

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
March 8, 2022  
Kent Student Center, Ballroom Balcony**

**Board Members Present**

Shawn Riley, Chair  
Virginia Addicott  
Pamela Bobst  
Edward Crawford  
Haley Crews  
Barry Fetterman  
Robert Frost  
Johnathan Holifield  
Dylan Mace  
Donald Mason  
Stephen Perry  
Ann Womer Benjamin

**KSU President's Cabinet Present**

Todd Diacon, President  
Sean Broghammer  
Doug Delahanty  
Nick Gattozzi  
Amoaba Gooden  
Lamar Hylton  
Rebecca Murphy  
Mark Polatajko  
John Rathje  
Randale Richmond  
Charlene Reed  
Willis Walker

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Riley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Vice President Charlene Reed called the roll, and a quorum was present.

**PROOF OF NOTICE**

Chair Riley announced that public notification of the meeting was given pursuant to Ohio law and university policy.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Riley said that in accordance with Chapter 121.22, section G of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board had a need to meet in Executive Session for the purposes of: (i) considering the employment and compensation of a public employee or official [121.22(G)(1)]; (ii) considering matters of real estate for public purposes [121.22 (G)(2)]; and (iv) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment [121.22 (G)(4)].

Trustee Mason moved, seconded by Trustee Bobst, that the Board retire into Executive Session. Dr. Reed took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the Board adjourned into Executive Session at 10:03 a.m. The session concluded at 11:15 a.m.

## **BOARD BUSINESS MEETING**

By approval of a motion duly made and seconded, the Board returned to public session for the Board Business meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Chair Riley acknowledged several individuals in attendance: Ambassador Edward Crawford, who joined the Board for his first meeting as National Trustee; Don Brown, an alumnus and donor who would be recognized at the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship groundbreaking later that day for his generous support; Dr. Paul DiCorletto, retired vice president for research and sponsored programs, who was welcomed back to celebrate a remarkable accomplishment at Kent State; three faculty members who would be introduced further later in the meeting – Dr. Sara Bayramzadeh, Dr. Karin Coifman, and Dr. Deric Kenne; Dr. Deborah Spake, dean of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship; and Dr. Pamela Grimm, chair of the Faculty Senate.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Riley then presented the first order of business, the approval of the agenda. He asked if any of the trustees had additions or corrections to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was adopted by general consent.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chair Riley next asked whether any of the trustees had additions or corrections to the minutes of the Board's December 15, 2021, business meeting. Hearing none, approval of the minutes was added to the consent agenda.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

On behalf of the Board, Chair Riley thanked President Diacon, faculty, staff and most of all, the students for another productive semester at Kent State University. He announced that later that day, there would be a celebration of a milestone that has been a high priority of Kent State University and its trustees since at least his early days on the Board. He expressed gratitude to Trustee Crawford and his family for providing the generous gift that put the university over the top in moving forward with construction of the magnificent, long-awaited Crawford Hall. He encouraged all present to attend the groundbreaking ceremony that afternoon.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Chair Riley then called on President Diacon to give his report. He proudly announced that Kent State University recently was named a very high research institution (R1) of higher education in the United States as per the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

President Diacon observed Kent State as an R1 university is in great company, placing it among the top 146 research universities in the nation and joining institutions such as Duke, Yale,

Harvard, University of California Berkeley, University of Texas, Penn State, University of Michigan, and the University of Virginia. Ohio now has five R1 institutions: Kent State and Ohio University, both new to this status; Case Western Reserve University; University of Cincinnati; and Ohio State University. In the Mid-American Conference, there are only three R1 schools: Kent State, Ohio University, and the University of Buffalo.

President Diacon said the R1 designation is really “the coin of the realm” in higher education, which means something to people who are inside the profession and instantly marks an institution as a top university in the U.S. This ranking certainly enhances the university’s ability to attract top faculty, postdoctoral researchers, and others who are deciding where they will go, he said.

President Diacon said the R1 designation is one of a growing list of honors that Kent State has received of late – Forbes ranking as the 4th Best Employer in Ohio, recognition as a finalist for the prestigious Association of Public Land-grant Universities (APLU) Degree Completion Award, and the esteemed Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization. This year Kent State was the only four-year university in the U.S. to win this top award that recognizes excellence in global and international education, he noted. He then recognized Vice President for Global Education Marcello Fantoni for his leadership and noted that the Board will hear more about Kent State’s global vision in a future meeting of the Board of Trustees.

President Diacon added that the university was informed on March 3, 2022, that the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security designated Kent State as a National Center for Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity. This is an important national recognition of the institution’s cybersecurity program, which is housed in the College of Aeronautics and Engineering. With this designation, Kent State is part of a national effort to address the shortage of professionals with cybersecurity skills.

President Diacon then returned to the topic of the R1 designation, commenting that it is a multi-variant calculation that includes the amount of external research awards that faculty earn, the number and breadth of students who graduate with doctoral degrees, per-capita research expenditures, and the number of postdoctoral researchers among other factors. Crucial to Kent State’s rise to R1 status certainly was an increase in funded research, which essentially doubled over the life of the Strategic Roadmap. Another important factor for Kent State was the number of doctoral degrees granted in non-STEM fields. During his tenure as provost, Dr. Diacon retained retired Virginia Tech Vice President for Research Brad Fenwick to conduct a research consultation on where Kent State was exceptionally strong and where it could improve in research. One of his most powerful findings was that Kent State already was a top five program in brain health research but it was not well coordinated. He recalled chairing the national search for the vice president for research and sponsored programs position, which resulted in the selection of Dr. Paul DiCorleto, who had a nationally and internationally known career as a funded researcher at the Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve University. He ventured to say that Kent State would not be celebrating this success today if it were not for Dr. DiCorleto.

President Diacon then called on Dr. DiCorleto to speak. Dr. DiCorleto said he knew as a job applicant talking to President Diacon, Provost Tankersley, and to many faculty that there was a lot of excitement about the possibility of bolstering the research mission at Kent State. Most importantly in his view, was getting more undergraduates involved in research. He further stated that it is so critical for students to be involved in research and creative activities in the arts as well as the sciences to develop critical thinking that will be important for the rest of their lives regardless of what they go into. This was a great opportunity here, he said. Very early on with President Beverly Warren, they talked about moving to R1 status and he told her that it was going to take a long time. He said he was amazed and so happy that the institution received this new distinction and it really was a total Kent State community effort from the academic leadership, to the deans and department chairs, the President's Cabinet, and the trustees approving changes in various policies and procedures that were hampering research. It was really a group effort and R1 is a distinction that the university certainly deserves, he said. It really recognizes the truth that the faculty are the ones who are doing this work and providing a great learning environment for students in laboratories and in studios and so on, he remarked. He ended by saying that he really enjoyed his time at Kent State University.

President Diacon said that as Dr. DiCorleto and he prepared for this transition, they were pleased to appoint as Interim Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs Dr. Doug Delahanty, who was the second-in-charge under Dr. DiCorleto. President Diacon asked Dr. Delahanty to discuss the plan he was developing to keep Kent State at R1, which is a three-year calculation.

Dr. Delahanty stated that it was hard to understate how exciting it was to be part of the research office at Kent State at this time. The R1 designation is not just a reflection of the accomplishments of a small group of individuals at Kent State, it truly is an acknowledgment of all the amazing work being done across the entire institution regarding research and creative activities and all that is being performed daily on this campus, he said. The equations used to determine R1 status consider not only grants but the number of postdocs, the number of doctoral degrees conferred in four different areas—STEM, the humanities, the social sciences, and a category for “other.” He explained that while there are plenty of institutions that have multiple times the number of grant dollars Kent State brought in, they do not have the humanities doctorates the university confers, and they are an R2 institution because of that. This designation really is a full-campus effort that everybody across the entire campus should be very proud of, he said. Since receiving this designation, the question most often asked is, how will Kent State maintain this R1 designation, he said. The team has spent a lot of time figuring out equations and seeing what would be critical points of the investment that we can make to maintain this status, according to Dr. Delahanty.

