

April 13, 2007

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 March 21, 2007.

Presentation to the Board

Dean Stanley Silverman of Summit College profiled his college and described (1) its effort to increase retention, and (2) the Early College High School initiative with the Akron Public Schools that will begin next fall.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – July 2006-February 2007

For July 2006-February 2007, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$15,602,073 to support 279 projects. In the prior fiscal year, the year-to-date amount was \$24,512,524 to support 281 projects. In this fiscal year, seven patents have been awarded, 22 patent applications have been filed, and 42 disclosures have been submitted. For the same period last year, five patents had been issued, 16 patent applications had been filed, and 37 disclosures had been submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – July 2006-January 2007

Between July 1, 2006 and January 31, 2007, total giving was \$17.1 million, or about 10 percent less than the \$19.1 million received during the first seven months of the prior fiscal year. For July 2006 to January 2007, 11,168 gifts were accepted, compared to 11,014 received during the same period last fiscal year.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. Wayne College Renovation and Expansion

Trustees awarded a \$5,737,500 contract to The Ruhlin Company for construction management services. Ten companies responded to the ad for the project, three were interviewed, and Ruhlin was selected because of its presentation and its relevant experience on similar projects. The project includes (1) the conversion of the D-wing of the main building into offices for faculty and staff, and (2) the construction of a 35,000-square-foot stand-alone building that will house Continuing Education and Workforce Development, an expansion of the cafeteria, classrooms, a computer lab, a bookstore, a multi-purpose room and support spaces.

2. Robertson Café Renovation

Trustees approved a series of contracts related to the renovation of Robertson Café. The low-bid contractors are Meccon, Inc. for plumbing (\$158,000); S.A. Comunale for HVAC (\$402,440); Summit Electric/R&M Electric for electrical (\$346,575); Fire Protection Inc. for fire protection (\$322,300); Hal Jones Roofing and Sheet Metal Inc. for roofing (\$208,058); Custom Fabricators Inc. for millwork (\$304,900); Breckenridge Kitchen Equipment and Design for food service equipment (\$399,402); and Knoch Corp for general, metals glazing and flooring (\$1.15 million). The total for the construction phase came in less than 1 percent under budget.

3. Schrank Hall North Renovation

Contracts were approved for the renovation of Schrank Hall North. The low-bid contractors are Summit Construction Co., the general contractor (\$483,800); Prout Boiler Heating and Welding for plumbing (\$130,600); K Company Inc. for mechanical (\$178,500); and Summit Electric/R&M Electric for electrical (\$164,050). The project total came in 13 percent below budget.

Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee

1. Financial Report for Second Quarter of FY2007 – July-December 2006

Trustees reviewed the financial report for the University's first and second quarters, which covers the first six months of the fiscal year, or July 1 through Dec. 31, 2006. In this period, revenue for the Akron campus was \$159.8 million, or about 4.3 percent above what was estimated in the budget. This primarily is the result of the greater-than-expected credit-hour production in the summer and fall. Expenditures were \$125.6 million for the period, or about 4.4 percent less than what was budgeted. Revenue at Wayne College for the period was \$6.1 million, or about 0.9 percent below budget. Less-than-anticipated credit-hour production in the summer was the primary reason for the shortfall. Expenditures for the same period were \$4.7 million, or about 5.9 percent less than budgeted.

Investment Report for Endowments— For the first six months of the fiscal year, The University of Akron Endowment Fund increased \$3.9 million to \$57.8 million, the result of gifts, fund transfers, endowment income and realized gains. Combined endowment assets—the University endowment plus The University of Akron Foundation endowment— now total \$198.7 million.

2. Use of Facilities Agreement – Wayne College

Trustees approved a one-year lease of about 34 acres of real property at The University of Akron Wayne College to Glenn Burkholder and to Davel Farms Inc., to be used for the purpose of farming upon a condition that the University is indemnified and held harmless by both lessees.

