CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Ralph Della Ratta called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Urban Conference Room. Trustee Margot Copeland called the roll, and a quorum was present.

PROOF OF NOTICE

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Preceding meetings of the Board standing committees, the Board convened at 8:30 a.m. for the purposes of executive session. Chair Della Ratta announced 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) consideration of the appointment, 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)]; (iii) conference with attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of court action [121.22 (G)(3)]; (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 Addicott moved, seconded by Trustee Mason, that the Board retire into Executive Session. Board Secretary Copeland took a roll call vote of the membership. By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the Board adjourned into Executive Session. The session concluded at 10:30 a.m.

The Board then held meetings of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee, External Relations and Development Committee, and the Finance and Administration Committee. Following the committee meetings, the Board participated in a luncheon program.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Board reconvened for the business portion of the meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the Urban Conference Room of the Library. Before the consideration of the agenda, Chair Della Ratta recognized several individuals who were in attendance beginning with President-elect Todd Diacon; Dr. Sharon Petro, a special guest of President Warren; two individuals who will be honored with resolutions under new business – Dr. Laura Davis and Herb Page; Dr. Pam Grimm, chair of the Faculty Senate; and Nora Jacobs, chair of the Kent State University Foundation Board of Directors.

He then moved to approval of the agenda, noting one addition: consideration of the annual review of the President as an item of new business. Chair Della Ratta asked if there were any further changes to the agenda. Hearing no additional corrections or additions, the agenda was adopted by general consent.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES

Chair Della Ratta then asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the March 6, 2019, business meeting of the Board, or the special meetings of April 15, 2019, and April 29, 2019. Hearing none the minutes were approved by general consent.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Della Ratta began his report, observing that this was a very historic, important and bittersweet meeting. It was the Board’s final regular business meeting of the year as well as the last under the leadership of President Beverly Warren, he said. In this spirit, he felt compelled to focus his remarks on gratitudes and recognitions. Chair Della Ratta thanked and congratulated President Warren, the faculty, staff and students for another terrific, truly unbelievable year for Kent State. The university has made great progress toward its Strategic Roadmap – a consistent theme heard throughout all of the Board’s meetings and interactions that day. He noted that the capstone of the year will be the Spring Commencement exercises that Friday and Saturday, featuring President Warren as the keynote speaker for the One University Commencement and Trustee Jessica Peck as a Ph.D. recipient. He congratulated them and all who would be honored that weekend.
Chair Della Ratta shared that the high quality and high motivation of Kent State students was on display during the Board’s luncheon program, as trustees met students who have brought high national distinction to the university as recipients of Goldwater, Fulbright and Critical Languages awards and scholarships and as members of the university’s student management investment fund team, which won the grand prize in their national competition the very first time in which a Kent State team competed. He congratulated the students and their faculty advisors for their accomplishments and thanked them for taking time out of their busy finals week schedules to join the trustees and administration.

Chair Della Ratta then recognized legendary Kent State head golf coach Herb Page. While the Board will formally approve a resolution of appreciation for Coach Page later in the meeting, he had to drop in for a few minutes before the Golden Flashes men’s golf team departed for the NCAA Regionals in Poland, Washington. Chair Della Ratta praised Coach Page for his unparalleled accomplishments in college golf and for establishing Kent State as a premier and perennial top-10 program in both men’s and women’s golf. Chair Della Ratta then called on Trustee Solomon who wanted to make a few remarks. Trustee Solomon reminisced about his college friendship with Herb Page and his wife Paula Treckel and praised him as an exemplar of the distinctiveness of Kent State University. Coach Page thanked the trustees for their kind words, noting that Kent State has been dear to his heart since he walked on the campus 49 years ago, in September 1970. He said it was an honor and privilege to serve 41 years as the university’s head golf coach and thanked everyone at Kent State University, over the years, with whom he has worked and the trustees for this recognition.

Chair Della Ratta continued with a few more recognitions. He thanked President Warren and the university community for providing another meaningful commemoration of the events of May 4, 1970, and Trustee Solomon for his leadership in planning for the 50th commemoration in 2020. He congratulated Vice President Charlene Reed, who in April received the 2019 Outstanding Board Professional Award from the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB). He also recognized and thanked Nora Jacobs for her dedicated leadership of the Kent State Foundation Board of Directors during the past two years, for her partnership with the Board of Trustees, and for her outstanding service on the Presidential Search Committee.

Ms. Jacobs said she would be concluding her term as chair of the Foundation Board in June, so regrettably this would be her last meeting with the trustees. She said it has been a fantastic experience working with the Board of Trustees, and she was grateful for the opportunity. She thanked both boards for forging a closer relationship in the advancement of Kent State.

