

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
September 9, 2015  
Urban Conference Room**

**Board Members Present**

Virginia Albanese  
Jennifer Bryant  
Stephen Colecchi  
Margot James Copeland  
Ralph Della Ratta  
Dennis Eckart, Chair  
Perry (PJ) Kimmel  
Stephen Perry  
Lawrence Pollock  
Michael Solomon

**KSU President's Cabinet Present**

Beverly Warren, President  
Todd Diacon  
Alfreda Brown  
Paul DiCorleto  
Gregg Floyd  
Iris Harvey  
Shay Little  
Ed Mahon  
Jeff McLain  
Steve Nameth  
Joel Nielsen  
Charlene Reed, University Secretary  
Willis Walker

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Board Chair Dennis Eckart called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Urban Conference Room. Vice Chair Stephen Colecchi called the roll, and a quorum was present.

**PROOF OF NOTICE**

Chair Eckart stated that public notification was given pursuant to state law and university policy.

Board Chair Eckart welcomed new Graduate Student Trustee Jennifer Bryant, who was attending her first board meeting. He commented that Kent State has been incredibly blessed with a long history of outstanding student trustees, including Monique Profitt who Trustee Bryant is succeeding.

He also welcomed new members of the President's Cabinet who were attending their first meetings of the board in that capacity: Dr. Paul DiCorleto, who joined Kent State as Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs on Aug. 17; Dr. Shay Little, who became Interim Vice President for Student Affairs on Aug. 1; and Dr. Steve Nameth, who became Interim Associate Provost for Kent State System Integration on July 1. Dr. Nameth is also continuing as dean and chief administrative officer of the Columbiana County campuses. Finally, he welcomed Nicholas Gattozzi, who joined Kent State Aug. 1 as Executive Director of Government and Community Relations Aug. 1.

Board Chair Eckart, on behalf of the board, also recognized Lee Fox Cardamone, who had a great working relationship with him during her tenure as Faculty Senate Chair last year. She was unable to attend the June board meeting as which time he recognized 2014-15 leaders of key university bodies but is attending the Committee of the Whole session this morning. And finally, in his recognitions, on behalf of the board, he congratulated Michael Kavulic, Director of Board Technology and Operations, upon the recent birth of daughter Emerson Kavulic.

Three topics were discussed during the Committee of the Whole session: strategic visioning and dashboard development; government and community relations; and an emerging concept for an international living/learning community. The session was followed by meetings of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee and the Audit and Compliance Committee at 10:15 a.m.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board reconvened at 11:30 a.m. in the Alumni Conference Suite, Kent Student Center, for the purposes of executive session.

In accordance with Section 121.22(G) of the *Ohio Revised Code*, Chair Eckart announced that 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 [R.C. 121.22(G)(1)]; 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 [R.C. 121.22(G)(4)].

Trustee Colecchi moved, seconded by Trustee Copeland, that the Board retire into Executive Session in the Alumni Suite in the Kent State Student Center.

By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the Board adjourned into Executive Session. The session concluded at 12:30 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Board reconvened for the business portion of the meeting at 2:32 p.m. in the Urban Conference Room. Chair Eckart requested additions or corrections to the afternoon's agenda.

Hearing no further corrections or additions, the agenda was approved as amended.

### **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Chair Eckart requested additions, corrections, or changes to the minutes of the June 4, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by general consent.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Eckart began by recognizing the leadership and contribution of student trustees, and welcomed Jennifer Bryant, Graduate Student Trustee. He then introduced Fritz Erickson, president of the Graduate Student Senate and Brian Cannon, president of Undergraduate Student Government, and noted the excellent relationship over the years between student government and the Board of Trustees. Chair Eckart asked the student leaders to briefly address the Board. Cannon conveyed enthusiasm for the new academic year and for working with Dr. Warren's initiatives. Erickson stated that the Graduate Student Senate's main goal will be the charge given to them from President Warren to increase the size of the Graduate Student Symposium, which will be held in the MAC Center instead of the Student Center this year.

Chair Eckart then recognized the Honorable Sara Drew, Mayor of the City of Stow, and thanked her for the excellent relationship with Stow as the home of Kent's airport and aviation program.

Next, Chair Eckart commented on how Kent State's new academic year is off to an excellent start. He thanked President Warren and Provost Diacon for leading efforts for the record Kent Campus enrollment within an environment of fiscal sobriety. Chair Eckart then cited an article in the Columbus Dispatch listing Kent State, Ohio State University, and Ohio University as three institutions "bucking trends" in economically challenging times for higher education institutions. He highlighted the article as an example of the importance of the Board's role in financial oversight.

Chair Eckart noted how an outside observer had commented on Kent State's participatory board membership. Chair Eckart complimented the Board members for their active concern for Kent State's core values as observed through their active participation.

The work of the Finance Committee that led to a final and balanced budget was acknowledged by Chair Eckart. He then set a challenge for Kent State to be a leader in Ohio in restraining the costs of higher education and helping students achieve degrees.

Chair Eckart noted the consideration of National Landmark designation for May 4 1970 events at Kent State University. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of those events will be in 2020, and he commented on the importance of ongoing conversations about how to make the anniversary a true statement of purpose. Chair Eckart complimented the work of Trustee Michael Solomon, President Warren, and past Board Chair Patrick Mullin for their commitment to upholding the historical past and a sense of purposefulness for our future.

Chair Eckart offered appreciation to Trustee Steve Perry for keeping Board conversations on focus in asking strategic and tactical questions.

Chair Eckart then commented on how the Board's work is all about excellence in execution, and that the process of Board assessment is integral to the strategic planning and overall assessment

of the university. Chair Eckart stated that the Governance Committee will manage the Board assessment process this year.