3. Personnel Actions (attached as amended)

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my remarks by discussing the objectives of Governor Strickland's State of the State address. They include attaining an increase of 230,000 Ohioans with college degrees and a 20 percent increase in the graduation rate among those who start college. The governor stressed that his budget sets two major initiatives to help make college affordable for every Ohioan. First, he will establish a higher education compact. This signifies that he understands the tradeoff between state support and our ability to hold down tuition increases. The compact between the state and its public colleges and universities would result in no increase in tuition costs for our students in exchange for a 5 percent increase in state funding for basic instructional support for the coming fiscal year and a 2 percent increase the subsequent year. He asked that, for individual institutions to obtain their share of this funding, each public college must find ways to operate more efficiently. I shared with him, as I did with the *Akron Beacon Journal*, that we should actually look to a day when we can rollback tuition to at least the national average because that would signify that we do understand the value of investment in public higher education.

The governor's second major initiative is to fill the gap between what college costs and what most Ohio students and families can afford. To do this, he plans to continue the Ohio College Opportunity Grant for both public and private colleges. This would assist families with incomes of \$75,000 or less per year. In addition, the governor would partner with the business community and the Ohio College Access Network to attack, through some forms of private fund-raising, the remaining gap between a student's resources and the cost of college. He also said he believed that our higher education system would be stronger with the creation of a cabinet-level chancellor of higher education, and he appreciated the decision of the Board of Regents to appoint Eric Fingerhut as chancellor. Last week, we met with the

governor and the chancellor on Friday, and Chancellor Fingerhut expressed his desire to visit each of our major campuses. I have extended an invitation to the chancellor.

Obviously, in regard to the state budget, the governor's proposal will now begin to unfold. While, on the surface, the budget provides some hope for higher education, the effect of the proposed compact likely will be difficult to attain in its entirety because, according to preliminary figures run by the staff of our chief financial officer, several million dollars' worth of cuts would be required to balance our budget. Obviously, what we would like is for this to be the starting point of further legislative action, with funding increases to begin to move the state back toward the national average at the very least. We are working with Bruce Johnson and our Inter-University Council colleagues to determine the best ways to proceed with the governor and the legislature.

On March 22, Chancellor Fingerhut and Vice Chancellor Rich Petrick were to present to the Ohio Board of Regents their analysis of the higher education portion of the Executive Budget. Remember that the Board of Regents is presently entrusted with implementing any appropriation through the formula for funding higher education. The formula has never been fully funded, which means that it creates very perverse outcomes, namely that even when appropriations increase, if the number of students at public universities increases vastly more than the variable dollars that the formula would calculate are needed, the available dollars are then divided by the total number of students; that is, even if institutions are growing, they sometimes literally get less money even when they have more students. So, we have to find a way to address some of these issues. Obviously, the House and the Senate will be working on their own proposals and issues on the state budget, so a final budget will not come out for a few months, hopefully no later than May.

During the week of March 12, the legislatively created Northeast Ohio Universities Collaboration and Innovation Study Commission convened for the first time. Most of the discussion, of course, focused on the scope of the commission's work. The deadline to submit a plan to the legislature is within one year, which means it will be by December 2007. The goal of the commission is to promote greater access and affordability for students and to provide an overall, improved quality of higher education in Northeast Ohio. We look forward to contributing to that endeavor and to providing the leadership that The University of Akron has grown accustomed to providing in issues of higher education throughout the state. We are fortunate to have serving on the commission, in addition to me, several of our Trustees—Mr. Phil Kaufmann representing our Board, Dr. William Demas representing the NEOUCOM Board, Mr. Richard Pogue appointed by Senate President Bill Harris—so we are in a good position to exercise leadership as well as to represent the larger context not only of Northeast Ohio, but of Ohio.

Speaking of Board Chairman Dr. William Demas, I announced that the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs were to hold their third-annual Diversity Leadership Awards Dinner on March 24. At the dinner, Dr. Demas received the Faculty/Staff Leadership and Excellence Award for his distinguished contributions toward enhancing the goals of diversity, equity,

inclusion and multiculturalism, particularly in the areas of teaching, research and service as he has so happily done in his own medical research.

