

October 12, 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 September 5, 2007.

Presentation to the Board

Jim Sage, vice president for information technology services/CIO, discussed the steps the University is taking to help assure the security of its computer networks.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Formation of Two Departments in Student Affairs

Bill Kraus, associate vice president for enrollment management, requested approval to form two new departments, the Student Services Center and the Department of Enrollment Management, both of which already have budgets and reporting lines. Cross-trained employees in the Student Services Center provide answers to students at a single stop in Simmons Hall lobby. The Department of Enrollment Management further strengthens the University's capacity in that area.

2. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – July 2007

For July 2007, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$2.9 million to support 50 projects. In the prior fiscal year, the year-to-date amount was \$2.1 million to support 33 projects. In this fiscal year, no patents have been awarded, four patent applications have been filed, and one disclosure has been submitted. For the same period last year, two patents had been issued, one patent application had been filed, and seven disclosures had been submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – FY 2007

Between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007, total giving was a record \$32.4 million, or about 28 percent more than the \$25.2 million received during the prior fiscal year. This fiscal year 2007, 16,521 gifts were accepted, compared to 16,791 for fiscal year 2006. The University's previous giving record was \$27.4 million in fiscal year 2001.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. Auburn West Tower Rehabilitation – Phase I, II and III

Trustees approved contracts totaling \$9.6 million to low bidders Tony Zumbo & Son Construction (concrete), Duer Construction Company (masonry), Mull Iron (metals), Speelman Electric (electrical), S.A. Comunale (plumbing, fire protection, HVAC) and DSV Builders.

Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee

1. Financial Report for FY2007 – July 2006-July 2007

Trustees reviewed the financial report for the University's 2007 fiscal year, which concluded June 30, 2007. In this period, revenue for the Akron campus was \$299 million, or about 2.9 percent more than what was estimated in the budget. This primarily is the result of the greater-than-expected credit-hour production in summer, fall and spring. Total educational and general expenditures were \$255 million for the period, or about 1.9 percent less than what was budgeted. Revenue at Wayne College for the period was \$11.5 million, or about 0.1 percent more than budget. Less-than-anticipated credit-hour production in summer 2006 was the primary reason for the variance. Total educational and general expenditures for the same period were \$9.3 million, or about 1 percent less than budgeted.

2. Purchases of more than \$150,000

Board members approved purchases of: (1) \$442,674 to IBM Global Services for mainframe licensing and maintenance for nine months; (2) \$295,475 to SARCOM of Cleveland for Cisco Systems SMARTnet maintenance for one year; (3) \$280,350 to Sirius Computer Solutions for support on installed IBM hardware systems and associated software for nine months; (4) \$275,979 to Pomeroy IT Solutions of Cleveland for the purchase of a Network Admission Control solution; (5) \$257,500 to Desire2Learn for a learning-management software system to replace WebCT; (6) \$243,649 to Oracle Upgrade Lab Services for PeopleSoft Campus Solutions HR upgrade 9.0; and (7) \$184,587 to Farris Disposal for refuse removal for nine months.

3. Revised fee schedule for the Student Recreation and Wellness Center

Trustees approved a revised schedule that includes a fee change that was inadvertently omitted from the schedule approved previously. With the change, a rock-climbing class for community members now costs \$25 less.

4. Personnel Actions (appended as amended)

New Business

1. Pay Raises for Non-bargaining Unit Employees

To expedite the dissemination of merit raises for non-bargaining unit employees, the Trustees approved a resolution that authorized the administration to award merit raises to those employees as prescribed by the Trustees' guidelines as soon as practical. The legislation also directed the administration to bring the individual increases to the October 17 Board meeting for approval and ratification.

2. Emergency Repairs

In a single resolution, the Trustees approved on an emergency basis repairs to: (1) the Exchange Street Parking Deck for \$538,500, (2) the Administrative Services Building Parking Deck for \$110,000, (3) an underground, high-temperature water line for \$172,812, and (4) the pedestrian bridge between the Polsky Building and the West Campus (Polsky) Parking Deck, for \$149,000.