Chair Della Ratta then called on President Warren to give her report.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Warren thanked Chair Della Ratta, stating that it was hard to believe that she was presenting her final report to the Board of Trustees. She has continued to be amazed at the incredible capacity of this university community to really change lives in communities, which is first and foremost what drives us all. Reflecting back on the past five years, she remarked that
change and impact do not occur from one driving force or one administrative decree. It actually occurs as a result of caring people really wanting to make a difference and not focusing on who gets the credit, she said.

Just as she did at her first Board meeting in September 2014, President Warren said she wanted to use her President’s Report to recognize some of those shining stars within the university community who make a difference in remarkable ways. She said in her 40-year career, she has never seen a community like Kent State that comes together, with students and faculty working together to make a difference. She then shared many examples of that excellence from across the Kent State system and recognized a number of the audience members from the student body, faculty, staff and administration. Among those individuals and programs cited: the Walls Community Garden that was launched by a course in public health practice in the College of Public Health; the Campus Kitchen and lecturer Cindy Widuck for fighting food scarcity on and off campus; senior lecturer Lorene Martin who takes students and colleagues to learn from their interactions with the Oglala Lakota Sioux tribe in South Dakota; Goldwater award-winners Gracen Gerbig and Hayley Shasteen and some of their faculty and staff mentors including Dean Alison Smith, Frank Congin, Dr. Tara Smith and Dr. Rachel Blasiman; Dr. Todd Diacon, Dr. Melody Tankersley, Dr. Mandy Munro-Stasiuk, Dr. Eboni Pringle, Dr. Marcello Fantoni and all of the talented deans all across the Kent Campus and the regional campuses; Dr. Shay Little and Dr. Lamar Hylton for their work with students and student organizations; Dr. Mark Polatajko and his team, particularly Michael Bruder and Doug Pearson, for their leadership in facilities management and maintenance; Dr. Nate Ritchey and the regional campuses deans, faculty and staff for their commitment to their communities as well as our shared mission as one university; and Dr. Pam Grimm and all those who work together in a system of shared governance, accepting the collective responsibility for the furtherance of Kent State University.

President Warren said she was so proud to be a part of a committed and dedicated university leadership team, and she thanked the members of the President’s Cabinet for their hard work and caring leadership. She further remarked that Kent State wouldn’t be where it is today without a committed Board of Trustees. She commented that this Board has been committed to the Kent State spirit and vitality, and she was so grateful that they continue to lead with great stewardship. She thanked trustees for their leadership over the past five years and for a beautiful, memorable, five years for her as well.

Chair Della Ratta thanked President Warren for her report.

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Chair Della Ratta asked President Warren to present the personnel actions.

President Warren called on Executive Vice President and Provost Todd Diacon to present the academic personnel actions. He noted that the personnel items generally were routine in nature, but he wanted to call attention to two items: the hiring of Dr. Neil Cooper as the inaugural director of the School of Peace and Conflict Studies and the retirement of Dr. David Riccio. Dr. Cooper joined Kent State from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom, where he led
peace studies and international development. Dr. Ricco joined the university’s faculty in September 1965 and taught continuously here for 54 years. In all but four of those 54 years, he held external funding for his research on memory and memory loss, Dr. Diacon noted.

President Warren called on Senior Vice President Mark Polatajko to present the non-academic personnel actions. He stated that all non-academic personnel actions are routine in nature.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Chair Della Ratta proceeded with reports and recommendations by the Board’s standing committees. He stated that committee recommendations would be placed on the consent agenda and acted upon in one motion unless any trustee asked to remove an item for further discussion. If there were no objections, the resolutions would be added to the consent agenda by general consent.

Chair Della Ratta then called upon Trustee Kilbride to present the report of the External Relations and Development Committee.

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kilbride reported the External Relations and Development Committee met earlier that day to consider two proposed naming actions and to receive updates on government relations and campaign planning and fundraising. Both naming actions were approved and recommended for placement on the consent agenda, she said.

**NAMING OF THE FEDEX AERONAUTICS ACADEMIC CENTER**

The first item for Board action was the proposed naming of the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center in recognition of the company’s gifts totaling $6.5 million that fully met the construction costs of this facility, she said. The aeronautics program has grown 55% since 2010 and additional substantial enrollment increases are anticipated, she reported. The new facility will increase the program’s capacity to enroll students to meet the growing demand for pilots. She noted that the recommendation had the support of the College of Aeronautics and Engineering, the Division of Institutional Advancement and the President, and is consistent with university naming policy.