The real answer is that Kent State will continue doing well at what got us to R1 in the first place, but also expanding where we can grow research and creative activity with some strategic investment, said Dr. Delahanty. He stated the university undoubtedly was going to focus on the area of most-needed growth, which is external and federal grant funding. That will propel Kent State along a trajectory much more toward the middle of R1s than any of the other investments the institution can make. To do that the university will invest in research development staff in the research office to help faculty submit the highest-quality proposals that they can do. He said the

first hire will be a research development specialist who has expertise in large proposals. There are plenty of funding opportunities in the \$5-10 million range where you have a critical mass of faculty doing similar things very well, he said. Kent State's faculty in advanced materials and liquid crystals, for instance, are really poised with the addition of someone with a track record of success in getting competitive proposals of that magnitude together. The university also will hire a couple other research development staff grant writers to aid individuals and small groups of faculty. Kent State has plenty of excitement and plenty of faculty interest in submitting grants – a key is to be able to support the faculty in submitting the best-quality proposals. As President Diacon mentioned, R1 designations occur every three years. The last one was considered at the very end of 2021, so in 2024 the calculation will be conducted, he explained. Different factors in the calculation are counted at various times during this interim period. For instance, next year is when they count the number of postdocs that are present on campus and postdocs are good investment in faculty research productivity. They provide an ample means of helping people get research going and give them time to write more grants. Dr. Delahanty explained that a postdoc is someone who has graduated with the doctoral degree and who is gaining additional research experience (typically two years) prior to applying for a job in industry or in academia. In fiscal year 2023, the calculation for doctoral degrees will occur. As another example of focused attention, Dr. Delahanty now is working with the Division of Enrollment Management, the Graduate College, and the academic deans to consider different fellowships focusing on students who have not yet finished their dissertations. He commented that the ideal way of ensuring that Kent State is on a trajectory for maintaining the R1 designation is both a long-term focus while making some strategic investments in the short term. It is really the best way to ensure that we remain an institution that is really committed to access and completion, but where we can also give our students world-class research and creative activity experiences that are much more typical of elite institutions that have a much higher cost and much higher and more restrictive entrance criteria.

Dr. Delahanty noted that the main reason for optimism in this endeavor is the productivity of Kent State's faculty who passionately pursue research funding and training of the next generation by involving undergraduate and graduate students in their labs in high numbers. In addition to the researchers who later would be joining the Board for lunch, he wanted to celebrate three of the faculty members who helped Kent State achieve R1 status. First, he introduced Dr. Sara Bayramzadeh, coordinator and Elliot Professor of the health care design program in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, who is nationally recognized for her research on patient safety in psychiatric units and operating rooms. A recipient of the 2020 New Faculty Outstanding Research and Scholarship Award, Dr. Bayramzadeh currently is the principal (lead) investigator of a \$2.5-million grant to design safer trauma rooms. Next, he introduced Dr. Deric Kenne, associate professor in the College of Public Health and associate director of the Center for Public Policy and Health, whose research focuses on adult and adolescent substance abuse prevention and treatment, community-based interventions, mental health policy, and evaluation. Dr. Kenne has secured nearly \$8 million in federal, state and local funding since coming to Kent State in 2012. He then introduced Dr. Karin Coifman, associate professor of Clinical Psychology in the Department of Psychological Sciences. Dr. Coifman's research examines the link between emotion processing and psychological health. Her research is funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Education and her

work has been featured in various media outlets including MSNBC, the BBC, and very recently she was featured in an article in The Atlantic magazine on resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic. He expressed gratitude to the university's faculty and all that they do to help Kent State achieve and maintain the R1 standard.

With that President Diacon concluded his report and asked whether anyone had any questions or comments.

Trustee Stephen Perry said that the meeting had been particularly good in highlighting the effectiveness of the university's strategic management process. When the institution set these goals a few years ago to be R1, they were bold, audacious goals so much so that even Paul DiCorleto did not think we could get there. The same is true with the Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State Campus Master Plan. Now, the institution has the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship. To think about the fact that by setting those goals, having specific action plans, and holding ourselves accountable to achieve results is just phenomenal, he said. He further remarked that many organizations do a good job of developing a master plan but then do not do a good job of executing the master plan, so kudos to the Kent State people for coming through and achieving these fantastic goals that seemed unattainable a few years ago. Chair Riley remarked that Trustee Perry must have been looking over his shoulder at his notes, as Trustee Perry expressed his sentiments much more eloquently than he would have and thanked him.

Trustee Johnathan Holifield then added that it was an excellent and exciting report and encouragement coming out of 3.5 years of federal service. He said it was hard to describe just how deep a well federal opportunities are across 34 agencies that really could be mined for the benefit of our students, faculty, and the people of Ohio. It is an extraordinarily deep well of funding beyond the usual suspects, he commented, and he encouraged a broad exploration at the federal level.

Trustee Riley thanked Trustee Holifield for sharing his insights and moved on to President Diacon for the report of personnel action items.

### **PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

President Diacon called on Senior Vice President and Provost Melody Tankersley for the academic personnel action items. Dr. Tankersley reported that the personnel action items were routine in nature and included the request for emeritus status for five outstanding faculty members who have served the university well during their tenure. He next called on Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Mark Polatajko for the non-academic personnel actions. Dr. Polatajko stated that the report stood as written with all matters being routine and customary in nature. The personnel actions were added to the consent agenda by general consent.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chair Riley proceeded with reports and recommendations of the standing committees. He thanked the trustees for their time given during the previous week for the electronic committee meetings. He noted that unless there were objections, the recommendations from the committees would be added to the consent agenda and the Board would vote with one motion on all items. At the end of each report, he would ask if any trustees had any objections or wanted to remove any item from the consent agenda for further discussion, he said.

Chair Riley first called on Trustee Addicott to present the report of the External Relations and Philanthropy Committee.

## **EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Trustee Addicott reported that the External Relations and Philanthropy Committee met March 2, 2022, and reviewed naming action recommendations and information reports from Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement Valoree Vargo, Executive Director of Government and Community Relations Nick Gattozzi, and Director of Athletics Randale Richmond.

### ***NAMING OF THE BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUITE***

She stated that Vice President Vargo presented seven management decision items for the committee's consideration. The first was a naming recognition for the Burton D. Morgan Foundation which had given more than \$1.5 million to support the Design Innovation Initiative and LaunchNET, an entrepreneurship program, with offices located within the Design Innovation Hub. This proposed naming action recognizes the Burton D. Morgan Foundation by naming the LaunchNET offices and collaboration spaces and the Marty Erbaugh I<sup>3</sup> Lab, The Burton D. Morgan Foundation and Entrepreneurship Suite, she said.

### **Resolution 2022-1**

#### **NAMING OF THE BURTON D. MORGAN FOUNDATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUITE**

WHEREAS, the Burton D. Morgan Foundation recognizes Kent State University as a leader in higher education and excellence in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Burton D. Morgan Foundation generously has supported entrepreneurship and design activities at Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, the Burton D. Morgan Foundation has given \$1,082,150 in support to LaunchNET and entrepreneurship activities at Kent State University during the past five years; and

WHEREAS, an additional gift of \$500,000 will provide support for venture activities within LaunchNET and the Marty Erbaugh I<sup>3</sup> Lab; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Design Innovation Hub and the current and future students who will benefit from the facility, express sincere appreciation to the Burton D. Morgan Foundation for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names Kent State University's LaunchNET offices, the Marty Erbaugh I<sup>3</sup> Lab, and surrounding spaces within the Design Innovation Hub the Burton D. Morgan Foundation Entrepreneurship Suite.

*NAMING OF THE JUDITH K. DEVINE DIAMOND*

Next, Trustee Addicott said that Vice President Vargo presented the naming of the Judith K. Devine Diamond named in recognition of Judith K. Devine's \$250,000 gift to support the softball diamond. Often referred to as the diamond at Dix, it would now be named in her honor. This action recognized Ms. Devine's longstanding commitment to advancing gender equity in intercollegiate athletics at Kent State University and at the state and national levels, she said.