Chair Eckart went on to define Kent State as “The Region’s University,” with opportunities to function as a broader leader within the region. He cited the importance of taking the Board out to the communities that are served, in order to forge a fuller and deeper engagement with regional political, cultural, and civic leadership. In order to foster those deeper connections, the December Board meeting will be held in Akron and the March 2016 meeting will be in Cleveland. The following two Board meetings will be held in Kent, and in fall 2016 the Board will meet at a Kent State Regional Campus, he announced.

Chair Eckart then noted that, along with Chair of the Foundation Board Gary Brahler, he will convene representatives of 36 volunteer boards and advisory councils affiliated with various colleges and departments at Kent State. He cited this effort of fostering alignment among multiple volunteer boards as consistent with Kent State’s “One University” initiative.

Chair Eckart concluded his remarks thanking all of the board members for their service and for their willingness to go beyond their expected role when called upon to do so.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren for her report.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Warren expressed excitement about welcoming nearly 9,500 new alumni as Kent State graduated its largest class in history in the year 2014-15. President Warren also noted that all indicators were on the right track for the current fiscal year. Donor engagement increased by almost 2,000 more donors than the prior year, and total new commitments increased by nearly \$1.5 million. President Warren acknowledged these achievements were made in a year through the efforts of Steve Sokany, Interim Vice President for Advancement, and Jeff McClain, Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Next, President Warren shared that Kent State’s Senate Bill 6 financial ratios continue to be among Ohio’s best. Kent State’s composite SB6 score was 4.4/5.0, placing the university among the top five institutions in Ohio.

President Warren noted multiple measures of the achievement of “Foundations of Excellence” milestones, including new buildings taking shape: the rising of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design building; the institutional advancement building that is almost ready for move-in; the Center for the Visual Arts, a portion of which opened for classes this fall; the breaking of ground that will take place soon on a science research corridor, instructional corridor and integrated sciences research laboratory, that will be second-to-none facilities.

Next, she announced that enrollment numbers are on an upward trend. The Kent campus was tracking to achieve a seventh straight year record year of enrollment, and a fifth straight year of

surpassing the previous year's first-time student profile. She highlighted that the record student profile is one indicator that Kent State is attracting talented students, and that surpassing an average ACT score of 23 is a one fairly significant milestone that points toward success and ensuring students can graduate in four years.

President Warren welcomed new cabinet members Paul DiCorleto, Shay Little, and Steve Nameth. She noted Dr. Nameth's presence on the cabinet is assisting in moving forward a one university focus, representing the combined interests of integrating all Kent campus locations.

President Warren then acknowledged the new Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Linda Williams, and how she looks forward to working with the Faculty Senate this coming year.

President Warren also recognized two new deans, bringing new ideas and energy to their roles: Dr. Amy Reynolds of the College of Communication and Information and Dr. Lance Grahn of the Trumbull Campus.

Then President Warren gave another welcome to student government leaders Brian Cannon and Fritz Erickson, and thanked them for their service to the university. She urged them to continue to share ideas as a "students first" university.

President Warren commented on the opening of the academic year and the spirited showing of KSU pride, KSU convocation, and move-in day,

Next President Warren shared breaking news that Kent State had jumped an extraordinary 19 spots in the new *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of the top 200 U.S. universities. Six universities in Ohio are ranked, yet only Ohio State University and Kent State rose in this year's rankings. Kent State, which moved to 175 from 194, is the only public Northeast Ohio university in the top tier of the rankings. President Warren interpreted the significant rise in rankings as being due to retention and recruitment strategies, team effort, great faculty, student engagement, diversity initiatives, and support for students of color.

Dr. Warren also noted that Kent State ranked #1 again in the national Excellence in Management Cup competition, sponsored by the Laboratory for the Study of Collegiate Athletics and Texas A&M University. The cup is awarded to the most economically efficient athletics department in the NCAA's football bowl subdivision. Kent State won six Mid-American Conference titles in 2014. President Warren thanked Joel Nielsen, Director of Athletics, for his leadership. Nielsen is moving forward this year with a strategic plan and vision for athletics, involving the entire university community in defining success outcomes for athletics.

President Warren reported that yesterday Kent State signed a partnership agreement with Hanoi University, a partnership fostered by Provost Diacon and Marcello Fantoni, Associate Provost of Global Education. Hanoi University is recognized for its linguistics programs, offering 11 different languages. Hanoi University will offer components of its language programs as well as tourism at Kent State's Florence, Italy campus. President Warren reflected on the fascinating,

historical aspects of this relationship. She shared a story in a recent edition of the Daily Kent Stater about the Hanoi University representatives, including the President, touring the May 4<sup>th</sup> Center, and that they were deeply touched by their experience on the Kent campus.

In looking forward, President Warren identified three key areas. The first is the strategic visioning that will be shared through 15 “Forums for the Future” across the eight campuses. She will be engaging with small-group dinners with donors and engaging alumni across the country.

Second, she is looking forward to assessing what should be Kent State’s enrollment and housing plan over the next five years. President Warren stated that the planning must be beyond the incoming class, and that this work is underway.

Third, President Warren noted that work has begun in developing a university-wide health and wellness plan. Kent State is uniquely positioned to move forward in developing healthy and sustainable environments, and she wants to ensure that healthy options and choices are easy choices for students, faculty, and staff. Kent State should aspire to convey a wellness and healthy environment from the point visitors and community members step on campus, she said. Vice presidents Little and Walker will report on this topic at the Board’s December meeting.

Fourth, she asserted the importance of setting clear research priorities, which will help solidify Kent State’s distinctiveness. She noted Vice President for Research and Sponsored Program DiCorleto’s wealth of experience, and her high hopes for him and his office in this endeavor.

Fifth, President Warren invited trustees to attend the dedication of the university’s new Florence campus in April. The Florence campus solidifies Kent State’s global competitiveness.