3. Pledging General Receipts

The Board directed the president and the vice president for finance and administration/CFO to request approval from the Board of Regents to pledge the University's general receipts to the payment of the University's proposed bond issue and to the payment of any credit-enhancement instrument, investment agreement, or derivative agreement entered into in connection with that bond issue.

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my remarks by echoing my message to campus at the beginning of the semester, during which I noted that we find ourselves at an auspicious time, both because of the great progress that we have made and because of the nature of the interest that we are seeing in higher education. We have an array of significant initiatives either under way or about to begin, and we are acting strategically so that we are afforded the greatest possible share of the opportunities that lie before us, as I've often said, so that we are able to capture our rightful destiny.

Statewide, Gov. Ted Strickland and Chancellor Eric Fingerhut have unveiled The University System of Ohio. The Chancellor is making all of the right kinds of comments about excellence, about philosophy, about how we address affordability and quality. He understands that we have an opportunity to set specific affordability goals for higher education in Ohio broadly and to make recommendations about the role played by state support, tuition, tax, and savings plans. He and the Governor recognize that we have a diverse set of institutions out of which they intend to build a comprehensive higher-education system that would be recognized across the world for the quality of its scholarship and teaching. In that context, they believe in differentiating the missions of our universities and building centers of excellence, of which we have quite a bit that would be recognized favorably around the world.

Now, I am pleased to tell you the Chancellor attended our senior leadership retreat. As a result of conversations there, Provost Stroble has brought together teams within the campus to better assess our academic assets to see how best to align them with the emerging priorities within the state. In a separate effort, the Northeast Ohio Universities Study Commission continues to analyze how we can best address efficiency and excellence.

I also shared some highlights about the new academic year:

- During our last fiscal year, our external grants and contracts rose to about \$32 million, which is already \$2 million more than the previous year and more than double those levels in 1999. Thank you to Dr. Newkome and our research faculty. And, of course, in terms of fund-raising, giving by our generous donors set the highest annual total in the University's history, contributing \$32.5 million for the just completed fiscal year, an increase of nearly 30 percent.
- I noted the successes by our student athletes. The football team beat Army in the inaugural Patriot Bowl in Cleveland. Both the men's and women's soccer teams won the Westfield Insurance Cup championship; the women's team earned one win and one tie, while the men's team had two wins, including a victory over the nation's No. 10 team, New Mexico. Also, the Zips volleyball team took second place in the

Sheraton Hilton Invitational, with a four-game victory over Syracuse. With six wins in its first seven matches, the volleyball team was off to its best start in two years.

I am certainly excited about how this academic year has begun and look forward to increasing our positive momentum even more.

I extended my congratulations to Trustee Jack Morrison who, for the fifth year, has been named one of Ohio's Super Lawyers by *Law and Politics* magazine.

Finally, I invited the Trustees to attend Student Appreciation Day on Sept. 12. I noted that Trustee Ann Brennan very much enjoyed participating in the inaugural Student Appreciation Day in 2006, and I expressed hope that she and her colleagues would be able to attend this year.

2. Next regular meeting

The Trustees will convene next on Wednesday, October 17 at Wayne College, with executive session to begin at 8 a.m. and the public session to begin no earlier than 10 a.m.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Luis M. Proenza

**Personnel Transactions Approved by the Board of Trustees
September 5, 2007**

Appointments

Naman Al-Niemi, college lecturer, mathematics, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Jay Banks**, National Guard recruiting, Military Science, 7/10/07; **Michael R. Beard**, visiting assistant professor, interim assistant director, University Bands, interim director, Marching Bands, Music, 8/1/07; **Dale F. Bentley**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, 8/13/07; **Stephanie M. Brothers**, manager, facilities projects, Capital Planning and Facilities Management, 8/13/07; **Clive B. Bucknall**, H.A. Morton distinguished visiting professor,

