

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



LUIS M. PROENZA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 12, 2009

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 August 5, 2009.

Educational Policy/Student Affairs Committee

1. Approval of Curriculum Proposal Recommendations (as recommended by Faculty Senate)

New Programs

NU-09-04 Post MSN Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program for Adult and/or Gerontological NPs

This Post MSN Family Nurse Practitioner (NP) Certificate Program for Adult and/or Gerontological NPs is designed for the certified Adult and/or Gerontological NP who wants to sit for certification as a Family NP. This option is being added to accommodate the demand for certification as a Family NP by Adult and/or Gerontological NPs who are in medical practices that see patients from infancy through the elderly. The addition of this certification will broaden their scope of practice. Upon completion of this Post MSN FNP Certificate Program, candidates will be eligible to sit for certification as a Family NP.

SC-09-10 Bachelor of Organizational Supervision

This degree provides students holding technical associate degrees with a seamless pathway to a Bachelor of Organizational Supervision. This degree builds on the technical skills and knowledge acquired at the associate degree level. The program will provide graduates with highly sought supervisory and leadership skills necessary for professional career advancement. Graduates will demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary for success in supervisory roles in the workplace. With this degree, The University of Akron will join several baccalaureate institutions in Ohio providing this innovative educational pathway.

SC-09-40 Addition of a new AAS in Computer Information Systems, Industrial Computer Applications Option

This proposed associate of applied science degree repackages existing courses across several departments to fill market needs for industrial computer application programmers and technicians. This degree was created in conjunction with Lorain County Community College to fill industry needs identified in a recent survey.

SC-09-57 AAS Addiction Services

Summit College currently offers an associate of applied science in Community Services with three options: general, social work, and addiction services. Converting the existing Associate of Applied Science in Community Services Technology: Addiction Services Option into an independent program, Associate of Applied Science in Addiction Services Community Services: Addiction Option, will more clearly represent the program to students who are seeking degrees in chemical dependency in response to the requirements of the Ohio Chemical Dependency Licensing Board.

SC-09-09 Technical Mathematics Certificate

There is a high demand for mathematics skills in the technical workplace. This proposal is for a technical mathematics certificate, requiring a minimum of 11 credit hours. It will help students to develop their technical math skills and apply those skills to real-world scenarios. This certificate will immerse students in the foundations of technical mathematics and its applications to industry.

Program Changes

SC-09-39 AAS Surveying Engineering Technology

This program prepares graduates to work as surveying technicians under the direction of a professional registered surveyor. It is designed to provide a foundation in mathematics, natural science, and communication skills as well as the surveying skills necessary to become a Certified Surveying Technician under the National Society of Professional Surveyors' testing program. This proposal changes the program title from Surveying Engineering Technology to Land Surveying to meet accreditation criteria as required by Applied Science Accreditation Commission.

SC-09-52 AAS Construction Engineering Technology

This course is designed to provide a foundation in mathematics, physics, surveying, and communication skills, and allows for increased application of these areas to build an in-depth background in construction. This proposal, for the addition of a technical elective that addresses the specialized procedures required for public projects, has been recommended by the program assessment committee and the advisory board to provide students with the skills required to do business in the public sector.

SC-09-42 Criminal Justice Technology - Corrections Option Certificate

This certificate provides a foundation in correctional administration law, theory, policy, and practice, with a special emphasis in the treatment of addictions. We are proposing the deletion of 3850:100 Intro to Sociology (4 credit hours) to the Corrections Option Certificate to bring it in line with the associate degree requirements.

SC-09-43 Criminal Justice Technology – Corrections Minor

This minor provides a foundation in correctional administration law, theory, policy, and practice, with a special emphasis in the treatment of addictions. We are proposing the addition and deletion of several courses to the Corrections Minor to bring it in line with the associate degree requirements.