**Resolution 2022-2**

**NAMING OF THE JUDITH K. DEVINE DIAMOND**

WHEREAS, Judith K. Devine recognizes Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as a leader in the Mid-American Conference and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Judith Devine served in multiple coaching and administrative roles within Intercollegiate Athletics at Kent State University from 1969 through 2000; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Devine served as the first female head coach of the women's basketball team at Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Devine worked throughout her career to achieve gender equity within the field of athletics; and

WHEREAS, several national, state and university organizations including the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Mid-American Conference, and Kent State University's athletics hall of fame have recognized Ms. Devine for her extraordinary contributions to gender equity; and



WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university wishes to recognize the generosity of Judith Devine in providing gifts totaling \$250,000 to benefit the student-athletes and staff of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and the current and future students who will benefit from her generosity, expresses sincere appreciation to Judith Devine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the softball field located at the Dix Stadium complex the Judith K. Devine Diamond.

Trustee Addicott then stated that Vice President Vargo presented three additional naming actions in recognition of donors who have provided support for intercollegiate athletics.

*NAMING OF THE DAVE AND SHERRY JOY LOBBY*

She reported that the lobby of the field house would be named the Dave and Sheri Joy lobby in recognition of their \$100,000 gift.

**Resolution 2022-3**

**NAMING OF THE DAVE AND SHERRY JOY LOBBY**

WHEREAS, Dave and Sherry Joy recognize Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as a leader in the Mid-American Conference and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Dave Joy enrolled at Kent State University during the period between 1966 and 1972; and

WHEREAS, Dave and Sherry Joy long have been active members of several local communities including Kent State Athletics, Portage County, and the city of Kent; and

WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university wishes to recognize the generosity of Dave and Sherry Joy in providing gifts totaling \$100,000 to benefit the student-athletes and staff of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and the current and future students who will benefit their generosity, expresses sincere appreciation to Dave and Sherry Joy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the lobby of the Kent State University Field House the Dave and Sherry Joy Lobby.

*NAMING OF THE LAING AND SAUNDRA KENNEDY TROPHY ROOM*

She next presented that the trophy room within the Memorial Athletics Convocation Center would be named the Laing and Sandra Kennedy Trophy Room in recognition of Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy's \$100,000 gift.

**Resolution 2022-4**

**NAMING OF THE LAING AND SAUNDRA KENNEDY TROPHY ROOM**

WHEREAS, Laing and Sandra Kennedy recognize Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as a leader in the Mid-American Conference and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Laing Kennedy served as the Director of Athletics at Kent State University from 1994 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mr. Kennedy was recognized repeatedly for outstanding leadership including in 2002 and 2006 when he received the Northeast Region Division 1-A Athletic Director of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university wishes to recognize the generosity of Laing and Sandra Kennedy in providing gifts totaling \$100,000 to benefit the student-athletes and staff of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and the current and future students who will benefit from their generosity, expresses sincere appreciation to Laing and Sandra Kennedy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the trophy room within the Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center the Laing and Sandra Kennedy Trophy Room.

*NAMING OF THE DR. JAMES KARGE OLSEN LOBBY*

Further, Trustee Addicott presented that the lobby of the Jenkins Student Athletic Academic Center would be named the Dr. James Karge Olsen Lobby in honor of Dr. Olson, a faculty

member who was inspirational in the career of George Jenkins who's \$100,000 gift would support the student athletes who use the facility.

### **Resolution 2022-5**

#### **NAMING OF THE DR. JAMES KARGE OLSEN LOBBY**

WHEREAS, George Jenkins recognizes Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as a leader in the Mid-American Conference and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jenkins graduated from Kent State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jenkins has supported Kent State University through volunteer service including the Kent State University Board of Trustees and the university's National Athletic Development Council; and

WHEREAS, he has been a driving force and key benefactor in enhancing academic support services to student-athletes through his generous gifts in support of the construction and later expansion of the Jenkins Student-Athlete Academic Center; and

WHEREAS, the Jenkins Student-Athlete Academic Center provides crucial support to Kent State's student-athletes who regularly are recognized for their high academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Karge Olsen, who taught constitutional law and jurisprudence courses at Kent State University, made a large impact in the career of Mr. Jenkins; and

WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university recognizes the generosity and wishes of George Jenkins in providing gifts totaling \$100,000 to benefit the student-athletes and staff of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and the current and future students who will benefit from his generosity, expresses sincere appreciation to George Jenkins; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the lobby of the Jenkins Student-Athlete Academic Center the Dr. James Karge Olsen Lobby.

Trustee Addicott then noted that Vice President Vargo finished the management decision items with two naming actions within the Crawford Hall, the future home of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship, in recognition of gifts to support the building's construction.

*NAMING OF THE DON AND PAULA BROWN DEAN'S SUITE RECEPTION AREA*

She reported that the reception area within the Office of the Dean would be named the Don and Paula Brown Dean's Suite Reception Area in recognition of Mr. and Mrs. Brown's \$100,000 gift.

**Resolution 2022-6**

**NAMING OF THE DON AND PAULA BROWN DEAN'S SUITE RECEPTION AREA**

WHEREAS, Don and Paula Brown recognize Kent State University's Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship as a leader in higher education and excellence in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Crawford Hall, the new home of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship, will be constructed as a cornerstone of the university's Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State facilities master plan to transform the Kent Campus and improve facilities over 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Don Brown graduated from Kent State University in 1977 with a BBA in Accounting; and

WHEREAS, Don Brown currently serves on the National Advisory Board of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university wishes to recognize the generosity of Don and Paula Brown in providing gifts totaling \$100,000 to benefit the students and faculty of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship and the current and future students who will benefit from the facility, expresses sincere appreciation to Don and Paula Brown for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the reception area within the office of the dean in the future Crawford Hall the Don and Paula Brown Dean's Suite Reception Area.

*NAMING OF THE CHRISTOPHER AND STEPHANIE MARINAC TEAM AREA*

Next, Trustee Addicott presented the naming of The Christopher and Stephanie Marinac Team Area, a collaboration space for students, would be named in recognition of a \$100,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Marinac.

**Resolution 2022-7**

**NAMING OF THE CHRISTOPHER AND STEPHANIE MARINAC  
TEAM AREA**

WHEREAS, Christopher and Stephanie Marinac recognize Kent State University's Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship as a leader in higher education and excellence in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Crawford Hall, the new home of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship, will be constructed as a cornerstone of the university's Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State facilities master plan to transform the Kent Campus and improve facilities over 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Christopher and Stephanie Marinac graduated from Kent State University in 1991 with a BBA in Finance; and

WHEREAS, through this proposed naming action, the university wishes to recognize the generosity of Christopher and Stephanie Marinac in providing gifts totaling \$100,000 to benefit the students and faculty of the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship and the current and future students who will benefit from the facility, expresses sincere appreciation to Christopher and Stephanie Marinac for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names a collaborative space in the future Crawford Hall the Christopher and Stephanie Marinac Team Area.

Trustee Addicott went on to share that the committee received information on the naming actions under \$100,000 approved by President Diacon. In total, the naming actions that Vice President Vargo shared at the meeting represent more than \$2.4 million given in support of entrepreneurship and student athletes at Kent State.

She stated that the committee also was presented with the most recent fundraising and campaign update from Vice President Vargo. To date \$321.4 million had been given under the Forever Brighter Comprehensive Campaign, including \$129.6 million to support student success the university's primary fundraising priority, thus surpassing the goal. We now are more than 92% of

our way to the campaign's total goal of \$350 million. For the current fiscal year, the university has raised more than \$67.4 million. When two large transformational gifts received by the university this year are excluded, the institution to date has raised more than \$29.4 million. Additional fundraising highlights include a 31% increase in the number of donors compared to the last fiscal year and a historic number of major gifts of \$100,000 and above.

Trustee Addicott additionally noted that following the fundraising and campaign update, Vice President Vargo shared programming and outreach highlights. The Flash Tales initiative helped to collect more than 7, 600 stories from alumni that would be used. Additional programming highlights included an emotional moving event titled Words, Sounds and Power Poem for the Living where Professor and Interim Director of Africana Studies, Mwatabu Okanta shared his work; The KSU Pittsburgh Penguins Day, which sold out and hosted 138 1st time attendees; and the partnership with Team Lebron at the N.B.A. All Star Game to provide support to the Kent State's IPromise Scholars program, which resulted in more than \$526,000 in new support.