President Warren touched on key initiatives meant to ensure stewardship of resources and to establish benchmark data and six-year financial goals. One initiative is an appointed university-wide effectiveness and efficiency committee, chaired by Vice President Ed Mahon and Senior Vice President Gregg Floyd. They are charged with finding greater efficiencies and cost savings, and how those savings and efficiencies can be applied the most important strategic priorities. Another initiative is a review of the RCM (responsibility centered management) budget model, which will engage a university-wide committee. A third initiative is how Vice President McClain will be looking, with the assistance of outside partners, at the readiness, feasibility, and timeframe for a comprehensive campaign plan.

With that, President Warren concluded her report and yielded the floor to Chair Eckart.

### **PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Chair Eckart asked President Warren to present the personnel actions. President Warren called on Provost Diacon to present the academic personnel actions followed by Interim Vice President Willis Walker to present the non-academic personnel actions.

### *ACADEMIC PERSONNEL*

Provost Diacon recognized the appointment of Dr. Paul DiCorleto, Kent State's new Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs, with tenure and rank of Professor in Biological Sciences; Dr. David Ward as Herrick Endowed Chair and Professor with tenure in Biological Sciences; and the granting of *emeritus* status for 13 faculty members.

### *NON-ACADEMIC PERSONNEL*

Vice President Walker reported that all non-academic actions to be considered at this meeting were routine in nature.

**ACTION: There were no objections to placing personnel actions on the consent agenda.**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chair Eckart called on Committee Chair Larry Pollock to present the report of the External Relations and Development Committee.

### **EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Trustee Pollock reported that the External Relations and Development Committee met this afternoon to consider one management decision item and received two reports on various topics. He noted that one naming action, consistent with university policy, is proposed as part of the consent agenda. The proposed naming of the Jason Bitsko Football Player Lounge at Dix Stadium is described in the resolution below.

#### **Resolution 2015-54**

#### **NAMING OF THE JASON BITSKO FOOTBALL PLAYER LOUNGE**

WHEREAS, in August Kent State University completed a renovation of football locker room facilities through the generosity of donors; and

WHEREAS, the renovations included a new lounge space that provides football student-athletes with an auxiliary space adjacent to their locker room for team bonding, studying and relaxing; and

WHEREAS, the facility plays a role in the success of recruiting student-athletes and positively impacts current football student-athlete welfare; and

WHEREAS, donor Larry Shaffer provided a lead gift of \$50,000 to the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics to name this facility in honor of the late

Jason Bitsko, a fourth year member of the football program who exemplified hard work and dedication; and

WHEREAS, a native of Huber Heights, Jason Bitsko was a junior marketing major and starting center on the football team who had earned university and national recognition and whose sudden death in August 2014 deeply saddened the entire Kent State family; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and the current and future students who will benefit from the facility, expresses sincere appreciation to Larry Shaffer for his generosity in honor of Jason Bitsko; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names Kent State University's recently constructed lounge at Dix Stadium the Jason Bitsko Football Player Lounge.

Trustee Pollock noted a fundraising update from Vice President McLain. Fundraising results at the end of the fiscal year were \$29.8 million, and current year gift commitments to date are in excess of \$3 million.

Trustee Pollock also noted a productive discussion with members of the 160over90 firm regarding this morning's Committee of the Whole session and next steps.

With that, Trustee Pollock concluded the External Relations and Development Committee report.

**ACTION: There were no objections to placing the management decision item on the consent agenda.**

Chair Eckart called on Committee Chair Margot Copeland to present the report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

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

Trustee Copeland reported that the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee met this morning and considered two management decision items that require Board action.

#### *CONFERRAL OF DEGREES – SPRING 2015*

Trustee Copeland announced that the committee approved the Conferral of Degrees for Spring 2015: 5,550 total associate, bachelor, master, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees awarded. This total includes new automatically awarded associate degrees: 614 Associate of Arts degrees, and 713 Associate of Science.



The approval of degrees also includes the award of a posthumous Doctor of Podiatric Medicine Degree to Ilya Bratslavsky, a student enrolled in his final year of education who passed away suddenly while on a clinical rotation in Virginia. He had completed 122 credit hours toward his podiatry studies, leaving him 24 credits short of graduation.

**Resolution 2015-55**

**CONFERRAL OF DEGREES  
Spring 2015**

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 December 14, 2014, to May 15, 2015 – 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 December 14, 2014, to May 15, 2015.

*ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-3-09 REGARDING USE OF  
COPYRIGHT-PROTECTED WORKS*

The committee approved the Establishment of University Policy 3342-3-09 Regarding Use of Copyright-Protected Works and recommends it be placed on the consent agenda.

**Resolution 2015-56**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-3-09 REGARDING  
USE OF COPYRIGHT-PROTECTED WORKS**

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Kent State University requires the university to maintain a register of policies and procedures (University Policy Register); and

WHEREAS, the University Policy Register does not currently include a policy regarding the use of copyright-protected works; and

WHEREAS, University Libraries and the Office of General Counsel seek the establishment of a university policy regarding use of copyright-protected works; and

WHEREAS, establishment of this policy complies with the 2002 Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization (TEACH) Act, an amendment of the U.S. Copyright Law, and allows the university to invoke the protection from copyright infringement that the TEACH Act provides; and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy has been reviewed and approved by University Libraries and the Office of General Counsel, was reviewed 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 establishment of University Policy 3342-3-09 Regarding Use of Copyright-Protected Works, effective Spring 2016.

*ESTABLISHMENT OF A RESOLUTION REGARDING 5% REDUCTION IN THE COST OF ATTENDANCE AS REQUIRED BY STATE BILL 64*

She also recommended Board approval of a plan that provides opportunities for students to reduce their cost of attendance. Ohio House Bill 64 requires the board of trustees of each public university to develop and implement a plan to provide all in-state undergraduate students the opportunity to reduce the costs of earning a degree by 5% and to submit a plan to the Chancellor by October 15.