I also called attention to the awards luncheon for the University Park Alliance to begin at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 18, in our Student Union Ballroom. The keynote speaker will be Carol Coletta, the president and chief executive of CEOs for Cities, an organization that clearly understands the value of a University Park Alliance on how Ohio universities impact their cities. Proceeds from the event, which gets bigger and bigger each year, will benefit the University Park Scholarship Fund.

I also praised the 58 students who traveled to Pass Christian, Miss., over spring break to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. At the same time, other UA students were in New Orleans on a relief trip sponsored by our campus neighbor, The Chapel. And, five of our students were assisting with hurricane relief in Lake Charles, La., as part of a United Way program aimed at engaging our young people in volunteer service.

I closed my remarks by recognizing and celebrating the success of our men's basketball team and its superb 26-7 record. If you have been reading the paper, particularly *The New York Times* and the *Akron Beacon Journal*, you know that no one is pleased with the abrupt end to the team's season. *The New York Times* expressed surprise at lack of bids from the NCAA tournament, and, in particular, the National Invitational Tournament. Please, when you have a moment, talk with head coach Keith Dambrot and express to him our extreme gratitude for where he has taken the team and work with him to bring these young people to the realization, as Keith himself said, that not everything in life is fair. They have had a tremendous season, and they should be duly recognized. As columnist Terry Pluto noted in the March 21 issue of the *Beacon*, we are walking around, not exactly happy, somewhat dazed and dismayed; but the team will bounce back, and we have great hope for the future.

2. Next Regular Meeting

April 25, 2007 in the Board Room, Student Union, Third Floor. Executive session will begin at 8 a.m. The public session will begin no earlier than 10 a.m.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees
March 21, 2007**

Appointments

Sphurti Bhargava, postdoctoral research associate, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, 1/15/07; **Timothy Bowersox**, library associate senior, Law, 2/26/07; **Jeremiah Dickey**, director of development and assistant athletics director, Athletics, 1/16/07; **Ivan Dolog**, research and instructional support engineer, Physics, 3/12/07; **Wenyi Huang**, postdoctoral research fellow, Polymer Engineering, 1/2/07; **Michael H. Kimble**, employee training coordinator, Human Resources, 2/19/07; **Raymond K. Letzler**, painter, Physical Facilities, 2/5/07; **Roberta Martin**, academic adviser II emeritus, Summit College, 2/13/07; **James R. Miller**, lead network engineer, Network and Communication Services, 1/2/07; **Jose A. Montero**, assistant professor, Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Tiffanie N. Nevins**, library associate senior, Law, 2/19/07; **Elias O. Okach**, instructor, History and Pan-African Studies, 1/16/07; **Aaron A. Resch**, maintenance repair worker, Physical Facilities, 3/5/07; **Brad C. Rice**, Web graphics designer, Application Systems Services, 2/19/07; **Brandon R. Salzwimmer**, maintenance repair worker, Physical Facilities, 3/5/07; **Olga Sollers**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, 1/2/07; **Richard M. Vansise**, maintenance repair worker, Physical Facilities, 3/5/07; **Diana Vickers**, manager, marketing and communications, Law, 1/22/07; **Li Wang**, assistant professor, accounting, Accountancy, 8/27/07; **Diane M. Weaver**, manager, aquatics, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, 2/12/07; **Heather Wenzel**, accountant, Controller's Office, 2/19/07; and **Casey M. Wise**, senior Web developer, Application Systems Services, 1/29/07.