2. Tentative Graduation List and Statistics for Summer 2009

The Board approved a list of candidates who are eligible to participate in Summer 2009 Commencement Ceremonies, pending their successful completion of degree requirements. Tentatively, 1,119 degrees will be granted during the August 15 ceremonies, including 57 doctorates, 376 masters, 526 bachelors and 160 associates.

3. Research Grants and Sponsored Programs Report – Fiscal Year 2008-2009

For July 2008-June 2009, funding for externally funded research and other sponsored programs was \$48.3 million for 443 projects. That total includes federal awards of \$17.8 million. For July 2007-June 2008, funding was \$34.3 million for 503 projects. For FY2008-2009, 8 patents were awarded, 20 patent applications were filed, and 58 disclosures were submitted. For FY2007-2008, 4 patents were issued, 29 patent applications were filed, and 46 disclosures were submitted.

The University currently has 294 U.S. patents, ranking third in Ohio behind Ohio State (368 patents) and Case Western Reserve (348 patents). For patents per million of research dollars, Akron ranks third among the 150 U.S. research universities reporting in the last AUTM report. The University of Texas and Brigham Young are first and second, respectively, in that category.

The University of Akron Research Foundation received \$3.1 million in 2008-2009, based on 67 industrial grants and contracts. Though license fees declined due to national economic trends, UARF attracted \$455,000 during the last fiscal year. In addition, technology developed at UA led to three new license agreements and six new start-up companies in 2008-2009. To date, nearly 50 companies have presented to our 450-member ARCHangels network, resulting in more than \$48 million of follow-on funding.

External Affairs Committee

1. Cumulative Gift and Grant Income Report – FY 2008-2009

For July 2008-June 2009, total giving was nearly \$44 million, setting a third consecutive annual giving record for the University. That total is 7 percent more than the \$41 million received during FY2007-2008 and 57 percent greater than the \$28 million average for the previous five years. UA received a record high of 19,342 gifts in the 2008-09 fiscal year, compared to 18,156 for the prior fiscal year.

Facilities Planning and Oversight Committee

1. College of Business Administration Roof and Exterior Wall Renovation

This project includes CBA roof replacement, restoration of the Exterior Insulation and Finishing System and HVAC installation in the CBA concourse. Contracts for the project were awarded to low bidders—Jeffrey Carr Construction, Inc., \$718,600 for general trades; Meccon, Inc., \$69,990 for HVAC; and Montecalvo Electric Contractors, Inc., \$6,534 for electrical.

2. Multiplex Football Stadium Academic Development

This project includes interior construction of Sports Science and Wellness Education academic spaces for the College of Education. Contracts were awarded to low bidders—Intec Building Systems, Inc., \$683,580 for general trades; Canton Floors, \$353,883 for ceilings and drywall; Messina Floor Covering, \$174,500 for floor coverings; Thompson Electric, Inc, \$684,500 for electrical; and S. A. Comunale, \$1,310,468 for plumbing, HVAC, and carbon monoxide sensors.

3. Polymer Processing Center Construction

Trustees approved contracts for this project, which includes a 42,589-square-foot facility to support the Wright Center for Innovation Center for Multifunctional Polymer Nanomaterials and Devices, to low bidders—Phoenix Cement, Inc., \$214,030 for concrete; Duer Construction Company, \$400,432 for masonry; DSV Builders, Inc., \$1,421,810 for general trades; Cardinal Maintenance and Services Company, \$205,950 for roofing; Richardson Glass Services, Inc., \$661,475 for glazing; S. A. Comunale, \$111,340 for fire protection; D & A Plumbing and Heating, \$427,371 for plumbing; Meccon, Inc., \$1,659,500 for HVAC; and Speelman, \$888,357 for electrical.