During the committee meeting, Provost Diacon highlighted key points of Kent State's plan in response to Ohio House Bill 64, which includes how students currently and in the future can reduce their costs by 5% or more. Since Kent State regional campuses offer courses at a 40% reduced cost than the Kent campus, if a student were to complete a year at a regional campus, then finish at the Kent campus, that action would result in a 10% reduction in the overall costs of earning a Kent State degree.

All students have the opportunity to reduce their cost of degree by taking advantage of the reduction in the credit overload fee, beginning this fall. Students now can take up to 18 credits for the same price as 12-16 credits. Elimination of this fee saved students a cumulative \$1.5 million this semester, she noted.

In addition, currently one third of entering first-year students have earned on average 15.5 academic credits, which is in essence a semester of academic credit. This allows students with entering credits the possibility of reducing their cost of earning a college degree by one semester, which is greater than the 5% called for in the budget bill, she noted.

The plan includes several other opportunities, she reported. Currently, 54 majors can be completed within three years, if the academic course roadmap is followed. Kent State plans to add by 20% to that number by the end of the 2015-2016 academic year. Students can complete two undergraduate degrees – the Bachelor Degree in Insurance Studies and the RN to BSN degree -- fully online, which saves the cost of on-campus housing and facilitates full-time employment. Provost Diacon pledged to reduce the small number of degree programs that require more than the standard 120 credit hours. Exceptions will only be considered for those degree programs that may require above 120 hours for state licensure or accreditation.

The proposed plan is compelling evidence that Kent State takes seriously its responsibility to offer an affordable degree with no compromise in quality, she reported. The committee is pleased to take this opportunity to reinforce Kent State's longstanding commitment to, and deep sense of responsibility for, assisting Ohio students and families in attaining a high-quality and affordable college education. Trustee Copeland reported that the committee approved a resolution on the 5% Reduction Plan as required by House Bill 64, and recommended Board approval of the resolution below.

#### **Resolution 2015-57**

### **ENDORSEMENT OF PLAN TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE COLLEGE COSTS BY FIVE PERCENT**

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, toward this end, Kent State long has offered multiple pathways to degree including attainment of the bachelor's degree on regional campuses, which saves approximately 40 percent of total college costs compared to attending the Kent Campus for four years; and

WHEREAS, throughout the State of Ohio budget deliberations for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, policymakers and university leaders alike have been committed to assisting Ohio students and families in accessing a college education; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly ultimately passed Amended Substitute House Bill 64 that requires the boards of trustees of public universities to develop and implement a plan that provides in-state, undergraduate students the

opportunity to reduce the student cost of earning a college degree by five percent;  
and

WHEREAS, under Section 369.600, the approved plan must be submitted to the Chancellor of the Department of Higher Education (Ohio Board of Regents) by October 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, consistent with that requirement, the university administration has recommended a broad-based plan that includes a series of opportunities with the greatest potential for a Kent State undergraduate student to reduce by five percent the cost of earning a degree; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby endorses the plan and its submission to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education by the required deadline of October 15, 2015.

**ACTION: Chair Eckart called for a separate vote of the resolution. Trustee Copeland moved, seconded by Trustee Eckart, that the resolution be approved. The Board approved the resolution unanimously.**

Trustee Copeland reported that the committee also was provided with informational reports from Senior Associate Vice President David Garcia on enrollment for the Class of 2019, Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Alfreda Brown on the 2015 Kupita Transiciones Program, and Interim Vice President Shay Little on Greek life.

The committee also reviewed the establishment and revision of seven academic and student affairs administrative policies: Administrative Policy and Procedure 3342-3-01.1 Regarding Academic Requirements, Course Specifications, and Course Offerings; Administrative Policy 3342-3-01.10 Regarding Dismissal of Undergraduate Students for Academic Reasons; Administrative Policy 3342-4-01.2 Regarding the Registration of Student Organizations; Administrative Policy 3342-4-01.3 Regarding Participation in Student Activities; Administrative Policy 3342-4-02.6 Regarding Mandatory Immunization/Screening of Students; Administrative Policy 3342-4-10.1 Regarding Use of the Kent Student Center, Risman Plaza, and Student Green; and Administrative Policy 3342-7-05.1 Regarding Allocation and Use of Student Activities Fees.

With that, Trustee Copeland concluded the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee report.

**ACTION: There were no objections to placing the management decision items on the consent agenda.**

Chair Eckart asked Trustee Stephen Perry to present the Audit and Compliance Committee report on behalf of Committee Chair Richard Marsh.

## **AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Perry reported that the Audit and Compliance Committee met this morning to review the fourth quarter report of the fiscal year 2015 internal audit plan budgeted hours to actual. There were no unusual items to report.

Trustee Perry noted that trustees reviewed a report summarizing the activities performed by the Office of Internal Audit for fiscal year 2015. The office spent more than 6,300 hours providing independent appraisals of the financial and operational controls of the university. Additionally, the committee heard a presentation regarding the “10 Imperatives for Internal Audit: Driving success in a changing world.”

Trustee Perry reported that Jo Ann Gustafson, Director of Internal Audit, presented to the committee a letter that had been received from Attorney General Mike DeWine indicating that there is a suggestion that each Ohio university audit their compliance with proper use of H1B visas in hiring.

Finally, Trustee Perry mentioned that Director of Internal Audit Gustafson reported that a number of external agencies have come to campus recently to do audits, including the Board of Regents, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and the Ohio Department of Veterans Services. The focus of those review were review compliance with grants and related requirements.

With that, Trustee Perry concluded the Audit and Compliance Committee report.

Chair Eckart then called on Committee Chair Stephen Colecchi to present the Finance and Administration Committee report.

## **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Colecchi reported that the Finance and Administration Committee met this afternoon and discussed several items to be considered by the Board.

Trustee Colecchi noted that the following management decision items were recommended for approval as part of the consent agenda.