Finally, she said that Vice President Vargo shared information about the groundbreaking ceremony for the Crawford Hall, which would be held that day at 2:00 p.m. The groundbreaking ceremony will be followed by the inaugural Aspire Entrepreneurship Workshop featuring Ambassador Edward Crawford. She hoped those present could attend both of these events. Trustee Addicott then thanked Vice President Vargo for her update and both President Diacon and Vice President Vargo for building such excitement among the university's alumni and donors.

Next Trustee Addicott stated that Executive Director of Government and Community Relations Nick Gattozzi had presented legislative updates. He gave updates on the state's redistricting process and other proposed bills affecting higher education, she said.

She further reported that Director of Athletics Randale Richmond had shared several recent highlights for Intercollegiate Athletics with his always inspiring and great passion. With that, Trustee Addicott concluded her report on behalf of the External Relations and Philanthropy Committee. As you can we had so much to report, there was so much to celebrate as we continue to engage successfully with our stakeholders in support of Kent State's remarkable students.

Hearing no objections or requests, the resolutions were added to the consent agenda.

### **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Chair Riley then called on Committee Chair Trustee Robert Frost to present the report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee. Trustee Frost, who was attending the Board business meeting electronically, began by stating that he wished he could be there in person for the meeting as well as for the groundbreaking and what would prove to be some wonderful conversation with members of our research faculty at lunch.

He then began his report by noting that the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee met on February 28, 2022. The committee had a list of nine action items, all of which were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda, he said.

*CONFERRAL OF DEGREES, FALL 2021*

He stated that in addition to the academic personnel actions which were discussed and recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda, the committee recommended the conferring of 3,159 degrees in Fall 2021 for approval by the Board.

**Resolution 2022-8**

**CONFERRAL OF DEGREES  
FALL 2021**

WHEREAS, Section 3341.05 of The Revised Code of Ohio provides that "...On the recommendation of the (KSU) faculty, the (KSU) Board of Trustees may confer such honorary and academic degrees as are customarily conferred by colleges and universities in the United States..."; and

WHEREAS, the faculties, deans and directors of Kent State University's colleges and schools recommend that appropriate degrees be conferred on those Kent State students who completed – during the period of August 21, 2021 to December 18, 2021, – the various requirements of the respective programs of study they pursued; and

WHEREAS, the university has recognized completion of said programs of study by awarding diplomas as appropriate at a suitable time, during the period cited, upon such persons listed in the accompanying Summary of Candidates for Degrees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby confirms the conferral of their respective degrees upon those persons who have been officially recorded by the Kent State University Registrar as having completed the requirements during said period August 21, 2021 to December 18, 2021.

*REVISION OF ACADEMIC STRUCTURE AND NAME OF THE DIVISION OF  
GRADUATE STUDIES TO THE GRADUATE COLLEGE*

Trustee Frost then presented that the Division of Graduate Studies and the Office of the Provost requested the revision of academic structure in name of the Division of Graduate Studies to the Graduate College. He stated that adhering to administrative policy 3342-2-03.1 regarding academic administrative structures, developing the proposed infrastructure for a graduate college would provide a model for the college to support stackable credentials, offer opportunities for credit-bearing courses to graduate students across the university, and provide the tools to prepare

specific student populations for a successful transition into graduate degrees through bridge programs.

### **Resolution 2022-9**

#### **REVISION OF ACADEMIC STRUCTURE AND NAME OF THE DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES TO THE GRADUATE COLLEGE**

WHEREAS, the Division of Graduate Studies and the Office of the Provost request a revision of the academic structure of Graduate Studies from its current designation as a division to that of a college and a change of name to Graduate College; and

WHEREAS, Graduate Studies currently serves in an advisory role, supporting graduate students from orientation through thesis/dissertation defense, fostering a sense of belonging for all students within the graduate community; and

WHEREAS, the change in designation of Graduate Studies as a college clearly aligns with the description of a college as described in Administrative Policy and Procedures 3342-2-03.1 Regarding Academic Administrative Structures; and

WHEREAS, revising the name of Graduate Studies to Graduate College is consistent with naming conventions of similar units at other universities and will provide clarity to students and other internal and external stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, to include multiple perspectives, Graduate Studies consulted with multiple academic and non-academic units; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision of name has been reviewed and approved by the Educational Policies Council and the Faculty Senate, and carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revision of academic structure of Graduate Studies from its current designation as a division to that of a college and a revision of name to Graduate College, effective Fall 2022.

#### ***REVISION IN NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY***

Trustee Frost next reported that the College of Arts and Sciences sought approval for the revision in name of the Department of Sociology, to the Department of Sociology and Criminology, which would increase the visibility of the department and allow prospective students to more easily identify their program interests in both sociology and criminology.



**Resolution 2022-10**

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY TO  
THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences seeks approval of the revision in name of the Department of Sociology to the Department of Sociology and Criminology; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name will more accurately reflect the current scope and nature of the department's research and teaching; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name change increases the visibility of the department and will allow prospective students to more easily identify their program interests within criminology and sociology; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name will increase the department's ability to recruit students and faculty, remaining competitive with peer universities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, and carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revision in name of the Department of Sociology to the Department of Sociology and Criminology within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2022.

***ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE***

He further presented that the College of Applied and Technical Studies requested approval for the establishment of the Bachelor of Social Work degree to be offered among the Ashtabula, Salem, and Tuscarawas campuses, which would share and offer the program collaboratively via hybrid instruction. The program was developed in response to a high-demand need for licensed social workers in the areas surrounding Kent State regional campuses. Graduates of the program can find careers in behavioral health systems, nonprofit agencies, criminal justice systems, hospital systems, and child welfare services among other government and community entities, he noted.

## **Resolution 2022-11**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Applied and Technical Studies seeks approval of the establishment of the Bachelor of Social Work degree; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Social Work major within the Bachelor of Social Work degree will be offered at three of Kent State's regional campuses: Ashtabula, Salem, and Tuscarawas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree was developed based on the high demand for licensed social workers within the areas surrounding Kent State regional campuses; and

WHEREAS, graduates of the program will find careers in behavioral health systems, nonprofit agencies, criminal justice systems, hospital systems, and child welfare services among other government and community entities focused on shaping policy and enacting positive social change; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that enrollment will begin with 30 students in the program's first year with a projected growth up to 120 students by the program's fourth year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate school and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, and also carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of the Bachelor of Social Work degree, effective Fall 2022 pending final approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Higher Learning Commission, and the Council on Social Work Education.

*REVISION IN NAME OF THE MATHEMATICS FOR SECONDARY TEACHERS  
MAJOR TO THE MATHEMATICS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS  
MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE*

Trustee Frost then reported that the College of Arts and Sciences requested the revision in name of the Mathematics for Secondary Teachers ajor to the Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers major. The college requested this name change to better identify the program's targeted audience of high school teachers and to bring increased visibility to the program.

**Resolution 2022-12**

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE MATHEMATICS FOR SECONDARY  
TEACHERS MAJOR TO THE MATHEMATICS FOR SECONDARY  
SCHOOL TEACHERS MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE  
DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of the Arts and Sciences seeks approval of the revision in name of the Mathematics for Secondary Teachers major to the Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers within the Master of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the College of the Arts and Sciences established the program in 1975 for state-licensed teachers and features both mathematics and education classes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name is a better description of the program's targeted population of high school teachers; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council and the Faculty Senate, and also carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revision in name of the Mathematics for Secondary Teachers major to the Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers within the Master of Science degree, effective Fall 2022.

***REVISION IN NAME OF THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT  
TECHNOLOGY MAJOR TO THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT  
MAJOR WITHIN THE ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE***

He presented that the College of Applied and Technical Studies proposed the revision in name of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology major to the Occupational Therapy Assistant major within the Associate of Applied Science degree. This revision in name would provide greater clarity for students regarding their employment opportunities after graduation, he said.