Finance, Fiscal Policy, and Investment Committee

1. FY 2009-2010 Continuation Budget

In June, the Board authorized the administration to expend monies from its General Unrestricted Current Fund Budget from July 1 through August 31, 2009, based upon the spending levels approved by the Board for FY 2008-09 due to the uncertain status of state budget deliberations. Trustees have approved a one-month extension of that continuation budget through September 30, 2009, to allow time for the finalization of the University's FY2009-2010 General Fund budgets based upon the provisions set forth in the state appropriation act that was signed into effect by the governor on July 17. A final FY2009-10 University budget will be presented for consideration by the Board at its next regular meeting, which is scheduled for September 9.

2. Spring 2010 Instructional and General Service Fees

As a result of the state appropriations act that was signed into effect on July 17 and contained reduced funding and a companion provision allowing for maximum fee increases of 3.5 percent in both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 academic years, the Board approved holding undergraduate rates steady for Fall Semester 2009 while increasing those rates by 3.5 percent starting in Spring Semester 2010. Undergraduate rates at both the Akron and Wayne campuses will be affected.

3. Purchases More Than \$150,000

The Board awarded the following contracts for purchases exceeding \$150,000:

- To Avaya, Inc., approximately \$836,041 to provide PBX systems maintenance, including parts, labor, phone support, and remote system monitoring for July 2009-November 2011

- To Waste Management of Ohio, Inc., approximately \$289,000 for refuse removal and disposal services, including all roll-off, front-load and recycle containers, for September 2009-June 2010, with the option to renew for up to four additional one-year periods

4. Miscellaneous Fees – Athletics Fees for InfoCision Stadium

Because stadium rates had not been determined when all other University miscellaneous fees were considered by the Board in April, Trustees now have reviewed and approved miscellaneous athletics fees related to stadium rental.

5. Personnel Actions

The personnel transactions approved by Trustees as amended are posted online at <http://www.uakron.edu/president/docs/Personnel-transactions-August09.xls>.

Rules

1. O.A.C. 3359-11-10.8 Identity Theft Detection, Prevention and Mitigation Policy

The federal government has issued regulations known as the “Red Flag Rules,” which are intended to reduce the risk of identity theft by requiring financial institutions to implement additional safeguards for personal information. Segments of the rules affect colleges and universities, including The University of Akron, because of participation in deferred payment arrangements, including the Federal Perkins Loan Program. These rules became effective on May 1, 2009.

To ensure compliance with this deadline, Dr. Proenza implemented this interim rule, drafted by the Office of General Counsel and reviewed by those University offices principally affected by the new regulations. The rule, now adopted by the Board, institutes new practices and policies that will serve to further protect our students, faculty and staff from the risk of identity theft. Dr. Proenza had referred this interim rule to the Rules Committee of the Board for its full review, discussion, and consideration.

2. O.A.C. 3359-11-11 University Records Officer

This rule change clarifies the requirements under R.C. 149.33, which requires the Board of Trustees to establish and administer a records management program, and delegates those responsibilities to the University Records Officer. The rule provides that the IUC Records Manual will be implemented consistent with the University’s records retention needs; and as changes, additions, edits are necessary, the University Records Officer, in consultation with the Office of General Counsel, will have the ability to update and revise the records retention manual as necessary.

3. O.A.C. 3359-11-22 Criminal Background Checks for University Employees

This new rule proposes the implementation of a pre-employment criminal background check for all applicants selected for employment at The University of Akron.

4. O.A.C. 3359-11-23 Petitions for Employment-Based Non-Immigrant or Immigrant (Permanent Residency) Status

This new rule essentially provides that petitions for immigrant or H-1B non-immigrant workers normally will be considered only for positions requiring a high level of expertise and terminal degrees in the field, or a high level management or technical position justifying the University's sponsorship.

5. O.A.C. 3359-20-05.2 Curricular Changes

The revisions to this rule were proposed by the Curriculum Review Committee of the Faculty Senate. Faculty Senate approved the rule change at its March 5, 2009, meeting. This Rule governs the review of changes in the mode of delivery for courses taught at a distance.