### *APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2016 UNIVERSITY BUDGET*

Trustee Colecchi stated that the committee recommended the approval of the university’s final operating budget for fiscal year 2015-16. The recommended university budget recognizes the importance of affordability and encouraging student success. According to Chair Colecchi, continuing priorities include investments in student scholarships and other financial aid, academic programs, technology, library collections, international programs, as well as anticipated cost increases in employee health insurance, compensation increases for university

employees, and reallocations to provide funding for debt service lost from changes in the tuition plateaus.

### **Resolution 2015-58**

#### **APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2016 UNIVERSITY BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an annual budget is prepared to provide a financial plan to guide the university for the fiscal year, and;

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2015, the Kent State University Board of Trustees adopted an expenditure authorization resolution (2015-46) to permit continuing university operations into the new fiscal year that began July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has completed its budget for fiscal year 2016, which includes directives on the state share of instruction and the establishment of tuition and fees, and;

WHEREAS, revenue projections for the proposed FY2016 university budget include tuition and fee changes previously approved by the Board of Trustees in resolutions 2015-44 and 2015-45, which are consistent with the final State of Ohio budget directives; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the Kent Campus provides for an undergraduate enrollment increase of 1.4%, resulting primarily from increased first-year retention of undergraduate students and an increase of 180 students or 3% in graduate enrollment over the current year; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the Regional Campuses provides for a decline of 1.4% in enrollment from the current year; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the College of Podiatric Medicine contains the prior approved increase of 4% in fees along with an enrollment increase of 13 students or 3%; and

WHEREAS, the state appropriations budget has been estimated at a 5.5% increase over the prior year actual to reflect the impact of Kent State's favorable performance metrics; and

WHEREAS, the continuing priorities of the university are reflected in this budgeted projection including increased investments in student scholarships and other financial aid, academic programs, technology, library collections, international programs; anticipated cost increases in employee health insurance,

and reallocations to provide funding for debt service lost from the changes in the tuition plateaus; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides for salary increases negotiated with represented faculty and staff as well as a 2% salary increase pool for unrepresented employees; and

WHEREAS, university management has identified reserves to be held to ensure that the university's budget is balanced awaiting the final outcomes of enrollment, state appropriations and collective bargaining; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2015-16.

*AMENDMENT OF PAY STRUCTURE FOR UNREPRESENTED CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE STAFF*

Trustee Colecchi noted that the committee recommended approval to provide compensation adjustments for the unrepresented classified civil service staff that are not in a recognized bargaining unit. These recommended changes in pay structures are reasonable and necessary to allow the university to continue to progressively build the compensation structure to remain consistent with local market changes. If approved, the rates would be effective with the pay period inclusive of September 1, 2015.

**Resolution 2015-59**

**AMENDMENT OF PAY STRUCTURE  
FOR UNREPRESENTED CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE STAFF**

WHEREAS, Section 3345.31 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes the Board of Trustees of Kent State University to establish compensation plans, including pay structures for all employees not represented in a bargaining unit, and to establish rules or policies for the administration of the compensation plans; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees authorized a compensation plan for classified civil service staff, who are not in a recognized bargaining unit, effective June 30, 1991; and

WHEREAS, the pay structure associated with the plan is reviewed and amended periodically to reflect changes in economic and market conditions; and

WHEREAS, the attached pay structure has been recommended by the Interim Vice President for Human Resources and approved by the President; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Policy 3342-6-07.2 Regarding the compensation plan for classified civil service staff who are not in a recognized bargaining unit requires that the Board of Trustees of Kent State University authorize this amendment to the pay structure for Unrepresented Classified Civil Service Staff, on behalf of the university; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached Pay Structures for Unrepresented Classified Civil Service Staff, effective with the pay period inclusive of September 1, 2015, and the Classified Unrepresented Civil Service Pay Structure Addendum Market Adjusted Hiring Rates, effective the same date.

*DESIGNATION OF MAY 4 SITE AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK*

Trustee Colecchi noted that the proposed resolution seeks approval to support in principle the nomination of the May 4 Site on the Kent Campus as a National Historic Landmark. Designation as a National Historic Landmark focuses attention on properties of exceptional value to the nation, and encouraging long-range preservation of such properties that illustrate or commemorate the history of the United States. If approved, the resolution also authorizes the Chair of the Board of Trustees to write a letter on behalf of the body to the National Park Service expressing the board's support for the National Historic Landmark designation.

**Resolution 2015-60**

**DESIGNATION OF MAY 4 SITE AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC  
LANDMARK**

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2009, the Kent State University Board of Trustees approved a resolution that supported listing the May 4 site on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2010, the Secretary of the Interior recognized the May 4, 1970, Kent State Shootings Site at the national level of significance in the National Register of Historic Places, acknowledging the site as a property associated with events that made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of U.S. history and as a property achieving exceptional significance within the last 50 years; and

WHEREAS, designation as a National Historic Landmark focuses attention on properties of exceptional value to the nation as a whole, encouraging long-range preservation of nationally significant properties that illustrate or commemorate the history of the United States; and



WHEREAS, the Kent State May 4 Shootings Site meets National Historic Landmark Criterion 1 and was recommended for this designation by the Ohio Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, designation as a National Historic Landmark will provide a capstone to institutionalizing the history of May 4; and

WHEREAS, the application for National Historic Landmark designation is being prepared by a dedicated group of current and emeriti faculty in coordination with the May 4 Visitors Center leadership and carries the endorsement of the President and the Provost; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees supports in principle the nomination of the May 4 Site as a National Historic Landmark and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Trustees to write a letter on behalf of the body to the National Park Service expressing the board's support for the National Historic Landmark designation.

*APPROVAL OF AIRPORT MASTER PLAN PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN TO THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) FOR APPROVAL*

Trustee Colecchi noted that on May 6, 2004, the Board of Trustees approved a master plan and recommendation to decommission the Kent State University Airport and transfer air operations to a nearby airport. Subsequently the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) did not accept the recommendation due to previous grant assurances from the university. In 2012 an updated master plan study was initiated for the Kent State University Airport that has resulted in proposed alternatives for the future of the airport including a sustainability assessment.

