

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



LUIS M. PROENZA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 29, 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 June 15, 2011.

Presentation to the Board

The presentation was titled, Talent Development at UA: A Success Story for Service Workers and Skilled Crafts. Dr. Becky J. Hoover, Vice President Talent Development and Human Resources, introduced Associate Vice President William H. Viau and Assistant Vice President for Physical Facilities Joseph Gregor. They discussed the Job Enrichment and Apprenticeship Program started in 1997 through a collaborative effort of the CWA Collective Bargaining Unit and the University.

Finance, Fiscal Policy and Investment Committee

1. Quarterly Report for July 2010-March 2011

Year-to-date student revenues exceed ten-month projections by \$2.1 million. Year-to-date total Education and General Revenue is 1.5 percent (\$5.2 million) above projections. Through April, total faculty expenditures (including summer and part-time) are 2.4 percent greater than the same time last year, while administrative and staff expenses are 0.3 percent less. Scholarships, including graduate assistant fee remissions, are 10 percent (\$3.6 million) greater than last April. While a component of this overage was anticipated as a part of the long-term scholarship plan, graduate assistant fee remissions exceed the budget by \$0.6 million. Travel expenses have passed last year's April totals by 4 percent (nearly \$120,000), and April utility expenses are 5.4 percent (\$429,000) less than last year. Year-to-date total expenditures are 5.6 percent (\$15.7 million) below the ten-month projections. Ten-month auxiliary results are favorable with net ending fund balances of \$14.1 million and a projected positive variance of \$1.7 million.

BUCHTEL HALL 114 █ AKRON, OH 44325-4702

330-972-7074 OFFICE █ 330-972-8652 FAX █ PROENZA@UAKRON.EDU

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON IS AN EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION

2. Approved Purchase for More Than \$350,000

A contract was awarded to Dominion East Ohio for natural gas Transportation Service in the amount of \$645,060 (based on a historical annual usage of 365,827 Mcf and the rate of \$0.588086 per Mcf, the total of which is dependent upon the University's actual gas usage) for July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014. The rate represents a savings of \$57,402 for the three-year contract period as compared to the current rate. The service is a sole source and cannot be provided by any other supplier. Funding for the service will be from account number 2-05060, Purchased Utilities, and charged back to auxiliaries and departments as appropriate.

3. FY2011-12 General Fund and Auxiliary Budgets for Akron and Wayne

Due to the state budget not yet being confirmed by June 15, the administration proposed a temporary, continuation budget. Anticipating a significant reduction in state funding and a 3.5 percent cap on undergraduate tuition and fee increases, the administration proposed increasing all undergraduate and graduate tuition and fees, effective fall semester 2011, for the Akron campus including Summit College, Wayne College and Medina County University Center. For students in the School of Law, proposed increases were 6.5 percent for tuition, 5 percent for non-resident surcharge rates and 3.4 percent for general service fees, effective fall semester 2011.

4. FY2011-12 Course and Miscellaneous Fees

The Board approved recommendations by the administration to adjust a variety of course and miscellaneous fees for the upcoming academic year.

5. Personnel Actions

The personnel transactions approved by Trustees as amended are posted online at <http://www.uakron.edu/president/docs/Personnel-transactions-June2011.pdf>.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Curriculum Changes Approved by Faculty Senate

Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences:

AS-10-014, Minor in Philosophy of Science

The Minor in Philosophy of Science adopts an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the justification of scientific theories, the relationship between natural systems and the models used to study them, and the status of facts and values within scientific investigation. It is strategic for the Philosophy Department to offer a minor that complements and enhances undergraduate science education at The University of Akron.

AS-10-015, Minor in Environmental Ethics

Environmental ethics is the study of the ethical relationship of humans to, and the moral status of, the natural environment and its inhabitants. The Minor in Environmental Ethics adopts an interdisciplinary approach to these and related issues. Because it requires a mix of relevant philosophy classes and environmental course offerings from other departments, the minor should

appeal to a wide range of students, especially those majoring in philosophy, biology, geology, economics, geography, and civil engineering. This minor also would complement the University's certificate program in environmental studies. In a time of global warming, loss of rare habitats and species, and sustainability and green technology initiatives, it is timely to offer a minor course of study that brings into philosophical focus the ethical relationships between humans and nature.

