

May 12, 2006

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 meeting on April 26, 2006.

### **Presentation to the Board**

1. The four electrical engineering students who won the American Society of Civil Engineers' 2006 Student Lunar Construction Robotics Competition in Houston talked about their achievement. The four — Dave Bordwell of Copley, Nick Long of Canton, Greg Mueller of Hartville and Joe Wnek of Toronto, Ohio — were joined by Dr. George Haritos, dean of the College of Engineering, and Dr. Tom Hartley, their adviser.

### **Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee**

1. Graduation List and Statistics for Spring 2006

Trustees approved a tentative list of candidates for spring commencement. The list includes candidates for 2,132 degrees (50 doctoral, 116 Juris Doctor, 422 master's, 1,278 bachelor's and 266 associate).

2. Honorary Degree

The Board approved the awarding of an honorary degree to Dr. John A. Fink, who was appointed to the University's Board of Trustees in July 1997 and has served as chairman for the last year. His term on the Board ends June 30. Fink, one of the leaders behind the New Landscape for Learning campus enhancement initiative, has served as a longtime chairman

of the Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee and as a member of the Personnel and Compensation Committee, among others. A highly regarded vascular surgeon, Fink also has served as a trustee of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority and a member of the Ohio Public Health Council.

3. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – July 2005-March 2006

For July 2005-March 2006, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$25,896,944 to support 303 projects. In the prior fiscal year, the year-to-date amount was \$20,578,791 to support 309 projects. During the current fiscal year, six patents have been awarded, 18 patent applications have been filed by the institution, and 40 disclosures have been submitted. For the same period last year, 11 patents had been issued, 28 patent applications had been filed, and 36 disclosures had been submitted.

**External Affairs Committee**

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – July 2005-February 2006

For July 2005-February 2006, total giving was \$19.6 million, as compared with \$11.1 million for July 2004-February 2005. For July 2005-February 2006, 12,130 gifts were accepted, compared to 11,084 received during the same period last fiscal year.

**Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee**

1. Renovation of Administrative Services Building, Phase II

Trustees approved construction contracts for the renovation of the Administrative Services Building, which will house Human Resources, Payroll, and Business and Finance. Receiving contracts were DSV Builders for \$195,900 as the general contractor, Montecalvo Electric for \$45,015 for electrical work and S.A. Comunale for \$64,483 for HVAC, plumbing and fire protection services. Each was the low bidder. The cost is 6 percent below budget.

2. Renovation of Athletics Field House

Trustees approved construction contracts for offices at the Athletics Field House. Chagrin Valley Steel Erection Co. will provide structural steel work for \$249,000 and Schindler Elevator Corp. will install an elevator for \$53,500. Each was the low bidder. The cost is 2.4 percent below budget.

3. Renovation of 32 S. College Street

Construction contracts for the renovation of 32 S. College Street were approved to these contractors: DSV Builders, general contractor, \$426,000; S.A. Comunale, HVAC and

plumbing, \$174,983; and Genesis Electric, electrical services, \$70,000. Each was the low bidder. The cost is about 1 percent less than budgeted.

4. Robertson Café Renovation

Trustees approved a \$333,000 contract to Hasenstab Architects of Akron for architectural design work for the renovation of Robertson Café. The project will be funded with state and University dollars. Hasenstab, one of four firms interviewed for the job, was selected based on its presentation and its experience with similar projects.

5. Wayne College Renovations and Expansion

For the renovation and expansion of Wayne College, Trustees approved a contract for professional design services to The Collaborative Inc. of Toledo for \$356,900. The project will be funded with state and University dollars. The Collaborative, one of four firms interviewed for the job, was selected based on its presentation and its experience with similar projects.

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

1. Financial Reports – Preliminary July 2005-February 2006 (approved subject to audit)

**Akron campus** – Preliminary tuition and fee receipts for the eight-month period were \$166.3 million, or about \$596,806 less than budgeted. These revenues reflect summer fall and preliminary spring collections; they are a function of generated student credit hours. Earnings from investments, departmental sales and services, and other sources exceeded budget estimates by \$2.51 million. Expenses were \$168.7 million in the functional categories for the period, less than budgeted by \$28.6 million.