The proposed resolution seeks approval of the recommended alternative 2-A, resulting from the master plan commenced in 2012, including submission of the associated airport layout plan to the FAA for approval, he reported.

**Resolution 2015-61**

**APPROVAL OF AIRPORT MASTER PLAN PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN TO THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) FOR APPROVAL**

WHEREAS, Kent State University operates a general aviation airport in Stow, Ohio, as a public-use facility and for the benefit of the aeronautics program in the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2004, the Kent State University Board of Trustees approved the 2001-2004 master plan and recommendation to decommission the Kent State University Airport and transfer air operations to a nearby airport; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) did not subsequently accept the recommendation to decommission the airport because it would conflict with earlier grant assurances from the university that the airport would remain open and in public use; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) provided funding for the completion of an Updated Airport Master Plan Study for the Kent State University airport; and

WHEREAS, the master plan process included an assessment of existing airport conditions, forecast of aviation activity, determination of improvements or upgrades necessary to accommodate current and future demand, and identification and evaluation of alternatives for the future of the airport including a sustainability assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Airport Master Plan Steering Team has recommended approval of *Alternative 2-A: Improve to FAA design standards for an Airport Reference Code (ARC) of A-1*, which balances the need to accommodate the academic mission with providing community programs and benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby acknowledges the completion of the current master planning process and is taking this action to supersede Resolution 2004-27, approved on May 6, 2004 recommending the decommissioning of the airport; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees approves the aforementioned preferred alternative (2-A) resulting from the master plan commenced in 2012 and authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to submit the associated airport layout plan to the FAA for approval.

*APPROVAL OF RENOVATIONS TO THE MACC ANNEX ATHLETIC TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACILITY*

Trustee Colecchi noted the committee recommends approval to repurpose portions of the Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center (MACC) Annex. The recommended proposal for the Annex creates space that will better suit the training and academic needs of the Athletic Training and Education Center, he said. If approved, construction would begin in early 2016 with all work completed for the start of the Fall 2016 academic and athletic calendars.

## **Resolution 2015-62**

### **APPROVAL OF RENOVATIONS TO THE MACC ANNEX ATHLETIC TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACILITY**

WHEREAS, the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design facility will be open for the start of Fall Semester 2016, presenting an opportunity to repurpose space within the Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center (MACC) Annex currently used as architect design studios; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State Athletic Training and Education Center (Center) is currently located in the existing Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center; and

WHEREAS, the existing center is in an area that is undersized for the program and is inaccessible without traversing steps and narrow hallways; and

WHEREAS, a relocation to the design studio space in the MACC Annex would allow the Center to operate in a larger space that better suits its training and academic needs; and

WHEREAS, the new center will have the amenities and private medical exam rooms appropriate for the athletic training and education programs; and

WHEREAS, the estimated project cost of \$3 million will be supported by university funds designated for facilities; and

WHEREAS, the design, bidding, and construction of these projects 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.

### *APPROVAL OF RENOVATIONS TO KORB HALL*

Trustee Colecchi presented a resolution seeking approval to address deferred maintenance issues in Korb Hall. If approved, the proposed project will address the aging building envelope including replacement of the roof, windows, and major repairs to the masonry and window lintels. In addition, individual rooms will undergo a complete renovation and finish upgrade. The majority of the work will be completed during the summer 2016 recess in classes, he said.

### **Resolution 2015-63**

#### **APPROVAL OF RENOVATIONS TO KORB HALL**

WHEREAS, during the past four years, Kent State University's Department of Residence Services strategically has invested in renovations and improvements to reduce deferred maintenance within the residence halls, following the guidelines outlined in facility reviews and master plans completed in 2008 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, Korb Hall, constructed in 1964, is home to 220 students and 14 full-time Residence Services staff; and

WHEREAS, the university wishes to continue the improvements by replacing the Korb Hall roof, the 50-year-old mechanical systems and windows, and providing resident room improvements throughout the building; and

WHEREAS, Residence Services has set aside \$7 million in facility maintenance funding for the improvements required within the project scope; and

WHEREAS, the design, bidding, and construction of these projects 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.

#### *APPROVAL OF PROPERTY ACQUISITION 212 NORTH LINCOLN STREET, KENT, OHIO*

Trustee Colecchi also presented a resolution seeking approval to acquire property at 212 North Lincoln Street, City of Kent. This property has high strategic value to the university due to its proximity to the Lester A. Lefton Esplanade and the new building for the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. If approved, the property will be developed for additional university parking in the area.

### **Resolution 2015-64**

#### **APPROVAL OF PROPERTY ACQUISITION 212 NORTH LINCOLN STREET, KENT, OHIO**

WHEREAS, Kent State University has identified areas of interest for the expansion of the Kent Campus for purposes of enhancing academic, athletic, recreational, and residential programs; and

WHEREAS, the property owned by Rosemary S. and Edwin R. Ede, located at 212 North Lincoln, Kent, Ohio 44240, Parcel ID 17-024-33-00-133-000, has been appraised by an independent appraiser at \$175,000, which is equal to the purchase price of \$175,000; and

WHEREAS, the property has high strategic value to the development of additional university parking and is available for purchase; and

WHEREAS, funding will be provided by the university's real estate fund for this acquisition; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of authorization by the Board of Trustees to purchase the property listed below, the required approvals will be sought from the State of Ohio; 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 and conclude the purchase of property at 212 North Lincoln, Kent, Ohio, for the total sum of \$175,000.

*APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR MEDICAL AND VISION BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION, FULLY-INSURED DENTAL BENEFITS, AND MEDICAL AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG CLAIMS STOP-LOSS INSURANCE*

Chair Colecchi presented the committee's recommendation that the university enter into contracts for the provision of medical benefits administrative services and stop-loss insurance, vision benefits administrative services, and dental insurance for a fixed term of three years, as presented in the resolution below.