**Resolution 2022-13**

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
ASSISTANT TECHNOLOGY MAJOR TO THE OCCUPATIONAL  
THERAPY ASSISTANT MAJOR WITHIN THE ASSOCIATE OF  
APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Applied and Technical Studies seeks approval of the revision in name of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology major to the Occupational Therapy Assistant major within the Associate of Applied Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the degree program presently is offered at two regional campuses – Ashtabula and East Liverpool – for students seeking careers as occupational therapy assistants; and

WHEREAS, the term technology has been a cause for confusion among prospective students, giving them the impression that the major will prepare them for careers as an occupational therapy technician; and

WHEREAS, the revision in name will allow the College of Applied and Technical Studies to recruit students more effectively; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will not affect other programs, course offerings, faculty, or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council and the Faculty Senate, and also carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revision in name of the Occupational Therapy Assistant Technology major to the Occupational Therapy Assistant major within the Associate of Applied Science degree, effective Fall 2022.

***INACTIVATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES—BOTANY MAJOR  
WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
DEGREES***

Trustee Frost went on to present that the College of Arts and Sciences requested the inactivation of the Biological Sciences—Botany major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. The college seeks the inactivation of the program because there was no longer a student demand for the program. The Botany major has been suspended since fall 2017 and has no active students, he noted.

**Resolution 2022-14**

**INACTIVATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES–BOTANY MAJOR  
WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
DEGREES**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences requests the inactivation of the Biological Sciences–Botany major within the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees; and

WHEREAS, the degree programs were established in 1983 but due to disciplinary shifts, graduate programs in botany no longer align with the academic goals of the Department of Biological Sciences and are no longer a student demand; and

WHEREAS, no students are enrolled in the major proposed for inactivation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed inactivation will have no impact on other programs, course offerings, faculty or staff; and

WHEREAS, the proposed inactivation of the Biological Sciences–Botany major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate school and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council and the Faculty Senate, and also carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the inactivation of the Biological Sciences–Botany major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees, effective Fall 2022.

***INACTIVATION OF THE DIGITAL SCIENCES MAJOR WITHIN THE  
BACHELOR OF ARTS AND MASTER OF DIGITAL SCIENCES DEGREES***

The College of Communication and Information requested the inactivation of the Digital Sciences major within the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Digital Sciences degrees, Trustee Frost reported. He noted that the major was no longer necessary as it already had been replaced by the Emerging Media and Technology major within the Bachelor of Science and the Master of Science degrees.

**Resolution 2022-15**

**INACTIVATION OF THE DIGITAL SCIENCES MAJOR WITHIN THE  
BACHELOR OF ARTS AND MASTER OF DIGITAL SCIENCES  
DEGREES**

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information seeks approval of the inactivation of the Digital Sciences major within the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Digital Sciences degrees; and

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information suspended admission to both degree programs in 2021 when the school was renamed to the School of Emerging Media and Technology; and

WHEREAS, the Digital Sciences major no long meets the strategic goals of the college; and

WHEREAS, the Emerging Media and Technology major within the Bachelor of Science and the Master of Science degrees was approved by the Board of Trustees in March 2020 and December 2021, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the proposed inactivation of the Digital Sciences major has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council and the Faculty Senate, and also carries the endorsement of the Provost and the President; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the inactivation of the Digital Sciences major within the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Digital Sciences degrees, effective Fall 2021.

***ENDORSEMENT OF UNIVERSITY RESPONSE TO STATE BUDGET  
LEGISLATION RELATED TO REMEDIATION OF STUDENTS***

Trustee Frost next recommended endorsement of the university's latest response to state budget legislation related to remediation of students. This is the fifth annual remediation report presented to the Board for its endorsement and submission to the Chancellor of Higher Education. He shared that since the original report submitted in 2017, Kent State has dramatically reduced the number of students enrolled in remedial courses through modifying approaches to include different pathways for incoming freshmen specific to their majors. Since 2017 there have been decreases of 58.4% and 53.9%, respectively, on Kent and Regional campuses in the number of students enrolled in remedial courses, he said.

## **Resolution 2022-16**

### **ENDORSEMENT OF UNIVERSITY RESPONSE TO STATE BUDGET LEGISLATION RELATED TO REMEDIATION OF STUDENTS**

WHEREAS, Kent State University is committed to advancing student success while keeping true to its mission of providing an accessible education for the citizens of Ohio and beyond; and

WHEREAS, throughout the State of Ohio budget deliberations for fiscal years 2018 through 2022, policymakers and university leaders alike were committed to assisting Ohio students and families in accessing a college education; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly ultimately passed House Bill 49 that requires the boards of trustees of public universities to issue a report regarding the remediation of students and submit it yearly to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education and Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, consistent with that requirement, the university administration has conducted a yearly review of remediation of students; and

WHEREAS, results of this review indicate a significant decline in the number of Kent State freshmen placed into remedial coursework, resulting in a reduction of costs of remedial coursework to the university, students, and the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 University Remediation Report carries the endorsement of the President and the Provost; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby endorses the 2021 University Remediation Report and its submission to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

All management decision items were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda.

Additionally, Trustee Frost shared two informational reports to the committee. Senior Vice President Lamar Hilton informed trustees that the policy, 3342-4-02.101 Operational Definitions and Information Regarding Regulations for Student Behavior and Administration of Conduct, was revised to include information on the updated student hazing policy for consistency.

Interim Vice President Sean Broghammer presented an update to the committee on the enrollment application cycle as well as early Fall 2022 enrollment observations, said Trustee Frost. He highlighted Future Flash Days, university scholarships and financial aid transfer initiatives, graduate applications, and continuing student enrollment. Interim VP Broghammer also shared an example of a personalized narrated video students received when admitted to Kent State that helps families understand the financial aid availability for their students. These

narrated videos set Kent State apart from other institutions that generally send financial aid packages via email or letter, he noted.

Trustee Frost went on to comment that he had the opportunity in the previous couple of months to spend time with Dr. Neil Cooper, director of the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, and the co-founders of the school's Growing Democracy Program, Dr. Casey Boyd-Swan and Dr. Ashley Nickels. He said that at this moment in history with what is going on in Ukraine, Kent State really has a unique and tremendous resource here in the School of Peace and Conflict Studies. He observed they do not get mentioned enough in these meetings and thanked them for their leadership.

With that Trustee Frost concluded his report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

Hearing no objections or requests, the resolutions were added to the consent agenda.

### **AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Chair Riley then called on Committee Chair Trustee Donald Mason to present the report of the Audit and Compliance Committee. Trustee Mason stated that the members of the Audit and Compliance Committee met electronically with the university's leadership on March 2, 2022. He said that Senior Vice President Polatajko opened the meeting with an update on the fiscal year 2021 financial statements audit. The NCAA Audit with athletics and the WKSU audit were completed with no issues reported, he said. Trustee Mason further noted that the reports were sent to the Auditor of State who approved and issued the reports in January. In December guidelines were released by the federal agencies pertaining to the single audit of federal expenditures. The required reporting had been completed and submitted to the Auditor of State; no issues or concerns were reported, he said.

He then reported that Director of Internal Audit Sarah Gampo provided the committee with a summary of the second quarter fiscal year 2022 internal audit plan as well as in-process, active, and completed activities. There were no unusual items to report, he noted. She indicated that the department's student employee, who was assisting with p-card testing, had taken another position enhancing her education. A new student had been hired for the Spring 2022 semester and would assist in this area. Ms. Gampo also shared an update on the KSU reporting line for fraud and fiscal abuse. Reports can be made anonymously using EthicsPoint or by contacting the Auditor of State. Information on the reporting line and how to make a report can be found on the Internal Audit website, he stated.

Trustee Mason then presented that lastly, Dr. Hylton and Tiffany Murray, director of gender equity and title ix coordinator, provided a presentation on the university's compliance with requirements of Title IX.

With that, Trustee Mason concluded his report for the Audit and Compliance Committee.



## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Chair Riley next called on Committee Chair Stephen Perry to present the report of the Finance and Administration Committee. Trustee Perry began by stating that the Finance and Administration Committee met electronically on March 1, 2022. In addition to the non-academic personnel actions, the committee reviewed 10 proposed management decision items, all of which were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda.

### ***APPROVAL OF SPECIAL PROGRAM, COURSE AND OTHER FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2022***

Trustee Perry presented the request for approval of special program fees, course fees, and other fees, effective Fall 2022. He said that each year fees are reviewed and revised when necessary. It was determined that additional resources were needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to fund unique costs associated with certain courses, services and academic programs, he said. The proposed changes included not only fees that were recommended to be revised but also several fees that were recommended to be eliminated, he noted.

### **Resolution 2022-17**

### **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL PROGRAM, COURSE AND OTHER FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2022**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for approving fees for instruction and other education services and also is authorized to establish special purpose fees and charges for services and benefits provided to students; and

WHEREAS, additional resources are needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to fund unique costs associated with certain courses, services and academic programs; and

WHEREAS, proposed changes to program, course and miscellaneous fees have been reviewed extensively by university staff including executive officers for compliance with statutory requirements and to ensure that all are in the appropriate amounts and are necessary to protect program quality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of fees to be effective with the Fall 2022 semester, unless otherwise noted, subject to required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

*APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES, COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE  
2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR*

He then presented the request for approval of tuition and fees for the College of Podiatric Medicine for the 2022-2023 academic year. Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine tuition rates have been reviewed extensively and a 2% increase was requested in tuition rates for both in-state and out-of-state students. Trustee Perry noted the proposed increase is needed to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to repair and maintain academic facilities.

**Resolution 2022-18**

**APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES,  
COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE  
2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for approving fees for instruction and other education services and also is authorized to establish special purpose fees and charges for services and benefits provided to students; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) operates under a different academic calendar than the rest of the university and billing for fall semester occurs in the spring prior to the Board's next meeting on May 25, 2022; and

WHEREAS, additional resources are needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to repair and maintain academic facilities; and

WHEREAS, proposed changes to the KSUCPM tuition rate schedule have been reviewed extensively by university staff including executive officers, to ensure that all are in the appropriate amounts and are necessary to protect program quality; and

WHEREAS, Kent State currently receives no state share of instruction (SSI) for podiatric medicine and statutory constraints by the State of Ohio are tied to in-state undergraduate tuition and general fees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of proposed fee changes to be effective for the 2022-2023 academic year.

*APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SURCHARGE RATES FOR PARTNERSHIPS WITH  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF RWANDA, STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH OF  
INDIA, AND NILE UNIVERSITY OF EGYPT*

Next, Trustee Perry presented the request for approval of special surcharge rates for participation in three new international partnerships. Kent State University had proposed partnership with the Ministry of Defence of Rwanda and the State of Andhra Pradesh in India to develop a pipeline of sponsored students from these countries. The third partnership would bring students from the Nile University of Egypt. These partnerships are critical to maintaining Kent State's high level of global engagement and they contribute to the diversity of our international student population, he said. He further noted that all three agreements propose a 97.5% reduction of the regular surcharge rate to non-Ohio residents, which must be approved by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

**Resolution 2022-19**

**APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SURCHARGE RATES FOR PARTNERSHIPS  
WITH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF RWANDA, STATE OF ANDHRA  
PRADESH OF INDIA, AND NILE UNIVERSITY OF EGYPT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for approving fees for instruction and other education services; and

WHEREAS, reductions from instructional and general fees as well as out-of-state surcharge rates are allowable if approved by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University would like to engage in three new international partnerships – two of which will provide students to Kent State sponsored by the Ministry of Defence of Rwanda and the State of Andhra Pradesh in India, and a third new partnership that will attract undergraduate and graduate students to Kent State through the Nile University of Egypt Partnership Program; and

WHEREAS, the university proposes to add a waiver of the out-of-state surcharge, not to exceed 97.5%, for students who attend Kent State University through these partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the university has reviewed the potential enrollment impact of the special rates; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the addition of a waiver of the out-of-state surcharge, not to exceed 97.5%, for students sponsored by the Ministry of Defence of Rwanda or sponsored by the state of Andhra Pradesh, India, as well as undergraduate and graduate students who attend Kent State through the Nile University of Egypt Partnership

Program, subject to any required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

*APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR ORACLE TECHNICAL  
SUPPORT SERVICES*

He then reported the request for approval of vendor selection for Oracle technical support services. He explained that the university required an outside vendor to provide technical support services for its Oracle database platform. The formal bid process produced four bids and TMH Solutions, LLC was selected as the vendor with the best overall value. The proposed contract will be for an initial term of one year at \$396,174, with a university option to renew up to two additional one-year periods at an approximate increase of 4% each year, he said.

**Resolution 2022-20**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR ORACLE TECHNICAL  
SUPPORT SERVICES**

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 requires Board of Trustees approval of any single agreement to purchase goods and/or services with an estimated total cost of \$1 million or more, including the initial term and any optional renewals; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University requires an outside vendor to provide technical support services for its Oracle database platform; and

WHEREAS, the proposed contract will be for an initial term of one year at \$396,174, with a university option to renew up to two additional one-year periods at an approximate increase of 4% each year, for potential total contract duration of three years; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by the Kent State University Procurement Department, TMH Solutions LLC, a certified Minority Business Enterprise supplier, provided the proposal with the best overall value; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to enter into a contract with TMH Solutions LLC for Oracle technical support services for a term of one year, with a university option to renew up to two additional one-year periods in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

*APPROVAL OF CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR BANNER ERP SYSTEM*

Trustee Perry then presented the request for the approval of a contract extension for the Banner ERP system, which was implemented in 2006. An enterprise resource planning system is required to support and maintain core financial, human resources, and student transaction

processing and reporting requirements, he said. He further reported that a committee of chief information officers from Ohio universities using Banner successfully negotiated a five-year extension to the existing contracts, with Ellucian Company, L.P. offering the best overall value. Total savings for Kent State University are projected at \$522,625 over five years from the existing five-year contract term ending June 30, 2022. The proposed purchase agreement will be for five years at a cost of \$5,661,741 and will be funded by the approved operating budget of the Division of Information Technology.

### **Resolution 2022-21**

#### **APPROVAL OF CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR BANNER ERP SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 requires Board of Trustees approval of any single agreement to purchase goods and/or services with an estimated total cost of \$1 million or more, including the initial term and any optional renewals; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University requires an enterprise resource planning solution to address a critical need across the university, allowing KSU to effectively perform financial, human resource, and student transactions; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of a waiver of competitive bidding issued by the procurement department of Kent State University, extension of the existing contract with Ellucian Company, L.P. provides the best overall value for the university's current Banner enterprise resource planning system which has been in place since 2006; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these services for the five year term is \$5,661,741 to be funded by the approved operating budget of the Division of Information Technology; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to enter into a contract extension with Ellucian Company, L.P. for the provision of an ERP solution for five years in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

#### ***APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR UNIVERSITY PROMOTIONAL ITEMS***

Next, he presented a request for approval of vendor selection for promotional items for Kent State University. Requests for proposals were issued and AG PrintPromo Solutions and Consolidus, LLC provided proposals with the best overall value. The estimated cost for these products is \$2.05 million for the initial two-year period, with the potential of three additional one-year extensions at approximately \$1.025 million per year to be funded by various university departments, he noted.

**Resolution 2022-22**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR UNIVERSITY  
PROMOTIONAL ITEMS**

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 requires Board of Trustees approval of any single agreement to purchase goods and/or services with an estimated total cost of \$1 million or more, including the initial term and any optional renewals; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University requires an agreement to provide promotional items; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by Kent State University, AG PrintPromo Solutions and Consolidus, LLC provided the proposals with the best overall value; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these products is \$2.050 million for the initial two-year term, with the potential of three additional one-year extensions at approximately \$1.025 million annually, to be funded by various university departments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to enter into a contract with AG PrintPromo Solutions and Consolidus, LLC for the provision of university promotional items for two years, plus the option to renew up to three one-year periods, in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

***APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR GROCERY ITEMS FOR  
UNIVERSITY CONVENIENCE STORES***

Trustee Perry presented a request for approval of vendor selection for grocery items for convenience stores at Kent State University. After a formal bid process, the H.T. Hackney Company provided the proposal with the best overall value. He further reported that the contract is for an initial four-month term of \$75,000 with the potential of four additional one-year periods at approximately \$600,000 each year, to be funded by University Culinary Services units that purchase items for the purposes of selling retail products.