AS-11-056, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (Management Track)

This program is designed to give the students who are interested in designing and developing systems for business information management a more relevant curriculum than what currently exists.

CPA-010-054, New Media Minor

Many of today's students are natives of the digital age. Our society now seeks people capable of making the best use of new media, with their creative approaches and thorough understanding of current advances. UA has the resources to start a specially designed program for the digital native. The New Media Minor offers—(1) enhancement of students' understanding of digital culture and new media; (2) opportunities to explore various new media that can transform or blend with old media; and (3) support for interdisciplinary research. Students are able to design their unique path to achieve the most suitable education with the guidance of faculty from all the disciplines involved in this effort.

College of Education:

ED-10-38, Assessment and Evaluation Certificate Program

Knowledge and skills in assessment and evaluation are necessary for data-driven decision making in education. Today's educators are expected to be involved in data-driven decision making to inform student learning and to engage in school improvement initiatives. There is a demand for courses in the area of assessment, data analysis skills and school improvement evaluation for classroom teachers and other educators.

College of Engineering:

EN-10-20, Business Specialization in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Students interested in sales or management may choose to specialize in business. The goal of this program is to facilitate careers involving management or pursuit of a graduate business degree such as an MBA. Further, alumni have expressed desirability of an introductory business background, especially pertaining to technical sales, and students have expressed an interest in preparing for a management career.

Summit College:

SC-10-28, Certificate Program in Construction Estimation

The Certificate Program in Construction Estimation is needed to provide an avenue into entry-level positions in construction. This certificate also will complement the credentials of degree-seeking students pursuing an A.A.S. degree or the B.S. degree in Construction Engineering Technology. This certificate also is obtainable by individuals who may not be seeking a degree.

College of Polymer Science/Polymer Engineering:

PS-011-002, Five-year BE/MS Program with BE in Polymer Materials and Engineering at BUCT in China and MS in Polymer Science at UA

The proposed program addresses the strategic goal of global relevance and engagement and provides Chinese students an accelerated path to a degree from a highly recognized polymer science program. Students will be admitted in the Five-year BE/MS Program at UA with BE in Polymer Materials and Engineering at Beijing Institute of Chemical Technology (BUCT) and MS in Polymer Science at UA program after completing three years of Bachelor of Engineering (BE) course work at BUCT. Students will pay tuition and other fees for their two-year study at UA. The course requirements in years four and five are identical to the requirements for M.S. in Polymer Science currently offered by the Department of Polymer Science at UA.

PS-011-003, Five-year BE/MS Program with BE Polymer Materials and Engineering at Beijing U of Chemical Technology and MS Polymer Engineering

The proposed program addresses the strategic goal of global relevance and engagement and provides Chinese students an accelerated path to a degree from a highly recognized polymer engineering program. Students will be admitted in the Five-year BE/MS Program at UA with BE in Polymer Materials and Engineering at BUCT and MS in Polymer Engineering at UA program after completing three years of Bachelor of Engineering (BE) course work at Beijing Institute of Chemical Technology (BUCT). Students will pay tuition and other fees for their two-year study at UA. The course requirements in years four and five are identical to the requirements for MS in Polymer Engineering currently offered by Department of Polymer Engineering at UA.

2. Changes to the Existing LLM in Intellectual Property, Revisions to the Certificate in Intellectual Property and Proposal for Joint JD-LLM Degree

Changes to the Existing LLM in Intellectual Property:

- Reduce required credits from 30 to 24. Most IP LLM degrees require 24 credits or equivalent. This reduction will improve our ability to compete for students.
- Require Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Law and either Patent, Copyright or Trademark Law. This will assure a broad overview while allowing concentration in a particular area.
- Require one international course in Intellectual Property, rather than two credits. This simplifies the requirement, which is now two credits and sometimes requires two courses.
- Eliminate the requirement for an internship or externship. We have had difficulty implementing the current requirement and do not consider it to be necessary.
- Change the JD credits that can be counted toward the LLM. With the current 30-credit LLM, we allow students to apply 12 credits from an Akron JD or 9 credits from a non-Akron JD. With the reduction to 24 credits, the allowable JD credits would be 9 and 6, respectively.
- Change the minimum grade point requirement. We currently require a minimum LLM grade point average of 2.5 and will count only one grade below B- and no grades below C. We would change to a requirement for an overall LLM GPA of 3.0. The higher minimum GPA should assure academic quality while simplifying the requirement.