**Resolution 2015-65**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR MEDICAL AND VISION BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION, FULLY-INSURED DENTAL BENEFITS, AND MEDICAL AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG CLAIMS STOP-LOSS INSURANCE**

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 desires to provide medical and vision benefits administrative services and dental benefits insurance coverage for its employees

and their eligible dependents effective January 1, 2016, as well as to secure stop-loss insurance for the university for medical and prescription drug claims; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by the Kent State University procurement department, Medical Mutual of Ohio, Anthem, EyeMed, and Delta Dental provided the proposals with the best overall values; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these services is a three-year fixed term with an aggregate total cost of approximately \$25.24 million; 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 contracts with Medical Mutual of Ohio and Anthem for the provision of medical benefits administrative services and stop-loss insurance, EyeMed for vision benefits administrative services, and Delta Dental for dental insurance for a fixed term of three years in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

*APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR AGENCY-OF-RECORD*

Trustee Colecchi recommended Board ratification of the selection of the firm 160over90 as the institution's agency-of-record for planning and implementation of key strategies, student recruitment materials, advertising, marketing and other purposes for the university system as a whole. If approved, the initial contract would be three years, with the potential of two, one-year extensions, for a total of five years.

**Resolution 2015-66**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR AGENCY-OF-RECORD**

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 agency-of-record for planning and implementation of key strategies, content and collateral materials for student recruitment, university communications, marketing, advertising and other institutional purposes for the Kent State system as a whole, its eight campuses, and specific academic and administrative units; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the expiration of the prior agency-of-record agreement, the Kent State University procurement department issued a request for proposal, to which the firm 160over90 was determined to have submitted the proposal with the best overall value; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these services, not including subsequent media expenditures, is a three-year initial term of \$2.332 million, with the potential of two, one-year extensions at \$583,000 each year (to be negotiated at time of renewal) and to the extent possible including goods and services locally produced; 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 160over90 for three years, plus a university option to renew up to two additional one-year periods, in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

*APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION AND ACCESS MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY AND RELATED IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES*

Trustee Colecchi also reported the committee recommended the selection of a vendor for identity authentication and access management technology, and related implementation services for a fixed three-year term, as described in the resolution below.

**Resolution 2015-67**

**APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION FOR IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION AND ACCESS MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY AND RELATED IMPLEMENTATION 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 desires to acquire the most current version of software for identity authentication and access management and the related implementation services; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by the Kent State University procurement department, Oracle America, Inc. provided the proposal with the best overall value; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these services is a three-year fixed term of \$1.091 million to be funded by the Division of Information Services; 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 Oracle America, Inc. for identity and access management technology and implementation services for three years in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

*APPROVAL OF SITE IMPROVEMENTS TO KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT ASHTABULA*

On behalf of the committee, Trustee Colecchi recommended Board approval of proposed site improvements at the Ashtabula Campus. He explained that the campus has grown since 1968 to include four separate buildings and multiple entries to the campus. If approved, the proposed project will create a more distinctive boulevard entry combining the existing two entrances into one, as well as redevelop the east parking lot creating a buffer between the campus and adjacent private homes.

**Resolution 2015-68**

**APPROVAL OF SITE IMPROVEMENTS TO  
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT ASHTABULA**

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula Campus, constructed in 1968, included a primary entrance on Lake Road and a secondary entrance on Atlantic Street; and

WHEREAS, the campus has grown to include four separate buildings and multiple entries to the campus; and

WHEREAS, with administration's support, the campus desires to create a more distinctive boulevard entry on Lake Road, that would combine the existing two entrances into one; and

WHEREAS, the existing east parking lot will be milled and resurfaced and landscaped to establish a buffer between the campus and adjacent private homes; and

WHEREAS, the Ashtabula Campus has assembled \$1.775 million from a variety of funding sources including state capital allocations (\$1 million from HB 497), donations (\$500,000), local development grant (\$100,000) and campus facilities reserves (\$175,00); and

WHEREAS, the design, bidding, and construction of these projects 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.

*ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 3342-9-01.4 REGARDING ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SECURITY*

Trustee Colecchi noted that the committee also was provided with information regarding a new administrative policy regarding electronic information security, effective Aug. 1. All computer systems accessing or storing institutional data or operating on the university network must meet the information security standards as defined or otherwise referenced in the policy. This policy applies to the entire university community and all third-party companies acting on behalf of Kent State University.

Trustee Colecchi also noted that Trustee Della Ratta provided a report from the July 20, 2015 meeting of the Investment Committee.

With that, Trustee Colecchi concluded the Finance and Administration Committee report.

Chair Eckart thanked Trustee Colecchi and the committee members for their detailed and dedicated due diligence in their work.

**ACTION: There were no objections to placing the management decision items on the consent agenda.**

**ACTION: Trustee Pollock moved, seconded by Trustee Copeland, that the consent agenda be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Eckart called on President Warren, to present a resolution endorsing the shared vision statement as presented in the Committee of the Whole session.