**Wayne College** – Preliminary tuition and fee receipts were \$6.98 million, or \$241,197 less than budgeted. Receipts from continuing education department sales and other sources exceeded budget estimates by \$328,621. Total educational and general expenditures in the functional categories were \$6.1 million, which was less than budgeted by \$1.83 million.

2. FY2007 Tuition and General Fees

The University's Trustees today approved a 6 percent increase in tuition and general fees effective in the fall for undergraduates, graduates and current law students. For incoming law students, tuition will increase 20 percent. The tuition for the nurse anesthesia graduate courses will increase by 30.3 percent.

3. Proposed FY07 Fee Recommendations

Trustees approved recommendations from the Fee Review Committee, which was established in response to the Board's request that the administration examine and justify all course and miscellaneous fees. The committee recommended the establishment of 74 fees, an increase for 152 fees, a reduction for 142 fees and the elimination of 136 fees. The changes will result in a net decline in revenue of \$48,233.

4. Purchases of More Than \$150,000

Trustees approved the following purchases:

- To Software House International for \$344,000 to renew licenses for Microsoft products. Inter-University Council Purchasing Group will make the acquisition on behalf of Akron and other member universities.
- To Adden Furniture for \$187,348 to acquire replacement furniture for residence halls.
- To Interstate Gas Supply for the University's 90 natural gas accounts. The \$1.42 million purchase was determined in consultation with First Energy and E-group, the University's energy management partner.
- To Clark-MXR for \$277,200 to purchase a tunable femtosecond infrared laser system. Funding will come from a National Science Foundation grant.

5. Holiday Schedule for 2006-07 and Summer Hours for 2006

Trustees approved the holiday schedule for FY2007. The holidays are Independence Day (July 4, 2006), Labor Day (September 4), Veterans Day (November 10 – staff holiday only, classes held), Thanksgiving Day (November 23), Columbus Day (observed November 24), Christmas Day (December 25), Presidents Day (observed December 26), New Year's Day (January 1, 2007), Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 15) and Memorial Day (May 28).

Summer hours from May 8 through August 25, 2006 were approved. The workday will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with 30 minutes for lunch.

Trustees also approved offering a reduced workweek for staff employees. Staff employees who wish to work a reduced workweek during the summer sessions or at other times of the year may request leave without pay. A supervisor's permission will be required. Staff privileges and benefits will remain in effect for eligible full-time employees.

6. Personnel Actions (attached)

### **Committee on Rules**

#### 1. Rule Change Related to Credit by Transfer and/or Examination

Trustees approved a rule change to O.A.C. 3359-60-03.1 in response to a General Assembly mandate that all public colleges and universities establish policies and procedures to ensure that students can begin higher education at any public institution and transfer coursework and degrees to another public institution without unnecessary duplication or barriers. The Articulation and Transfer Council of the Ohio Board of Regents adopted a policy that provides, in part, that Ohio's public universities will accept all transfer coursework with a grade of "D" or higher. The policy also provides that those institutions that offer "D-" as the lowest passing grade are required to accept all college level courses with a grade of "D-" or higher. The rule change will allow the University to accept grades of "D-" or higher in transfer, only from those programs in which a "D-" is already acceptable.

### **New Business**

#### 1. Real Estate Purchase

Trustees approved the purchase of property at 331 Spicer Street for \$68,000.

#### 2. Ratification of IATSE Contract

Trustees approved a resolution directing the administration to execute the collective bargaining agreement between the University and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local 48.

#### 3. Contract of President

Trustees unanimously passed a resolution expressing a desire to restate and amend the employment contract of the president. To carry out the Board's desire, the Trustees authorized Chairman Dr. John Fink to finalize the employment contract of President Dr. Luis M. Proenza to adequately reflect the Board's continuing high satisfaction with his performance.