Revisions to the Certificate in Intellectual Property:

With the Joint JD-LLM in place, we would revise the Certificate in Intellectual Property to make it clear that students receiving the joint degree would automatically receive the Certificate, that students finishing JD work prior to completion of LLM work could receive the Certificate with the JD, and that Certificate candidates would have to take at least one course in international intellectual property.

Joint JD-LLM Degree Attainable in Three Years:

With fewer credits required for the LLM, it becomes possible to create a joint JD-LLM in Intellectual Property that could be completed in three years, assuming summer study. We would allow 12 credits of appropriate JD coursework to count toward the LLM requiring a total of 100 credits for the JD and the LLM combined. The thesis required for the LLM could be used to meet the General Writing Requirement for the JD.

3. Administrative Convergence of the College of Nursing and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services to Form a New Health College

The Faculty Senate voted to support the administrative convergence of the College of Nursing and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. It is understood that this convergence will not hamper student progress toward degree completion; neither will it hamper faculty progress toward tenure and/or promotion.

This recommendation for administrative convergence is accompanied with an understanding that there will be a commitment to establish three committees to plan for this academic convergence, which will be composed of faculty from both colleges to consider: (1) college governance, including curriculum; (2) reappointment, tenure and promotion; and (3) opportunities, with subcommittees on interdisciplinary teaching and research. These committees will bring their recommendations to the appropriate governing bodies, including the Faculty Senate as appropriate, during the spring 2012 semester.

As a result of the convergence of these colleges and the formation of a new health college, it is further anticipated that:

- Other health related programs on campus will have the opportunity to become associated with or join the new health college,
- Committees and recommendations noted above will include faculty from these units as appropriate,
- Non-health related programs currently within the College of Health Sciences and Human Services will have the opportunity to move to a more appropriate area,
- An election system that allows for representation of minority viewpoints on committees will be used,
- Committees will consider and fully vet issues on which there is limited consensus at present,
- Committees will provide progress reports to the Academic Policies Committee of the Faculty Senate at least every two months so that it may assist with and monitor progress,
- Committees will be particularly sensitive to the name and structure of the new college with respect to identity and visibility of academic programs, and

Interim leadership will work closely with the faculty, contract professionals, and staff in both colleges over the next year to build consensus and minimize mistrust or misunderstandings that may presently exist.

4. Renaming of the Department of Theoretical and Applied Mathematics to the Department of Mathematics

With the recommendation of the Faculty Senate, the request from the Department of Theoretical and Applied Mathematics to change its name to the Department of Mathematics was approved. The renaming of this department reflects the current departmental structure and philosophy.

5. Renaming of the Institute for Health and Social Policy to the Institute of Bioscience and Social Research

Given the desire to create interdisciplinary research collaborations at The University of Akron, and with the Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron (ABIA) and other institutional partners in the community, the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences proposed renaming the Institute for Health and Social Policy to the Institute of Bioscience and Social Research. This name change is designed to more closely align with research that is being done by researchers in the biosciences and social sciences in partnership with ABIA and other community organizations. The proposal was approved unanimously by the Buchtel College Council at its April 4, 2011 meeting. Council indicated that the reason for the name change was to have the name reflect both the nature of the research done within the institute and the importance of the role of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences in that research. Faculty Senate on May 5, 2011, unanimously recommended the renaming of the Institute.

6. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report, July 2010-May 2011

For July 2010-May 2011, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$31,189,286 for 413 projects. For July 2009-May 2010, funding was \$36,497,251 for 392 projects. For July 2010-May 2011, eight patents were issued, 34 patent applications were filed, and 71 disclosures were submitted. For July 2009-May 2010, six patents were issued, 24 patent applications were filed, and 34 disclosures were submitted.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report, July 2010-April 2011

For July 2010-April 2011, total giving of \$26.7 million, 28 percent less than the \$37 million received for the first ten months of FY2010 and 12 percent less than the five-year average of \$30 million. The number of gifts increased, from 17,997 for July 2009-April 2010 to 18,175 gifts for this fiscal year to date.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. Auburn West Tower Rehabilitation Phase III, West Tower Build-Out