**Resolution 2022-23**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR GROCERY ITEMS  
FOR UNIVERSITY CONVENIENCE STORES**

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 requires Board of Trustees approval of any single agreement to purchase goods and/or services with an estimated total cost of \$1 million or more, including the initial term and any optional renewals; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University requires an agreement to provide grocery items for university convenience stores; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by Kent State University, The H.T. Hackney Co. provided the proposal with the best overall value; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these goods is an initial four-month term of \$75,000, with the potential of four additional one-year periods at approximately \$600,000 annually, to be funded by culinary services units that purchase from H.T. Hackney for the purposes of selling retail products; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to enter into a contract with The H.T. Hackney Co. for the provision of grocery items for university convenience stores for three months plus a university option to renew up to four one-year periods in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

*APPROVAL OF COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE HOUSE BILL 7  
ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT PHASE II*

He then presented a request for approval of the College of Podiatric Medicine energy conservation projects. The college has chosen to accept several energy conservation measures recommended by Brewer-Garrett. This project will rebuild four original 44-year-old handlers and install a new rooftop chilled water system. Total proposed project cost is up to \$2.0 million dollars with a 15-year payback based on approved cost savings. The project will be funded through the renewal and replacement of funds that the college has allocated to meet ongoing capital and deferred maintenance needs.

**Resolution 2022-24**

**APPROVAL OF COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE  
HOUSE BILL 7 ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT PHASE II**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees met on June 6, 2012, and approved the use of House Bill 7 to fund energy improvements; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has completed several phases of energy conservation projects improving nearly every building on nearly all campuses; and

WHEREAS, the associated energy savings have exceeded the financial goals in all cases and have greatly benefitted the institution and its physical plant; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the proposed project at the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine in Independence, will include the rebuild of four air handlers and installation of a new rooftop chilled water system; and

WHEREAS, the work and the energy savings associated with this project will be guaranteed by the selected contractor, Brewer-Garrett Company; and

WHEREAS, the College of Podiatric Medicine has allocated up to \$2.0 million in renewal and replacement funds to support the completion of this project; and

WHEREAS, the project will follow all state laws and regulations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to proceed with the design of this project in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-04 and to authorize the construction of the project.

*APPROVAL OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT GEAUGA NURSING  
DEPARTMENT RELOCATION AND RENOVATION*

Trustee Perry then reported the request for approval of Kent State University at Geauga Nursing Department relocation and renovation. He noted that with enrollment growth in nursing and changes in technology and instructional methods, the existing space is undersized, outdated, and no longer meets program requirements or serves the students' needs. The nursing suite will be relocated from its current location in the Classroom Building to the current Library location in the same building. The relocation and renovation of the existing Library location will meet the needs of the nursing program and the vacated nursing suite will be renovated to create a multi-use student engagement center. The total project estimate is \$1.65 million with \$938,915 coming from local Geauga funds and \$711,085 from state capital allocations, he said.

**Resolution 2022-25**

**APPROVAL OF KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT GEAUGA  
NURSING DEPARTMENT RELOCATION AND RENOVATION**

WHEREAS, the nursing program at Kent State University at Geauga is expanding and has outgrown existing outdated facilities in the Classroom Building located on the Burton campus; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that space within the Classroom Building can be renovated and repurposed for the nursing program while providing a new Student Engagement Center in the space to be vacated by the nursing program; and

WHEREAS, the project would renovate approximately 5,564 square feet of the existing Classroom Building, providing updated facilities and modern instructional space; and



WHEREAS, the university has budgeted \$1,650,000 for the project, with \$938,915 in local funds from the Geauga campus and \$711,085 in state capital funds (SB 310); and

WHEREAS, the design, bidding, and construction of this project will follow all state laws and regulations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to proceed with this project in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-04.

*AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5036 STATE ROUTE 43, BRIMFIELD TOWNSHIP, OHIO*

He then presented the resolution authorizing the sale of approximately 43 acres of real property located along State Route 43 in Brimfield Township, Ohio.

**Resolution 2022-26**

**AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY  
LOCATED AT 5036 STATE ROUTE 43, BRIMFIELD TOWNSHIP, OHIO**

WHEREAS, Kent State University has completed its Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State master plan; and

WHEREAS, certain real estate parcels have been identified as surplus real estate assets by the university and are available for disposition; and

WHEREAS, at its December 5, 2018, meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized the marketing and sale of the surplus parcels; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly authorized the sale of the parcels in legislation passed on July 18, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has received an offer to purchase 42.95 acres of vacant land identified as Portage County Permanent Parcel Nos. 04-005-00-00-035-001, 04-014-00-00-019-000, and 04-014-00-00-028-000 at fair market value; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to enter into a purchase agreement for the sale of 42.95 acres of the real property located at 5036 State Route 43, Brimfield Township, Ohio.

Trustee Perry then shared that Dr. Polatajko provided the committee with an update on the university's fiscal year 2022 budget performance to date. He also provided a review of the planning process underway for the fiscal year 2023 budget and a summary of the pandemic relief funds and how the university has utilized those funds. Lastly, the committee was presented with informational items routinely provided to the Board for its review and consideration.

This concluded Trustee Perry's report of the Finance and Administration Committee.

Chair Riley thanked Trustee Perry and the Finance and Administration Committee stating that the members had been very busy and their time given was appreciated.

He then asked whether any trustees wished to remove any of the proposed resolutions from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, the resolutions were added to the consent agenda by general consent.

Chair Riley asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the personnel actions and recommendations from the standing committees.

**ACTION: Trustee Mason moved, seconded by Trustee Addicott, that the motion be approved. There were no objections. Vice President Reed took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the motion passed.**

The consent agenda was approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Next, Chair Riley moved to new business stating that there were three items of new business brought before the Board.

#### ***AWARD OF UNIVERSITY MEDALLION TO THE RISMAN FAMILY***

First, he said that there was a recommendation from President Diacon that the Board of Trustees honor an extraordinary family that has made an indelible mark on Kent State University. He then called on Trustee Addicott to present the resolution.

#### **Resolution 2022-27**

#### **AWARD OF UNIVERSITY MEDALLION TO THE RISMAN FAMILY**

WHEREAS, the University Medallion was established to recognize alumni and friends who have contributed significantly to the well-being of Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, the Risman Family has demonstrated a multi-generational, deep, and extraordinary commitment to the welfare of Kent State students and academic programs through their volunteerism and philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, members of the Risman Family – most notably, William and Marion Risman, R. Wayne Risman, and Robert and Tricia Risman – have left an indelible mark on Kent State University, serving as a champion for students for four decades; and

WHEREAS, Bill and Marion Risman provided a trailblazing vision for student success by creating the prestigious Medallion Scholarship program for high-achieving students and endowing 25 Medallion scholarships, for which they were honored through the naming of the William B. and Marion C. Risman Plaza outside of the Kent Student Center; and

WHEREAS, their legacy continues today through the generous, scholarship-focused philanthropy of Rob, Tricia and Wayne Risman; and

WHEREAS, the Risman Family legacy at Kent State includes devoted volunteer leadership and service to the institution, as Bill Risman served as chair and member of the Kent State University Board of Trustees, the Foundation Board, the Centennial Commission Executive Committee and the Centennial Campaign Steering Committee, and Rob Risman has served 21 years to date on the Foundation Board, chaired the Board's Institutional Advancement Committee, serves as a member of the Forever Brighter Campaign Executive Committee, and for the past decade, has led the foundation's Hotel Sub-Committee that brought the Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center to reality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Kent State University, upon recommendation of the Citation and Recognition Committee, and with the concurrence of the President, hereby awards the University Medallion to the Risman Family for its extraordinary devotion and support to the advancement of Kent State University and all it serves.