6. O.A.C. 3359-24-01 Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty

The revisions to this rule in section (F)(1)(a) were approved by the University Graduate Council on February 23, 2009, and by the Graduate Faculty on April 15, 2009. The revisions consist of removing two elected members from the College of Fine and Applied Arts and adding one member each for the College of Creative and Professional Arts and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. On December 10, 2008, the Board approved a proposal to divide the College of Fine and Applied Arts into the College of Creative and Professional Arts and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services.

7. O.A.C. 3359-31-01 to 3359-31-04;
O.A.C. 3359-31-05 Travel on Behalf of the University

It is proposed that current Rules 3359-31-01 to 3359-31-04 pertaining to the University travel policies be rescinded and replaced with the new Rule 3359-31-05 Travel on Behalf of the University.

8. O.A.C. 3359-31-06 Business-Related Expenses

This new rule is intended to provide direction to University employees with regard to the manner and extent to which the University may expend resources for the purpose of business meals and hospitality.

Notes

1. President's Report

I began my remarks by extending a warm welcome and congratulations to our new Trustee, Warren Woolford. We look forward to his service and to working with him. I also welcomed Jason Ziegler, the new president of Associated Student Government. He has taken great leadership right away, and we welcome him in that role.

Looking forward to the beginning of a new academic year, I noted that we are excited about many great opportunities. Certainly, the ongoing work on strategic planning, the opening of the new stadium, the work that we are doing with our partners on the BioInnovation Institute and the upcoming selection of its executive director, and the groundbreaking on the new polymer building are among the many very exciting opportunities coming soon. At the same time, we have to be aware that we will be facing several challenges—important changes in the higher education “industry” and, of course, the continuing issues brought forward by the significant economic downturn that the nation and the world have been experiencing.

Within Ohio, as we have said many times, we are thankful that the governor, the chancellor, and the legislature have been most supportive of Ohio’s public colleges and universities, repeatedly underlining the increased awareness that they have about the role higher education plays in driving our economic future. However, as a result of significant economic shortfalls in revenues, the state has had to enact some budget reductions for the biennium, and higher education, which receives about one third of its funding from the state, has taken a total reduction in the neighborhood of \$170 million.

Of course, through the Board’s actions at the June meeting, we are operating on a continuing budget and we are exploring, given these new actions by the legislature, all of the options and will be bringing forth a proposed balanced budget for the September meeting. The State Share of Instruction is essentially flat for this year, and several line items were cut, with one exception for us. I am pleased to report that our Bliss Institute not only survived but acquired its own new line item, putting it on par with other similar institutes at The Ohio State University and Ohio University.

Regrettably, we also are seeing a reduction by the state in the Ohio College Opportunity Grant, which helps a sizable number of students in need of financial aid. Although we commit literally millions of dollars in institutional funds to student financial aid, we continue to be mindful of the financial burdens of our students, which will be made larger by these budget reductions.

As a result of the reduced SSI, the governor and the legislature arrived at a compromise to enable, in both years of the biennium, public higher education to increase tuition by as much as 3.5 percent. You probably are aware that some of our sister institutions immediately enacted increases in tuition for the fall. We recommended to the Board in June, and Trustees approved, that there be no increase in tuition for the fall. Indeed, we had hoped for the full year. We intend to stay true for the fall semester and give our students a chance to adapt to these changing circumstances, though we did propose increasing tuition by 3.5 percent for Spring Semester 2010.

We are encouraged by projected enrollment increases, and we look forward to seeing what appear to be sizable increases in both headcount and student-credit-hour production. Those positive enrollment projections reflect very, very hard work and creativity, as well as investment, on the part of all University personnel. Now, through our budget process and the strategic planning process, we are calling on that same kind of innovative effort on the part of our faculty, staff, and contract professionals to find yet additional ways to aid the University's and state's financial crisis:

- First, by scrutinizing all purchase decisions to ensure that each is essential to our core mission and goals;
- Second, by reaching beyond departmental and college boundaries to explore ways of working closer together to increase efficiency and reduce costs; and
- Third, by taking advantage of other suggestions that come to us through the comment box on ZipLine and offering their own ideas and innovations that will surely add to the many fine ideas already considered.