**Resolution 2019-16**

**NAMING OF THE FEDEX AERONAUTICS ACADEMIC CENTER**

WHEREAS, the FedEx Corporation is a global courier delivery services company that provides a diverse portfolio of transportation, e-commerce and business services; and
WHEREAS, the company’s massive air, ground and sea networks cover more than 220 countries and territories through its fleet of 679 aircraft, more than 180,000 motorized vehicles and air and ocean freight services, and FedEx has more than 450,000 employees worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the FedEx Corporation is committed to actively supporting the communities it serves through strategic investment of its people, resources and networks; and

WHEREAS, Kent State’s comprehensive aeronautics program is recognized as one of the top five in the U.S., and was named the nation’s best all-around collegiate aviation program by the National Intercollegiate Flying Association; and

WHEREAS, FedEx recognizes Kent State’s reputation for forging industry relationships to enable graduates to fulfill flight requirements and to enter the workforce quickly and fully prepared; and

WHEREAS, Kent State proposed a new 18,000 square-foot airport academic building to increase the program’s capacity to enroll students commensurate with industry demand and to provide modern learning facilities that match the program’s excellence; and

WHEREAS, FedEx made an initial gift of $1.5 million in 2016 to enable the design of the new facility, and subsequently made an additional commitment of $5 million in 2018 to fully fund the construction of the facility; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the College of Aeronautics and Engineering and the current and future students who will benefit from the facility, expresses deep appreciation to the FedEx Corporation for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center at the Kent State University Airport.

NAMING OF THE PERANTINIDES AND NOLAN NEWSROOM

Trustee Kilbride then presented the committee’s recommendation of the naming of the Perantinides and Nolan Newsroom in the WKSU facility. This action recognized a $220,000 commitment from Paul Perantinides, who has been a donor, volunteer and advocate of WKSU for more than 21 years. The recommendation had the support of WKSU 89.7, the Division of Institutional Advancement and the President, and is consistent with university naming policy.
Resolution 2019-17

NAMING OF THE PERANTINIDES AND NOLAN NEWSROOM

WHEREAS, Paul G. Perantinides recognizes Kent State University’s WKSU 89.7 as a leader in independent journalism and public media excellence in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perantinides has devoted more than 21 years of his life to championing independent media and public radio in service to WKSU through volunteerism, advocacy and philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, in his 50-year career as an attorney, he has been committed to preserving the rights, advocating for causes and principles, pursuing the truth and promoting justice; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perantinides has been a valued member of WKSU’s Community Advisory Council for 21 years; and

WHEREAS, The Perantinides and Nolan Newsroom gift will accelerate WKSU’s ambitious work around independent, impactful journalism that enriches the lives of everyone in our Northeast Ohio community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, The Perantinides and Nolan $250,000 gift is transformational for WKSU as this visionary investment will help shape the future of the station; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, on behalf of WKSU 89.7 and the citizens of Northeast Ohio and beyond who benefit from the facility, expresses sincere appreciation to Paul G. Perantinides for his generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names WKSU’s Room 137, The Perantinides and Nolan Newsroom.

The committee also reviewed a state budget update from President Warren and director of government and community relations Nick Gattozzi. Trustee Kilbride said the report was informative and outlined provisions of the recently released substitute budget bill and amendments that impact Kent State University. The current bill is positive for higher education, she said, but work remained to maintain favorable items including proposed increases in the state share of instruction (SSI) and the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) programs. As the bill moves through the legislative process, the university will continue to advocate for current and proposed amendments to benefit our students, Trustee Kilbride observed.
Next, the committee was informed of President Warren’s approval, consistent with university naming policy, of two naming actions honoring donors who have given substantial support for the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center and the MACC Annex projects. Additionally, the committee received an update on year-to-date campaign planning and fundraising from Vice President Steve Sokany. He shared that nearly $65 million was raised as of that time for the campaign’s students first priority. He also informed the committee that the Division of Institutional Advancement continued to focus on raising private support for the featured projects as well as the top five priorities of the colleges and campuses. He reported that as of May 8, 2019, the university had booked gifts totaling $24.3 million, compared with $24.2 million at the same time last year. He also noted the amount of cash received in new gifts and pledge payments was $4 million greater than at the same time the previous year and had already exceeded the amount of cash received for all of fiscal year 2018. He shared that, based on some significant commitments that would not be realized by June 30, overall results for the year would fall short of the stated annual fundraising goal of $45 million.

With that, Trustee Kilbride concluded her report on behalf of the External Relations and Development Committee.

Chair Della Ratta stated that Trustee Addicott asked that the naming of the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center be pulled from the consent agenda for a separate vote.

**ACTION:** Trustee Riley moved, seconded by Trustee Davidson, that the naming of the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed, with Trustee Addicott abstaining.

Chair Della Ratta announced the naming of the FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center was approved and the proposed naming of the WKSU newsroom would remain on the consent agenda for general consent.

Chair Della Ratta then called on Trustee Copeland to report on the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Copeland thanked Chair Della Ratta, her fellow board members and all present. She stated that the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee met that morning, and there were no management decision items that required board approval.