### **Notes**

#### 1. President's Report

The majority of my remarks concerned the University Park Alliance, which had held its annual awards ceremony the day prior to the Trustees' meeting. I noted that The University of Akron enjoys a vibrant partnership with the surrounding community; such engagement is our most sustainable basis of comparative and competitive advantage in the long run. At the awards ceremony, we celebrated a key component of that partnership by recognizing the

outstanding achievements of people and organizations who are transforming the University Park neighborhoods adjacent to our campus. We had a great show of support, a record turnout that filled the ballroom at the Student Union. Among those honored were members of our faculty, student body and the community, all of whom are working together to revitalize these neighborhoods.

It is hard to believe that it has been only five years since we began the process, but in that time, the alliance has undertaken an ambitious revitalization program that includes Spicer Village, a planned upscale residential development south of campus that will benefit by its proximity to The University of Akron and Summa Health System. University Park is strategically important to our University and to Akron's long-term economic development because it will be, as it already is, a hotbed of talent and innovation within the city, Summit County and indeed, within Northeast Ohio. The University of Akron and our University Park Alliance partners continue to invest not just in buildings and parks, but in the people who live there, who work there, who learn there and who do business there.

While we have already created bold architectural statements on our campus, the same momentum is now carrying over to these surrounding neighborhoods. During the past year, for example, we witnessed the creation of a farmers' market, the announcement of Spicer Village, major improvements to dozens of properties and businesses, several new public arts installations, and a tour of six sacred landmarks. We also hosted Northeast Ohio's first regional town meeting about our economic future as part of the Voices and Choices program. This fall we will host the second such meeting as we, again, help to move this region forward.

Most recently, the city and SR Teleperformance Group announced that the company will bring 600 jobs to University Park. That is good news, and more is forthcoming. At the same time, we are expanding our thinking about ways to improve this neighborhood, including how we integrate and improve learning and healthy lifestyles. We know that in today's globally competitive economy, innovation and bold ideas are necessary to our region's success. Together with our partners, we will continue to transform University Park into the centerpiece of Akron's future.

I am pleased to report that the Knight Foundation has declared this the most transformational project that they are supporting in Akron and, indeed, throughout the country. As I often have said, economies transcend artificial political boundaries. The same can be said of our community. While we have clearly defined portals that provide our campus with a renewed sense of identity, we are also working to create a sense of belonging, a sense of engagement, of stretching our campus into the neighborhoods, at the same time that we invite others to join with us as we advance our common future.

Yes, we have experienced success, but there is much more to be excited about in the future. Ken Stapleton, director of University Park Alliance, summed it up best in only two words — “Don't blink” — because as we blink, we miss many of the things that are happening. Our University is the infrastructure of our economy, and virtually everything that we do at the University contributes to the economic and cultural wellbeing of our region. The

University's role in that community is as vital today as at any point in that history.

I then thanked our students, faculty, and staff who have taken advantage of volunteering and engagement opportunities such as University Park Alliance. I also recognized those individuals who spent their spring break working on hurricane relief projects. About 150 of our students spent this past spring break working in Pass Christian, Mississippi, and according to a news report on Cleveland television, at least one Mississippi homeowner is now flying The University of Akron banner. I also acknowledged the work of those in our College of Education who provided physical education equipment to Trent Lott Middle School in Pascagoula, Mississippi, delivered by Dr. Kathie Owens and her husband during spring break. I closed my remarks by expressing my gratitude to all who contributed to the relief efforts in so many other ways: community projects, donations, and in-kind services.