Changes

Richard L. Aynes, professor, Law, John F. Seiberling chair, Constitutional Law, research fellow, Constitutional Law Center, relinquishing dean title, 7/01/07; **Margaret C. Baughman**, research associate I, Institute for Health and Social Policy, title change from research assistant III, 12/1/06; **Shannon M. Boehme**, research technician, Biology, basis change from part time to full time, 1/8/07; **Gary L. Bogue**, assistant director of development, Law, promotion and title change from assistant director of development, Athletics, 2/6/07; **Kathleen Bogue**, assistant director of development, Engineering, transfer from Arts and Sciences, title change from director, special events and projects basis change from part time to full time, 2/26/07; **Angie M. Boothe**, test monitor, Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Wayne College, promotion and title change from technical specialist, status change from part-time temporary to full-time regular, 1/2/07; **Cynthia Branham**, master building services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from building services worker, 1/2/07; **Lawrence E. Brown**, custodial superintendent, Physical Facilities, transfer from Athletics, 2/5/07; **Bernadette Citano**, academic adviser II, Academic Advisement Center, temporary reclassification and title change from academic adviser I, basis change from part time to full time, 2/5/07; **Stephen Cook**, assistant director, Legal Clinic, director, Trial Litigation, additional title of director, New Business Legal Clinic, 1/1/07; **Robert J. Duff**, associate professor, Biology, additional title of associate department chair, 8/28/06; **Tracie Epner**, administrative secretary, Nursing, promotion and title change from grant office aide, basis change from temporary part time to regular full time, 1/15/07; **Rudy Fenwick**, associate professor, Sociology, additional title of faculty fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **Nancy K. Grant**, professor, Public Administration

and Urban Studies, fellow, Institute for LifeSpan Development and Gerontology, co-director, Center for Emergency Management and Homeland Policy Research, additional title of interim associate department chair, Public Administration and Urban Studies, 8/28/06; **Deborah S. Gwin**, director emeritus, University of Akron Adult Focus, title change from director, 2/1/07; **Christine L. Helfrich**, academic adviser II, Academic Advisement Center, promotion and title change from academic adviser I, 2/5/07; **Kelly M. Herold**, assistant to the dean for strategic initiatives, Summit College, title change from director, Tech Prep, status change from temporary to regular, 3/1/07; **Anne G. Jorgensen**, director, academic advisement - student athletes, Academic Advisement, transfer and title change from director of undergraduate programs and assistant to the dean, Business Administration, 1/16/07; **Meredith A. Kalapich**, academic adviser II, Nursing, transfer from Academic Advisement Center, 1/11/07; **Frank N. Kelley**, dean emeritus, Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, title change from dean, 1/1/07; **Matthew Kolodziej**, assistant professor, Art, additional title of faculty fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **Daniel Krone**, director, athletics field house and building services, Athletics, job reclassification via job audit and title change from manager, athletics field house, 12/1/06; **Gregory Landis**, senior assistant director, Admissions, promotion and title change from assistant director, 2/2/07; **David Lange**, assistant departmental systems administrator, Registrar, title change from departmental systems administrator, 3/5/07; **Donna Lanik**, library specialist, University Libraries Science and Technology, job reclassification via job audit and title change from library associate senior, 10/16/06; **Joyce A. Lott**, secretary, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, transfer from Public Administration and Urban Studies, 1/8/07; **William T. Lyons Jr.**, associate professor, Political Science, director, Center for Conflict Management, additional title of fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **Teri Mackey**, library specialist, University Libraries Science and Technology, job reclassification via job audit and title change from library associate senior, 10/16/06; **R. Kent Marsden**, assistant to the dean, Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, additional title of interim director, Akron Global Polymer Academy, 1/1/07; **Sarah L. Massey**, enrollment services associate, Registrar, promotion and title change from assistant teacher, 2/5/07; **Sandra Montgomery**, student financial aid counselor, Student Financial Aid, promotion and title change from enrollment services associate, 1/22/07; **Jacqueline S. Newman**, administrative secretary, Public Administration and Urban Studies, transfer from Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 1/8/07; **Matthew Orn**, senior LAN administrator, Hardware Operations and Operating Systems Services, reclassification via job audit and title change from LAN administrator, 6/26/06; **Ramona Ortega-Liston**, associate professor, Public Administration and Urban Studies, additional title of faculty fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **Helen Qammar**, associate professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, additional title of faculty fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **John Queener**, associate professor, Counseling, additional title of faculty fellow, Senior Vice President and Provost, 1/1/07; **Jeanette Quinn**, administrative assistant, Economics, reclassification via job audit and title change from administrative secretary, 10/2/06; **Martha R. Reynolds**, program assistant, Human Resources, promotion and title change from employment services assistant, 2/19/07; **Gary A. Robertson**, master carpenter certified, Physical Facilities, title change from master maintenance repair worker, 12/31/06; **Michael Szczukowski**, director, Materials Handling/Printing Services, 4/2/07; **Adam E. Smith**, mover, Physical Facilities, promotion and basis change from part to full time, 2/12/07; **Linda M. Smith**, administrative secretary, Technology Transfer, basis change from part time to full time, 2/1/07; **Timothy Stults**, offset production specialist II, Printing Services, reclassification via job audit, title change

