community efforts to create two key enterprises: a University Park Alliance that is revitalizing a 50-block area surrounding its campus, and the $200-million Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron, a partnership with three area hospitals and a medical school to establish Akron as a center for biomaterials and biomedicine. Prior to his appointment at Akron, Dr. Proenza was Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at Purdue University. He also served the University of Alaska first as Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, then as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE VISION 2020 UA: THE ROLE OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

Dr. William (Mike) Sherman is UA’s senior vice president, provost and chief operating officer. As UA’s top academic officer, Sherman has oversight of academic planning and budgeting, curriculum development, enrollment and retention initiatives, assessment, student affairs and information technology services. Sherman joined UA in 2010, having arrived from The Ohio State University, where he served as vice provost for academic planning and professor of sport and exercise science.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND SUCCESS IN GRADUATE SCHOOL

Candace Campbell Jackson, Esq., joined the University of Akron as the Executive Assistant to President Dr. Luis Proenza in December 2003. In 2005, she was promoted to the position Chief of Staff and in January 2007, she was promoted to Vice President and Chief of Staff. In this role, she is primarily responsible for advising the President on organizational and policy decisions; developing, coordinating and implementing Presidential initiatives; and managing the staff. Ms. Jackson works closely with the Vice Presidents and the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics on operational and budgeting issues and serves as a part-time program officer for the GAR Foundation staff where she reviews grant applications and makes recommendations on the distribution of funds.

GRADUATE STUDENTS ENGAGEMENT, RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES

Denine M. Rocco is the Associate Vice President and Dean of Students. She advocates for students to ensure sound policies and procedures are in place to guarantee their success in their academic career. She oversees various departments, programs and services to support students through to their graduation. She is one of the advisors of UA graduate student government. Before moving to the University of Akron, Denine was the Director of Residence Life at the University of Pittsburgh. She obtained her degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in Swissvale.
DIVERSITY AND INTERNATIONALIZATION

Gill earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Chicago Kent College of Law at the Illinois Institute of Technology and a bachelor's degree in political science and sociology from the University of Michigan. Since 2005, Gill has been chief executive office of the Stratus Group Consultants of Berrien Springs, Mich. The firm provides opinion survey instruments, diversity training, management assessments and advisory services for companies, nonprofits and universities.

Prior to that, Gill was dean of the Institute for Diversity and Leadership/Professional Development and the Affirmative Action officer at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Mich. In 2003 Lake Michigan College was recognized nationally with the Central Region, Association of Community College Trustees, Charles Kennedy Equity Award for its outstanding diversity initiatives. In addition, Gill was recently named to the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Foundation Committee to review the artistic vision of the memorial and to track its progress.

GRANTS, DISSERTATIONS AND THESIS

Mark B. Tausig is a professor and associate Dean of the Graduate School. He is also the Advisor of the UA graduate student government. He obtained his doctoral degree from New York (SUNY) at Albany, an M.A from Cornell University and a B.A. degree from the University of Wisconsin. His specialization is in Work and Mental Health, Social Networks and International Health.

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE THROUGH THE AKRON EXPERIENCE (SPECIAL ADDRESS)

Tressel received his B.A. in Education from Baldwin Wallace College in 1975. His experience in coaching began in 1975 and continued through 2010 on the campuses of The University of Akron, Miami University of Ohio, Syracuse University, Youngstown State University and The Ohio State University. Tressel spent four years at The University of Akron, receiving his master's degree in education in 1977. He served as assistant football coach and instructor of physical education at UA from 1975 to 1978. As the Vice President for Strategic Engagement, Tressel identifies, recommends and support strategies and efforts that promote success in all facets of student life.

GENERAL ASSESSMENTS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS (FINAL REMARK)

Dr. George R. Newkome is the vice president for Research and Dean of Graduate School Professor of Polymer Science and Chemistry. Newkome is one of five Ohioans who received the distinction for rendering special services to the Ohio Academy of Science for making extensive, productive scientific, technological or educational contributions to society. He has published extensively and undertaken several projects. Newkome, a polymer scientist and chemist, is one of five Ohioans who received the distinction for rendering special services to the Ohio Academy of Science for making extensive, productive scientific, technological or educational contributions to society. Academy Fellows of 2011 contributed to the fields of polymer chemistry, aerospace engineering, medicine, pre-med studies and science literacy, microbiology, science and science policy, botany and ecology.
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