Bids for general and window caulking, lab casework and fume hoods, plumbing, fire protection, elevator retrofit, electrical, and HVAC (re-bid) were solicited in April and May 2011 and received by the Purchasing Department on May 18 and June 6, 2011. The project is state and locally funded, with Phases I and II previously completed. Phase III consists of the build-out of 45,000 square feet of classroom, teaching laboratory, research laboratory, administrative and support space. The

project will include 18 fume hoods. Upon completion, the first floor will be occupied by the Department of Biology; the second and third floors will be occupied by the Department of Biomedical Engineering; and the fourth and fifth floors will be occupied by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. Contracts totaling \$5,728,096 were awarded to DSV Builders, Inc. - \$1,042,596 for general trades and window caulking; Custom Fabricators, Inc. - \$850,000 for lab casework and fume hoods; The Conti Corporation - \$589,600 for plumbing; RNL Fire Systems, LLC - \$97,000 for fire protection; R & M Electric, Inc. dba Summit Electric, Inc. - \$1,170,000 for electrical; Sona Construction, LLC - \$249,000 for elevator retrofit; and J. F. Bernard, Inc. - \$1,729,900 for HVAC.

Rules

1. O.A.C. 3359-3-01, Officers of Finance and Administration

The revisions to this Rule reflect the new bids limits and pre-approval limits established by the Board of Trustees at its April 27, 2011 meeting per Resolution 4-5-11.

2. (a) O.A.C. 3359-3-05, Office of Talent Development and Human Resources

(b) O.A.C. 3359-3-01, Officers of Finance and Administration

(c) O.A.C. 3359-26-02, General Staff Personnel Policies and Procedures

Rule 3359-3-05 identifies a new title to this Rule – originally titled Officers of Human Resources – to reflect the new position of Vice President for Talent Development and Human Resources for which the Board approved the appointment of Dr. Becky Hoover at the April 27, 2011 Board meeting. The revisions to this Rule are modeled after the newly enacted Office of Academic Affairs Rule, which takes a more streamlined approach in delineating the key positions and functions of the office.

The revisions to Rule 3359-3-01 remove the positions of Associate Vice President for Human Resources and Employee Relations and Senior Assistant Vice President of Employee and Labor Relations from the Officers of Finance and Administration Rule since the Office of Talent Development and Human Resources now reports to the Senior Vice President and Provost and Chief Operating Officer.

The revisions to Rule 3359-26-02 change the title of the Executive Director of Human Resources to the Associate Vice President for Talent Development and Human Resources and include a designee.

3. (a) O.A.C. 3359-11-02, Family and Medical Leave, Leave of Absence, Paid Maternity Leave, Paid Paternity Leave, Paid Adoptive and Foster Parent Leave, and Vacations for Employees Other Than Bargaining Unit Faculty

(b) O.A.C. 3359-26-04, Absence from Campus

These Rules contain revisions pertaining to paid maternity and paternity leave and paid adoptive and foster parent leave, as well as language to conform to changes in the Family and Medical Leave Act. All of the proposed changes to these Rules are consistent with current provisions of the AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement.

4. O.A.C. 3359-38-01, Affirmative Action Policy and Program

This proposed change would strike the provision that parental leave is without compensation in conformance with the AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement and the changes made to Rules 3359-11-02 and 3359-26-04.

5. (a) O.A.C. 3359-2-02, Organization of Instruction
(b) O.A.C. 3359-20-03, The Faculty: General Personnel Policies

The revisions to these Rules reflect the convergence of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Creative and Professional Arts into a single Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences. The Board approved this administrative convergence at the April 27, 2011 Board meeting per Resolution 4-16-11.

6. O.A.C. 3359-10-02, The University of Akron Bylaws of the Faculty Senate

The revisions to this Rule consist of identifying the members of the full-time faculty and changing the phrase “regular” faculty to “full-time” faculty. These changes were approved by Faculty Senate on May 5, 2011.

7. O.A.C. 3359-20-05.1, Grading System, Discipline, Academic Probation and Dismissal

These Rule changes are proposed by the Academic Policies Committee of Faculty Senate and were discussed with the Educational Policies/Student Affairs Committee of the Board at its meeting on May 9, 2011. The proposed revisions pertain to the process of dropping and withdrawing from courses.