from printing press operator, 11/27/06; **Augusta L. Turman**, maintenance repair worker certified, Physical Facilities, title change from maintenance repair worker, 12/11/06; **Daniel P. Vargo**, mover, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from building services worker, 2/12/07; **Lori J. Vargo**, project/grant consultant, Education Dean's Office, title change from computer specialist, 1/1/07; **Deborah M. Volk**, research assistant II, Institute for Health and Social Policy, promotion and title change from research assistant, 1/2/07; **Elizabeth D. Voth**, budget analyst, Treasurer, transfer from Resource Analysis and Budget, 9/1/06; **Kathy Watson**, executive director emeritus, Human Resources, title change from executive director, 12/31/06; **Lindsie B. Webb**, administrative assistant senior, Wayne College Dean's Office, promotion and title change from administrative assistant, 2/12/07; **Christopher J. Whitestone**, master building services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from building services worker, 1/22/07; and **Marie Zufall**, library specialist, University Libraries Science and Technology, job reclassification via job audit, title change from library associate senior, 10/16/06.

Separations

Aaron Alford, assistant football coach, Athletics, 2/19/07; **Carmen Bricillo**, athletics video operations technician, Athletics, 1/15/07; **Michele L. Campbell**, assistant dean, Student Life, 2/9/07; **Stephanie Davis**, manager, fitness and wellness, Student Recreation and Wellness Services, 2/2/07; **Wilmarie Flores-Santana**, postdoctoral research associate, Chemistry, 12/31/06; **Carol Frey**, program assistant, Education Dean's Office, 1/3/07; **Denise Hardy-Green**, research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 1/10/07; **Baki Hazer**, visiting scientist, Polymer Engineering, 2/28/07; **David W. Henry**, computer help desk assistant, Information Services, Hardware Operations and Operating Systems, 2/16/07; **John J. Hirschbuhl**, professor, Education, senior multimedia producer, Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, 2/28/07; **Constance E. Jones**, student account specialist, Loans and Receivables, 12/29/06; **Radhakrishan Karunkaran**, senior research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 1/31/07; **Richard E. Klosterman**, professor, Geography and Planning, 5/31/07; **Gina E. Lemmon**, library associate senior, University Libraries Teaching and Training, 12/13/06; **Bonnie L. Mulhollan**, coordinator, real estate, Public Affairs and Development, 2/28/07; **Timothy Neitz**, buyer senior, Purchasing, 3/31/07; **Patricia A. Nelson**, dean, Education, professor, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 6/30/07; **Demetrios Papadopoulos**, research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 1/11/07; **Thomas P. Quinn**, building services worker, Physical Facilities, 1/5/07; **Thomas L. Reese**, safety officer, Physical Facilities, 4/30/07; **John Rodgers**, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics, 2/28/07; **Mary Anne Rothermel**, associate professor, Management, 5/31/07; **Reichel Samuel**, research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 1/31/07; **Margaret Saurin**, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics, 2/12/07; **Troy Sutton**, food services manager, 2/23/07; **Railene Thorson**, assistant women's soccer coach, Athletics, 2/28/07; **Lanlan Wei**, postdoctoral fellow, Chemistry, 12/31/06; **Kathleen Welsh**, public relations representative, Institutional Marketing, 6/30/07; **Christine S. Werny**, administrative assistant, Finance, 6/30/07; **Susan E. Wheeler**, administrative assistant, Curricular and Instructional Studies, 3/20/07; **Pamela C. Winkler**, education specialist, Academic Achievement Programs, 1/25/07; and **Liang Zhou**, postdoctoral research fellow, Polymer Engineering, 1/10/07.

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