2. Next meeting: 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 21, 2006, in the Board Room on the third floor of the Student Union.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Luis Proenza

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees**  
April 26, 2006

**Appointments**

**Taneisha Buchanan**, psychology intern, Counseling, Testing and Career Center, 07/01/06; **Jeremy Butler**, assistant director, Alumni Association, 04/17/06; **Javier Coronado-Aliegro**, assistant professor, Modern Languages, 08/28/06; **William Francis**, associate dean, Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, professor, English (rehire per renewal re-employment agreement), 07/01/06; **Anthony P. Gies**, postdoctoral research fellow, Chemistry, 05/01/06; **Emily Gorka**, assistant director, Development 03/20/06; **Dawn Harsch**, academic adviser II, Education Dean's Office, 03/27/06; **Jess Hays**, director, Academic Advisement Center, (rehire per renewal re-employment agreement), 07/01/06; **Matthew Hutchinson**, visiting scholar, Geography and Planning, 02/20/06; **Anthony D. Knight**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, 03/27/06; **Lawrence J. Kouri**, police officer, University Police, 03/27/06; **Peter Leahy**, senior research associate, Institute for Health and Social Policy, director, Public Service Research and Training (rehire per renewal re-employment agreement), 07/01/06; **Cheryl Libertin**, adjunct instructor, Nursing, 05/01/06; **Ted Mallo**, vice president and general counsel, secretary, Board of Trustees, adjunct associate professor, Education, inspector general liaison, member, General Faculty (rehire per renewal re-employment agreement), 07/01/06; **Donna McDonald**, assistant director, Counseling, Testing and Career Center, 05/30/06; **Douglas Muccio**, psychology intern, Counseling, Testing and Career Center, 07/01/06; **Martha Santos**, assistant professor, History, 08/28/06; **Amy Shriver Dreussi**, assistant professor, social science, Associate Studies, 08/28/06; **Pearl Sulongteh**, assistant director, Student Financial Aid and Student Employment, (rehire per renewal re-employment agreement), 07/01/06; and **Gregory Tomasulo**, psychology intern, Counseling, Testing and Career Center, 07/01/06.

**Changes**

**John Beltz**, college lecturer, Geology, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **Julia Beyeler**, director emeritus, Learning Support Services – Wayne, title change from director, Learning Support Services 05/31/06; **Cynthia L. Branham**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, transfer from Dining Services and title change from cook, 03/27/06; **George Chase**, professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **H. Michael Cheung**, professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Steven Chuang**, professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Brian Davis**, associate vice president, Finance and Administration, title change from associate vice president, Business and Finance, 05/01/06; **Rosemarie Eichler**, college lecturer, History, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **J. Richard Elliott, Jr**, professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Anthony Ephirim-Donkor**, college lecturer, History, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **Edward Evans**, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular

Engineering, title change from associate professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Jane Falk**, college lecturer, English, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **Robert Fritz**, assistant director emeritus, custodial and maintenance, Student Union, title change from assistant director, 08/31/05; **Holly Gartner**, assistant director, Development, status change from full-time to part-time, 03/12/06; **Winifred George-Alexander**, senior executive administrative assistant, Vice President of Public Affairs and Development, promotion and title change from administrative assistant, 04/03/06; **Helen Dannemiller**, assistant professor emeritus, Nursing, title change from assistant professor, 10/31/05; **Allen S. Gregg**, research and instructional support engineer, Physics, reclassification via job audit and title change from engineering technician senior, status change from staff to contract professional, 11/14/05; **Susan Hanlon**, associate professor, Management, Fitzgerald Institute Fellow, Entrepreneurship, relinquish title of director, Center for Family Business; **Cynthia Harrison**, business intelligence tool trainer, Hardware and Operating Systems Services, transfer from Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, 03/01/06; **Lu-Kwang Ju**, professor and department chair, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Elizabeth Kennedy**, associate professor, Social Science, chair, Associate Studies, fellow, Institute for Lifespan Development and Gerontology, additional title of director, Summit College Success program, 03/01/06; **Elizabeth Kinion**, professor emeritus, Nursing, title change from professor, 06/30/06; **Louise Kuhns**, director emeritus, college-centered programs, Development, title change from director, college-centered programs and member, General Faculty, 02/28/06; **Maria Lenardon**, college lecturer, Modern Languages, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **Linda Linc**, professor emeritus, Nursing, title change from professor, 06/30/06; **Stephanie Lopina**, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, associate professor, Biomedical Engineering, title change from associate professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Adam Messner**, assistant director, Admissions and data manager, Law Dean's Office, reclassification via job audit and title change from admissions counselor, 02/01/06; **Laura M. Miller-Francis**, senior executive administrative assistant, Vice President Finance and Administration, promotion and title change from administrative assistant senior, 03/06/06; **Susan McKibben**, manager, software training services, Hardware and Operating Systems Services, transfer from Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, 03/01/06; **Bi-Min Zhang Newby**, assistant professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from assistant professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Helen Qammar**, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from associate professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; **Brian Radesic**, primary title change to instructor, Nursing, secondary title change to associate director, Graduate Nurse Anesthesia program, 05/23/05; **Brian W. Renner**, police officer, University Police, promotion and title change from police 911 telecommunicator, 03/08/06; **Elizabeth Rhoades**, college lecturer, English, title change from instructor, 08/28/06; **Pamela Rodehaver**, administrative systems trainer, Hardware and Operating Systems Services, transfer from Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, 03/01/06; **Joseph S. Scheible**, assistant building services worker, Residence Life and Housing, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, 03/13/06; **Darin Siley**, student services counselor, Admissions, reclassification via job audit and title change from examiner assistant, 02/27/06; **Elaine Sinkovich**, administrative assistant, Geology, reclassification via job audit and title change from administrative secretary, 02/07/06; **Irene C. Stallings**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from seasonal housekeeping worker, 03/20/06; **Lori J. Vargo**, computer specialist, Education, appointment basis change from part-

time to full-time, 07/01/06; Ping Wang, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, title change from associate professor, Chemical Engineering, 08/29/05; and **Susan Young**, college lecturer, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, title change from instructor, Mathematics, 08/28/06.

### **Separations**

**Thomas P. Andonian**, building services worker certified, Physical Facilities, 03/06/06; **Julia Beyeler**, director, Learning Support Services, adjunct assistant professor, Education, ADA coordinator, Developmental Programs – Wayne, 05/31/06; **Susan Blausser**, assistant women's basketball coach, Athletics, 06/30/06; **Terri Brunsdon**, instructor, Accounting, 05/13/06; **Carol Dugan**, assistant women's basketball coach, Athletics, 06/30/06; **Lynn Gaddis**, instructor, Nursing, 05/13/06; **Kathy Higgins**, assistant professor, Nursing, 05/13/06; **Yoshihito Hayashi**, research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 03/30/06; **Matthew Johnson**, recruiter/advisor, Nursing, 04/14/06; **Paramjit Kahai**, assistant professor, Management, 05/12/07; **Kelly Kennedy**, head women's basketball coach, Athletics, 03/31/06; **Kenneth Knipl**, computer lab support specialist, Law, 05/13/06; **Geoff Lanier**, assistant women's basketball coach, Athletics, 06/30/06; **Kevin Olivett**, manager, corporate sales and promotions, Athletics, 03/03/06; **Tracy A. Riley**, assistant professor, Nursing, 08/15/06; **Shaka Smart**, associate head men's basketball coach, Athletics, 04/07/06; **Janice Taylor Heard**, director, Office of Multicultural Development, 03/17/06; **Kenneth Knipl**, computer lab support specialist, Law, 05/13/06; **John Mihevic**, assistant director, aquatic facilities, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, 04/21/06; **Nancy Miller**, visiting associate professor, Sociology, 05/31/06; **William Pinder**, delivery worker, Mail Services, 02/09/06; **Kevin Robinson**, assistant professor, Statistics, 05/12/07; **Melissa Ulrich**, assistant professor, paralegal studies, Public Services Technology, 05/12/07; **Stephan W. Younkin**, mover, Physical Facilities, 09/30/05; and **Debra Ziler**, administrative assistant senior, CBA Dean's Office, 06/30/06.