8. (a) O.A.C. 3359-20-05.2, Curricular Changes (RESCINDED)
(b) O.A.C. 3359-20-05.2, Curricular Changes (NEW)

These Rule changes are proposed by the Curriculum Review Committee of Faculty Senate. See the explanatory memo from Dr. Rex Ramsier, Vice Provost for Academic Operations, included with this Rule. Because more than 50 percent of the former Rule is being removed, it is being rescinded and replaced per the Legislative Service Commission Rule Drafting Manual.

9. O.A.C. 3359-60-02, Undergraduate Admissions

The revisions to this Rule consist of automatically enrolling all international students in major medical student health insurance available through the University, at a cost of which will be assessed as a fee and applied to the student’s account, unless the student provides proof of insurance maintained during enrollment that meets or exceeds the University’s requirements.

10. O.A.C. 3359-48-04, University of Akron Athletic Department Drug Education and Testing

The Educational Policies/Student Affairs Committee of the Board reviewed the proposed revisions to this Rule at its meeting on May 9, 2011. That Committee suggested a few modifications to the Rule which have been incorporated.

Strategic Issues

1. Board of Trustees Reconfiguration

Trustees approved the reconfiguration of the Board's committee structure as recommended by the Strategic Issues Committee and described in the June 13, 2011, document, Reconfigured Framework for Board Discussion of Major Issues. The major changes include collapsing the committee structure from 11 committees into six, and establishing a standard schedule for committee meetings (generally the Monday nine days before regular Board meetings).

New Business

1. Expression of Appreciation to the 2011 Zips Women's Tennis Team

The Board formally honored the 2011 Zips Women's Tennis Team, which won its first-ever Mid-American Conference tournament title and made its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance by advancing to the semifinal round of the MAC tournament for the second-consecutive season and then defeating Miami of Ohio 4-3 in the Zips' first MAC tournament championship match appearance. The team then went on to face 10th-ranked Michigan in the NCAA Tournament as the only school in the state of Ohio in the NCAA's 64-team bracket.

2. Expression of Appreciation to the 2011 Zips Men's Outdoor Track and Field Team

Trustees recognized the 2011 Zips Men's Track and Field Team for sweeping the indoor and outdoor Mid-American Conference track and field titles for the first time in school history and winning its third MAC Outdoor Championship in four seasons.

3. Expression of Appreciation to Joseph T. Rich

The members of the Board expressed their deepest gratitude to outgoing Student Trustee Joseph T. Rich "for the leadership, dedication and thoughtfulness he has demonstrated consistently in fulfilling his duties to the Board." His term expired July 1.

4. Expression of Appreciation to Edward L. Bittle

In acknowledgement of the conclusion of his nine years of Board service on July 1, Trustees formally thanked Mr. Edward L. Bittle and directed "that an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree be awarded to him in recognition of his noteworthy professional achievements and loyal service to the Board and his alma mater." Mr. Bittle will receive his honorary degree during morning commencement ceremonies on August 13.

5. Naming of the Soccer Facility on Jackson Field as FirstEnergy Stadium-Cub Cadet Field

Recognizing that FirstEnergy—an Akron-based diversified energy company dedicated to safety, reliability and operational excellence—has a long and proud history of being an exemplary corporate citizen and stalwart supporter of The University of Akron, its students and its graduates, the University has named its intercollegiate soccer facility on Lee R. Jackson Field as FirstEnergy

Stadium, effective until May 1, 2031. Recognizing an earlier action of the Board, the official name of the University's intercollegiate soccer facility going forward will be FirstEnergy Stadium-Cub Cadet Field.

6. Acquisition from Hostess Brands of Certain Real Property

Through Resolution 6-18-10, the Board declared its intent to acquire the real property that is adjacent to The University of Akron campus and is owned by Hostess Brands. That same resolution authorized the University's administration to effect acquisition of the Hostess Property through negotiation with Hostess or by eminent domain procedures, if necessary. Following lengthy negotiations, the University administration and Hostess have agreed in principal to the sale of the Hostess Property to the University for \$1.4 million, which amount was approved by the Board.

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my report by telling Trustees that my future reports to the Board will feature less chronicling of activities and, instead, will address some of the significant issues facing higher education.