*APPROVAL OF A SHARED VISION STATEMENT*

President Warren thanked members of the Kent State community who participated in the strategic visioning process during the past six months. The process, led by the broad-based Strategic Visioning Advisory Committee (SVAC) and with the assistance of partner firm 160over90, has produced a shared vision statement for adoption by the Board of Trustees. She described each element of the statement – *To be a community of change agents whose collective commitment to learning sparks epic thinking, meaningful voice and invaluable outcomes to better our society.*

## **Resolution 2015-69**

### **ENDORSEMENT OF SHARED VISION STATEMENT**

WHEREAS, since her arrival at Kent State University in July 2014, President Beverly Warren has worked with trustees, senior leadership, faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, and the broader community in articulating a shared vision for Kent State; and

WHEREAS, in March 2015 she appointed a broad-based Strategic Visioning Advisory Committee (SVAC) to conduct an environmental assessment of Kent State's strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results (SOAR) and to develop a draft vision statement, draft core values and draft strategic priorities reflecting the university community's best thinking and highest aspirations for Kent State; and

WHEREAS, through a series of discovery interviews, strategic discussions, a BeBoldKSU campaign, a system-wide town hall meeting and additional qualitative and quantitative research, nearly 5,000 responses have been received to date; and

WHEREAS, the draft vision statement has shown great traction with key stakeholder groups both in terms of the importance of the concepts elaborated therein and in Kent State's performance against those concepts; and

WHEREAS, the final draft of the vision statement, as recommended by President Warren for endorsement by the Board of Trustees, is – To be a community of change agents whose collective commitment to learning sparks epic thinking, meaningful voice, and invaluable outcomes to better our society; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby endorses the proposed vision statement to guide the university for the foreseeable future.

**ACTION: Trustee Copeland moved, seconded by Trustee Della Ratta, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.**

#### *REPORTING OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE*

Board Chair Eckart asked Committee Chair Margot Copeland to present the report of the Nominating Committee.

Trustee Copeland thanked the 2014-2015 Board leadership – Chair Dennis Eckart, Vice Chair Stephen Colecchi and Secretary Richard Marsh – for their outstanding service during a time of transition in institutional leadership.

She explained that in completing its duties, the committee reviewed the tenures of the last five board chairs and the board's practices in selecting its leadership. After due consideration the Nominating Committee determined that longevity as a practice is essential for the Board Chair, and the group endorsed the continuation of the Board Chair serving a two-year term as an essential condition for the position.

The Nominating Committee proposed the slate for the 2015-16 Officers of the Board as follows:

Chair: Dennis Eckart, President of North Shore Associates

Vice Chair: Lawrence Pollock, Owner of Lucky Stars Partners

Secretary: Richard Marsh, Retired Senior Vice President and CFO, FirstEnergy

**ACTION: Trustee Colecchi moved, and seconded by Trustee Della Ratta, that the Report of the Nominating Committee be accepted. There were no objections. The motion passed.**

Chair Eckart and Trustee Pollock both thanked the Board and expressed their appreciation for the Board's work, dedication, and service.

Chair Eckart announced the Board Committee leadership for the 2015-16 year as follows: Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Margot J. Copeland, Chair; Audit and Compliance Committee, Richard Marsh, Chair; Finance and Administration Committee, Stephen Colecchi, Chair; External Relations and Development Committee, Lawrence Pollock, Chair; Investment Committee, Ralph Della Ratta, Chair; Compensation Workgroup, Ralph Della Ratta, Chair; Special Committee on Board Governance, Virginia Albanese, Chair; Nominating Committee, Margot Copeland, Chair. He asked Trustee Della Ratta to serve as the Board's representative to the Kent State University Foundation Board of Directors, with Trustee Steve Perry as alternate.

Board Chair Eckart then turned to the final item of new business – a proposed resolution of appreciation to Gregg Floyd, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration. Trustee Eckart noted that the resolution is a well-deserved thank you to a university leader who has had a huge positive impact on both Kent State and the City of Kent over the past eight years. He emphasized that this is a thank-you and not a good-bye just yet. Reflecting his deep commitment to the well-being of town and gown, Senior Vice President Floyd gave notice last spring of his plans to retire June 30, 2016, so there would be ample time to select and transition in a successor in this critical role. That search is well underway, according to Chair Eckart, and it is likely that his successor will be named before the next Board meeting in December. Rather than wait until the end of the year, now seems like the right time for the Board to formally express its appreciation for Senior Vice President Floyd's outstanding contributions to Kent State and the City of Kent, he said.

Chair Eckart then called on Trustee Colecchi to present a proposed resolution of appreciation on behalf of the Board.

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO GREGG S. FLOYD*

Trustee Colecchi then read the resolution below and recommended Board approval of the resolution.

**Resolution 2015-70**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO GREGG S. FLOYD**

WHEREAS, a native and proud Hoosier, Gregg S. Floyd held progressively responsible leadership roles in business and finance for three decades at Indiana State University and Indiana University Bloomington, where he earned his juris doctor as well as master's and bachelor's degrees in business; and

WHEREAS, he joined Kent State as Vice President for Finance and Administration on Sept. 15, 2008, which proved to be momentous as he shepherded the institution capably through a time of great instability in global credit markets and a great recession; and

WHEREAS, as Kent State's chief financial and operations officer, he has continued its reputation for financial stability and fiscal management, earning him promotion to senior vice president in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Senior Vice President Floyd's accomplishments have included executing the historic Foundations of Excellence capital plan, working with trustees to strengthen investment strategies, continuing the university's leadership in campus safety and emergency preparedness, expanding energy and other efficiency initiatives, and perhaps most enduring of all, advancing town-gown relations and developments including the revitalization of downtown Kent; and

WHEREAS, on a personal level his compassion for others, keen and often irreverent insights, fervor for KSU baseball, devotion to restoring vintage Corvettes, daily ritual of holding court at the local McDonald's, and encyclopedic recall of TV and movie one-liners have made him a classic in his own right; and

WHEREAS, reflecting his deep commitment to the wellbeing of Kent State, he is facilitating an effective transition in the instrumental role of senior vice president, and will assist the president on special projects and his successor's onboarding until his retirement June 30, 2016; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to Gregg S. Floyd for his significant contributions to Kent State

University and takes this opportunity to wish Gregg and his wife Janet great contentment and joy when they begin a new chapter in their lives next summer.

**ACTION: Trustee Colecchi moved, and seconded by Trustee Eckart, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.**

Senior Vice President Floyd expressed his appreciation for the recognition, and shared how Kent State and the City of Kent had become a family to him.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With that, Chair Eckart announced there was no additional business to come before the Board.

Chair Eckart announced that the next regular business meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2015.

On motion duly made and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.