So, the next few years clearly will have for us some significant challenges. We do understand that this pain is endured widely; it is not just ours. Certainly The University of Akron is in better circumstances than many, but we are mindful that these are difficult times for the state. We are particularly mindful that 15 percent of this state budget is being constructed with one-time fiscal stimulus money and that, if the revenues do not improve, we will be facing a significant challenge because those monies likely will not be there a second time.

I then shared with Trustees a bit of an update on strategic planning. We are now eight months into the process of formulating a new 10-year strategic plan. As part of our fact-finding and thought-provoking discussions, Dr. William Pepicello, president of the University of Phoenix, will join us on August 20 at 10 a.m. in the Quaker Inn Grand Ballroom. We are encouraging the Board and all University personnel to attend and participate in an exciting discussion. Since this will be an interactive session, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee has identified specific outcomes that they hope to achieve from that and other similar sessions in four primary areas:

1. Current and anticipated innovations within higher education broadly and at universities in particular leading to the year 2020;
2. What the students of 2020 will look like, expect, and demand;
3. How we might get ahead of the curve to serve them better; and
4. Lessons learned from the University of Phoenix model, a fully owned subsidiary of the Apollo Group whose market capitalizations seem to be simply going up and up.

On September 16, we will be pleased to welcome Dr. Michael Crow, president of Arizona State University. President Crow is indeed one of the transformative leaders in higher education today and is guiding Arizona State into becoming one of the leading public metropolitan universities, one that is, as we are, vitally and directly engaged in the economic, social, and cultural vitality of its region. As you may have read, at the recent University of Arizona System regents' meeting, President Crow and his colleagues at the University of Arizona and Northern Arizona University presented some proposals for lower-cost undergraduate baccalaureate degree programs that, in certain areas, will enable students to earn bachelor's degrees in just three years, not unlike some of

what we are proposing in partnership with our colleagues at Lorain County Community College through the Innovation Alliance.

Finally, construction workers are putting the final finishing touches on InfoCision Stadium-Summa Field, including the installation of lighting that not only meets NCAA requirements for broadcast but draws at least 25 percent less electricity than traditional stadium lighting. After reminding Trustees that a tour of the stadium would be following our meeting, I pointed out for all that Fox news has been interviewing several people on campus for an expected full half-hour program on the new stadium. The questions they were asking really reflect the fact that this institution has done this right. They are referring to the stadium as certainly probably the best in the MAC and as first class, comparable to best-rated stadiums anywhere in the country. I also informed the Board that, on August 16, University employees and their families will have the opportunity to tour the new facilities when we host Employee Appreciation Day at the stadium.

I closed my remarks with just a couple of observations. Certainly, this has been a busy summer. For those of us who thought we were on vacation, it has been kind of on and off vacation. Nevertheless, we certainly expect an even busier fall with lots of exciting things and significant challenges to confront. And, while we have achieved and continue to achieve significant and amazing changes to our campus, to our curricula, to our enrollment, and the stature of the university, I hope that we can approach this new academic year by renewing our commitment to work toward a common vision built on bold and powerful ideas, ambitious goals, and with uncompromising standards. Please remember, as we have said many times, what differentiates The University of Akron from the competition is nothing more than our conviction that we can meet every challenge. All of these challenges are certainly within our abilities as long as we operate from a position of strength and of common purpose, as long as we learn from others' best practices and our and others' mistakes, and as long as all of us remain vitally engaged in this process of building one of the most attractive, most successful public universities in the country with a profound impact and great return on investment to student success.

2. Next Regular Meeting

The Board will reconvene on Wednesday, September 9, 2009, in the Board office on the third floor of the Student Union, with an executive session to begin at 8 a.m. and the public session to begin no earlier than 10 a.m.

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