After welcoming new Trustee Pavloff and thanking outgoing Trustees Bittle and Rich, I reported that groundbreaking for the 39,000-square-foot new College of Engineering building on Wolf Ledges took place on May 9, and U.S. Representative Betty Sutton announced an \$11 million award from the Department of Defense in support of a significant initiative within that building, the National Center for Education and Research in Corrosion and Material Performance.

Meanwhile, demolition nearly has been completed of the townhouses on Grant Street, where the public/private partnership will begin construction of a 533-bed student housing facility that is scheduled to open by fall 2012.

I recognized Vice President Newkome for his recent appointment as an Honorary Fellow of the Ohio Academy of Science and joined the Board in congratulating Head Women's Tennis Coach Brandon Padgett and Head Track Coach Dennis Miller on the success of those programs. I invited Trustees to consider how the University might project such tremendous accomplishments more visibly into the community.

Finally, I thanked Trustees for their participation in the Spring 2011 Commencement. I said that former Student Trustee Marcus Phelps had given an outstanding student response at the Sunday ceremony. In his remarks, he coined the memorable phrase, "Mama UA," for which he received a standing ovation from his fellow graduates as well as the stage party.

2. Provost's Report

The provost began his report by noting that he had celebrated his one-year anniversary with The University of Akron on June 1 while in China. He described a remarkable trip that included visits to five universities and two major corporations at which UA alumni play significant roles as vice

presidents. He reported having opportunities to interact also with alumni in Korea and Taiwan. Dr. Sherman noted that there are at least 150 UA alumni in Taiwan and, by virtue of their successful representation, Akron's Polymer Sciences and Engineering program is highly regarded in Asia.

Dr. Sherman said that it is appropriate to look behind in order to look ahead. He reminded Trustees that, throughout the last 12 months, he has been updating them on the University's success or progress related to the three Rs—Retention, Revenue and Reorganization. He said he would again describe some successes with regard to those three Rs and set the context for an adjustment to the nomenclature going forward.

RETENTION

Dr. Sherman noted that the number of academic advisors has been increased; discussions and efforts have focused on optimizing the "Akron experience" for each student; University rules were adjusted to limit the number of class withdrawals; and early, intrusive interventions have been facilitated to support student success.

REVENUE

The provost cited continued enrollment increases and development of programs with international universities, such as those before the Board for approval with the Beijing University of Chemical Technology. He added that the University has introduced the nation's first and only undergraduate major in corrosion engineering, the College of Business Administration has created weekend and evening MBA offerings, and the College of Education has established an ongoing outreach on behalf of continuing education for teachers and improving student success in the Akron Public Schools, especially at Leggett and Mason elementary schools.

Dr. Sherman reiterated that the University is leveraging its resources with state and federal dollars, such as those secured in association with the new College of Engineering building. Activities at and via our extended campuses, such as the recently approved involvement in Lakewood, are increasing as well.

REORGANIZATION

Dr. Sherman reported that the convergence of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences with the College of Creative and Professional Arts is moving forward. A new proposal before the Board would create a health college, facilitating the convergence of the College of Nursing with the College of Health Sciences and Human Services, and creating opportunities for other health-related programs to become associated with the new college.

Dr. Sherman reported that he will articulate future remarks to the Board within the University's new operational principles as presented through the budget discussions: Fiscal Integrity, Academic Capacity and Excellence Assurance, and Strategic Investment. He looked ahead to interacting with Trustees in the coming months on proposals in line with those principles.

Turning from strategic planning to strategic and tactical doing, the provost expanded on the strategic implementation phase of Vision 2020 to:

- Devise, revise and enhance the University's global strategy;
- Assess graduate programs to improve the quality of graduate education;
- Reform the general-education curriculum;
- Increase summer, evening and weekend offerings as well as professional master's degrees;
- Complete academic convergences of the two newly created colleges; and
- Reconcile strategy for University College and Summit College with a proposal to the Board no later than June 2012 related to those two significant student-success colleges.

Dr. Sherman reflected that it has been a great year at The University of Akron, during which he has become even more convinced of the opportunities for our institution to play a transformative role and to truly create the New Gold Standard in higher education. In closing, he reiterated the ultimate objective of assuring the success of our students because, as we all agree, student success is our success.

3. Next Regular Meeting

The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will occur on Wednesday, August 3, 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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