Polymer Engineering, 8/27/07; **Michelle W. Byrne**, visiting assistant professor, Associate Studies, 8/27/07; **Julie Fairbanks**, visiting instructor, anthropology, Classical Studies, Anthropology and Archaeology, 8/27/07; **Rebecca Fischbein**, college lecturer, Psychology, 8/27/07; **Nick Goetze**, head men's golf coach, Office of Athletics, 8/1/07; **Dawn M. Harsch**, office assistant, Education Dean's Office, 9/1/07; **Lorraine J. Hawkins**, visiting instructor, Anthropology, Classical Studies, Anthropology and Archaeology, 8/27/07; **Anedra Jones**, college lecturer, Mathematics, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Eryn Kalbfleisch**, college lecturer, Statistics, 8/27/07; **Jenny King**, head women's golf coach, Office of Athletics, 8/1/07; **Michael J. Kulick**, coordinator (admin), Vice President for Student Affairs, 5/1/07; **Sharon M. Lauck**, departmental systems administrator, Registrar, 8/6/07; **Lingyun Liu**, assistant professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, 8/27/07; **James L. Massacci**, adjunct professor, Military Science, 6/16/07; **Nicole L. Mullet**, director, Tech Prep, Summit College Dean's Office, 8/20/07; **Cheryl L. Owen**, instructor, Nursing, 8/27/07; **Rosalyn S. Pinkard**, coordinator/recruiter, employment services, Human Resources, 6/4/07*; **Kimberly Ramsey-Chin**, college lecturer, mathematics, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Michael Rossetti**, college lecturer, mathematics, Theoretical and Applied Mathematics, 8/27/07; **Frederic G. Siffer**, research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, 6/11/07; **Cherilyn A. Sudar**, visiting instructor, Nursing, 8/27/07; **David M. Szalay**, graphic design instructional support, Art, 8/13/07; **Jacquelyn M. Windon**, director, women's basketball operations, Athletics, 8/6/07; and **Jie Zheng**, assistant professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, 10/1/07.

*Incorrectly listed under Separations in the August 2007 Board Actions

Changes

Robert J. Balazowich, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from housekeeping worker, department change from Residence Life and Housing, status change from temporary part time to regular full time, 8/6/07; **Peggy K. Barker**, building services worker certified, Residence Life and Housing, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Jeffrey L. Bianchi**, lead team coordinator, Dining Services, promotion and title change from team coordinator, status change from part time to full time, 6/25/07; **Jeffrey Boals**, assistant men's basketball coach, Athletics, title change from associate head men's basketball coach, 7/1/07; **Angie M. Boothe**, administrative assistant, Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Wayne College, temporary job reclassification, title change from test monitor, 5/14/07; **Wayne Brummert**, director technology-Summit College, Summit College Dean's Office, reclassification via job audit, title change from lead computer lab support specialist, 6/11/07; **Laura H. Conley**, interim director, Adult Focus, temporary reclassification, transfer from academic advisement, title change from academic advisor II, 8/20/07; **Jackie Cory**, building services worker certified, Residence Life and Housing, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Gregory P. Drungil**, assistant manager, Dining Services, promotion and title change from storekeeper, status change from regular full time to temporary full time, 8/13/07; **Darcie Flynt**, budget and fiscal administrator, Physical Facilities Operations Center, reclassification via job audit, title change from coordinator, Physical Facilities Operations Center and Budget Operations, 4/16/07; **Paul Hammond**, associate athletics director, reclassification via department reorganization, title change from assistant athletics director,