Chair Riley asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

**ACTION: Trustee Womer Benjamin moved, seconded by Trustee Bobst, that the motion be approved. There were no objections. Vice President Reed took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the motion passed.**

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO DYLAN MACE*

Chair Riley remarked that the next item of new business was the opportunity to express appreciation to one of the Board's colleagues whose term would be ending far too quickly, on

May 16, 2022. He then called on Trustee Haley Crews to present the resolution honoring Undergraduate Student Trustee Dylan Mace.

**Resolution 2022-28**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO DYLAN MACE**

WHEREAS, Dylan Mace was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor Mike DeWine on July 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Mace has served as a member of the Board's Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee, External Relations and Philanthropy Committee, and Investment Committee; and

WHEREAS, along with fulfilling his responsibilities as Undergraduate Student Trustee, he has excelled in his studies and will earn his bachelor's degree in Finance, with a minor in Data Analytics and Computer Science, with high honors in May 2022; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Mace also has served as president of the Kent State Interfraternity Council, president of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, an officer of the Kent State Financial Management Association, and a member of the Business Professionals' Roundtable; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his extraordinary leadership and impact as a student leader, he received the Association for Fraternal Leadership and Values (AFLV) 2022 Wayne S. Colvin Award (Change Maker, Undergraduate Award), which recognizes an undergraduate fraternity/sorority chapter leader who has accelerated progress in the fraternity/sorority experience on campus and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Mace is respected by his Board colleagues as a highly motivated, insightful leader who participates effectively in all aspects of the trustee role; and

WHEREAS, his Board term will expire on May 16, 2022; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to Dylan Mace for his outstanding service and wishes him the very best in his future pursuits.

Chair Riley asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

**ACTION: Trustee Womer Benjamin moved, seconded by Trustee Bobst, that the motion be approved. There were no objections. Vice President Reed took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the motion passed.**

President Diacon presented Trustee Mace with items of appreciation. He went on to say that earlier that day both former Vice President DiCorleto and Interim Vice President Delahanty discussed the importance of undergraduate students and research. It is imperative that the university walk the walk, and not just talk the talk, of placing Students First as our top strategic priority. As an undergraduate student member of the Board, Trustee Mace is a valued voice, he said, recalling the old advertising tagline, “When E. F. Hutton speaks, people listen.” When Dylan Mace speaks, trustees listen, he said. Trustee Mace has been such an effective voice for the students and President Diacon always appreciates his wise counsel. He wished Trustee Mace all the best and expressed confidence that he would go on and do great things in life.

Trustee Mace thanked everybody present, stating that he was honored to serve as the undergraduate student trustee for the place that he has called home for the past four years. He said that he is from only about an hour away, but considers Kent State a separate home, a community that accepted him and that he has been able to grow in, and for that he was very thankful. He shared that he submitted the application for the trustee position on March 4, 2020, and about one week later he received an email from President Diacon sending him home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. His undergraduate student life came to a screeching halt for a little bit, he said. Trustee Mace then fast-forwarded to September 2020, which was his first Board meeting as the undergraduate student trustee. He found out that Kent State did not stop working during those previous few months; in fact, the university worked even harder to ensure the success of the students. That led into his whole experience of what the Board of Trustees meetings consist of and the flow of great information for this university. He noted that during his tenure the Board had seen the groundbreaking for the aeronautics extension and later that day would see the groundbreaking for the Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship; the delivery of balanced budget, new institutes, and new degrees; and every three months President Diacon announced a new award or recognition at each of the Board meetings. It really shows the hard work of the faculty, staff, and all the administration here at Kent State and the Board of Trustees. They really do put students first and it is a place that he was happy to have attended and happy to soon call himself an alumnus, he noted. Trustee Mace further remarked that overall, serving as a trustee had been a great learning experience and this opportunity is one that most people do not get so early in their career. He had learned professionalism from all present, and so much more about higher education than he ever thought he would learn in college. He probably could go around the room and say at least one thing each of his fellow trustees had taught him. He was excited for the future of Kent State, excited to get the emails and the alumni newsletters, and excited to visit back. He thanked everyone for the opportunity and declared, Go Flashes!

#### *RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO VIRGINIA ADDICOTT*

Chair Riley then moved on to a resolution of appreciation recognizing Trustee Virginia Addicott, whose term also was expiring. He called on Trustee Volpe, a fellow FedEx alum and Golden Flash, to present the resolution honoring Trustee Addicott.

## **Resolution 2022-29**

### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO VIRGINIA ADDICOTT**

WHEREAS, Virginia Addicott was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor John Kasich on August 21, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Addicott has given superb service as the Board's vice chair, secretary, chair of the External Relations and Philanthropy Committee, chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee, chair of the Compensation Committee, board representative to the Kent State University Foundation Board of Directors, and as a member of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, the Audit and Compliance Committee, and the Finance and Administration Committee; and

WHEREAS, she has provided inspired leadership at a momentous time for Kent State, which includes development of the dynamic *Strategic Roadmap to a Distinctive Kent State*, establishment of the visionary *Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State* facilities master plan, the successful public launch of the *Forever Brighter* comprehensive campaign that to date has raised more than \$320 million toward its \$350-million goal, and her service as a member of the presidential search committee that resulted in the 2019 election of Todd A. Diacon as the 13<sup>th</sup> president of Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, a two-time graduate of Kent State University, Trustee Addicott long will be remembered for her laser focus on student success, her keen insights on business practices, her high energy, devotion to alma mater, collaborative style, and path-breaking leadership in her professional and volunteer pursuits; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University applauds and honors Trustee Addicott as a highly successful and impactful chief executive of FedEx Custom Critical and as a tireless community leader who has served on the boards of the Greater Akron Chamber, Boys and Girls Club of the Western Reserve, Akron Children's Hospital, and other organizations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep appreciation to Virginia Addicott for her distinguished stewardship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that because of her deep commitment and contributions to the advancement of Kent State, Trustee Addicott is hereby designated Trustee Emeritus of Kent State University with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

Chair Riley asked for a motion to approve the resolution.

**ACTION: Trustee Bobst moved, seconded by Trustee Perry, that the motion be approved. There were no objections. Vice President Reed took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the motion passed.**

President Diacon presented Trustee Addicott with items of appreciation. He then remarked with Trustee Addicott, the university had a FedEx executive who for most of her time on the Kent State Board of Trustees was working full time in capacity of chief executive, literally jetting around the world and yet carving out time to participate in the Board's business and committee meetings and most importantly, chairing committees and giving the university leadership good advice. Trustee Addicott always excelled at walking that really important line where she gave her best advice based on her experience. He also commented that she always encouraged the university to do well by its employees and the leadership team appreciated that advice and wise counsel. In short, in nine years she made Kent State University better, so thank you very much, he concluded.

Trustee Addicott said while she could not believe her term was over, nine years is a long time. She has seen three presidents during her term. She recalled it was funny because President Lester Lefton would meet with her annually asking her if she wanted to join the Board of Trustees and she would say that the nine-year term sounded like a long time. Finally, she said yes and then came to one meeting and he informed her that he was retiring! She said her tenure has been a great run and she has been very honored to be involved in the evolution of Kent State. She is a two-time graduate, but it has been wonderful to be on the other side of the table, to see how the university runs, the challenges it faces and above everything else, she thinks she has been most impressed with the ongoing focus on student success, graduation, and student access. She said she is very interested in seeing people who may not be from a home maybe where college has been in their past, but will be in their future, or maybe where the money for college costs has not been so readily available. Kent State has put so much effort into having funds available to students so that people can make that change in their life. Getting an education is one of the greatest changes anybody can make in their life, she said. She remarked that this is why she really loves what Vice President Vargo and her team are doing now around student success as the university's top fundraising priority. She commended Vice President Vargo for bringing so much process and focus to the Foundation that she has agreed to continue to serve on its Board of Directors after her term ends with this board. In closing, she noted she was very proud to be associated with Kent State in all facets and certainly will be a Golden Flash forever.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Riley announced that the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

On motion duly noted, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.