Facilities and Operations, 7/1/07; **Carin Helfer**, assistant director, Akron Global Polymer Academy Science Education and Outreach, reclassification via job audit, title change from content specialist, Akron Global Polymer Academy, 4/2/07; **Jenny L. Hull**, building services worker certified, Residence Life and Housing, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07; **Tracy D. Hull**, master building services worker certified, Residence Life and Housing, title change from building services worker, 5/14/07, Residence Life and Housing, promotion and title change from building services worker certified, 7/9/07; **Suresh Jewrajka**, senior research scholar, Institute of Polymer Science, promotion and title change from research scholar, 8/1/07; **Sandra Jovicic**, interim coordinator, Student Academic Success – Tutorial Services, transfer from Adult Focus, title change from interim director, Adult Focus, 8/20/07; **John Kelley**, senior systems analyst programmer, Learning Technologies and Scholar/Learner Services, reclassification via job audit, title change from multi-media producer, 5/28/07; **John C. Lanshe**, assistant director, Academic Advisement Center, member, general faculty, promotion and title change from academic adviser II, 8/1/07; **Edward Laughlin**, engineering technician senior, Institute of Polymer Science, reclassification via job audit, title change from laboratory machinist, 6/11/07; **Jennifer Lint**, student services counselor, Admissions, reclassification via job audit, title change from examiner assistant, 3/19/07; **Dean Long**, manager, Operations and Technology-Communications, reclassification via job audit, title change from computer lab support specialist, 5/28/07; **Thomas Mayer**, manager, informal recreation, reclassification via job audit, title change from assistant director, Recreation and Wellness Facility, 8/1/07; **Craig C. Menzemer**, associate professor, Civil Engineering, additional assignment of interim assistant dean, Graduate Studies, 8/1/07; **Kristina Nakoneczny**, administrative secretary, Residence Life and Housing, reclassification via job audit, title change from secretary, 5/14/07; **Michaelle Phillips**, coordinator, information technology budget operations, Information Technologies Services Office Support, reclassification via job audit, title change from accounting clerk senior, 2/5/07; **Victor E. Pinheiro**, associate professor, Physical and Health Education, department chair, Sport Science and Wellness Education, title change from department chair, Physical and Health Education, 7/1/07; **Dane D. Quinn**, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering, additional assignment of interim assistant dean, Research, 7/1/07; **Debra L. Samples**, manager, enrollment services systems, Student Affairs, promotion and title change from departmental systems administrator, 8/20/07; **Joanne Smith**, assistant building services worker, Physical Facilities, promotion and title change from seasonal housekeeping worker, department change from Athletics Facilities, status change from temporary part time to regular full time, 8/6/07; **Scott F. Taylor**, assistant director, Development, promotion and title change from coordinator, academic support services, department change from Office of Athletics, 8/13/07; **Sheldon B. Wrice**, professor, Technical Writing and Composition, additional assignment of department chair, Associate Studies, 7/1/07; **Hunter Yurachek**, executive senior associate athletics director, Athletics, reclassification via department reorganization, title change from senior associate athletics director, external relations, 7/1/07; and **Julie Yuhua Zhao**, visiting assistant professor, College of Engineering, additional title of Ideas director, status change from part time to full time, 8/1/07.

Separations

Isma'il Al-Amin, educational specialist, Academic Achievement Programs, 8/24/07; **Ronald J. Beck**, adjunct professor, Military Science, 10/1/07; **Robert Brown**, assistant professor, Family and Consumer Sciences, 8/17/07; **James R. Emore**, associate dean, Business Administration, associate professor, Accounting, 8/31/07; **Deborah S. Hill**, manager, enterprise operations, Hardware and Operating Systems Services, 12/31/07; **Michael D. Jones**, cashier senior, Cashier's Office, 8/16/07; **Kwadwo O. Konadu-Agyemang**, professor, Geography and Planning, deceased, 7/27/07; **Susan P. McKiernan**, assistant director, Art, member, General Faculty, 12/31/07; **Elizabeth S. Onie**, administrative secretary, Wayne College Dean's Office, 8/3/07; **LaRoy M. Parker**, academic adviser, Academic Achievement Programs, 8/31/07; **Michael Polce**, postdoctoral research associate, Chemistry, 8/3/07; **Andrew Rook**, cook, Dining Services, 7/25/07; **Brad A. Shaffer**, National Guard recruiter, Military Science, 7/2/07; **Carol D. Shreiner**, postdoctoral research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 7/27/07; **Mary Lou Simon**, administrative assistant, Social Work, 8/31/07; **Shelia Smith**, food service worker, Dining Services, 8/17/07; **Numan Waheed**, postdoctoral research associate, Institute of Polymer Science, 7/24/07; **Dale O. Walker**, assistant to the dean, Nursing, 7/31/07; and **Nicholas C. Zingale**, associate professor, environmental health and safety, Public Service Technology – Wayne, 8/24/07.

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