Trustee Copeland said the committee received four extraordinary presentations, the first of which was from Vice President for Enrollment Management Mary Parker. She gave the committee a thorough update on strategic enrollment management. Associate Provost for Academic Affairs Mandy Munro-Stasiuk informed the committee of the university’s affordable course materials initiative, which provides multiple pathways to assist students in meeting the financial burden and challenges of securing course materials and textbooks. Senior Associate Provost and
Graduate Studies Dean Melody Tankersley and University College Dean Eboni Pringle provided the committee with a detailed report on efforts to enhance student success in large enrollment courses. Finally, Vice President for Student Affairs Shay Little provided a report on the priorities and accomplishments of the Division of Student Affairs. Trustee Copeland concluded her report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Copeland for her leadership. He then called on Trustee Perry to report on the meeting of the Audit and Compliance Committee.

**AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Perry stated that the Audit and Compliance Committee met that morning. The committee reviewed internal audit activities as well as heard a report on research compliance. He was pleased to report there were no significant audit findings in the internal audit work completed during the third quarter, which runs from January through March 2019. Director of Internal Audit Jo Ann Gustafson also outlined the various internal audit projects planned for fiscal year 2020.

Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs Paul DiCorleto, Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Lori Burchard, and University Controller Tammy Slusser presented a report on university audit activity to ensure compliance in sponsored programs. Kent State is seeing significant growth in the number of sponsored programs, he said. In the current fiscal year, 598 proposals were submitted, of which 295 were granted. Dr. DiCorleto told the committee that Kent State has achieved a good success rate when considering that funders, such as the National Institutes of Health, sometimes award only 10% of requests received. With some 450 active projects last year totalling $48.2 million, the university is now dealing with a volume more than double what it was just four years ago. Dr. DiCorleto had observed. Trustee Perry noted that the team’s work is to make sure that principal investigators follow all rules and regulations prescribed by the funding agencies as well as policies of the university. He commented that the team provided a very good report, and that Kent State is well positioned to avoid the types of non-compliance issues that have occurred at other universities nationally.

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

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Perry and called on Trustee Shawn Riley to report on the Finance and Administration Committee.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Riley reported that the Finance and Administration Committee met earlier that day and had seven items to be included on the consent agenda.
EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION, FISCAL YEAR 2020

Trustee Riley began, noting that the Ohio General Assembly continued its work on the State of Ohio biennial operating budget as of that time. As a result of the continuing negotiations, the university was not in the position to set its own budget for fiscal year 2020, he said. Accordingly, the committee recommended that the Board approve an expenditure authorization resolution permitting the President and the university’s chief financial officer to expend monies for educational and general and auxiliary funds beginning July 1, 2019, at the same funding level established for fiscal year 2019.

The resolution also would authorize the President to submit a complete operating budget for fiscal year 2020 to the Board when appropriate information is available from the State of Ohio, he said. Trustee Riley anticipated that the final fiscal year 2020 university budget would be considered at the Board’s September meeting.

Resolution 2019-18

EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION, FISCAL YEAR 2020

WHEREAS, the appropriation and legislative tuition directives from the State of Ohio for higher education have not been finalized at this time; and

WHEREAS, the most recently discussed version of House Bill 166 (the Budget Bill) considers a variety of budget considerations including tuition caps, state share of instruction, and the Ohio College Opportunity Grant; and

WHEREAS, state appropriation, tuition and need-based student aid are critical components of the university budget and must be known prior to preparing a meaningful operating plan; and

WHEREAS, deliberations on the state budget will not be concluded in time to permit Board of Trustees’ action on a final Kent State University budgetary plan for the 2019-20 fiscal year at the Board’s May 9 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees will be included in further planning and development of the fiscal year 2019-20 budget once the final State of Ohio budget has been approved; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University must proceed with its operation into fiscal year 2019-20 and spending authorization is requested through action of the Board; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED, that

(1) The Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the President and the university’s chief financial officer to expend monies from educational and general and auxiliary funds beginning July 1, 2019, at the funding level established by the Board for fiscal year 2018-19; and

(2) The President will submit an operating budget for action by the Board of Trustees when appropriate information is available and a complete operating budget reflecting direction and authority can be prepared. It is anticipated this will occur at the next scheduled Board business meeting.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SurchARGE RATES FOR NON-OHIO RESIDENTS

Trustee Riley recommended Board approval of the continuation of three reductions to the regular surcharge assessed to non-Ohio residents, all of which are set to expire at the end of the current fiscal year. The extension of the reductions would enable Kent State to stay competitive in terms of marketing and pricing through the Spring Semester 2021 and any summer terms that begin prior to June 30, 2021. In addition, the university proposed to add a waiver to the out-of-state surcharge for students who complete the two-year dual enrollment program through Kent State’s American Academy in Brazil, he reported.

Resolution 2019-19

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SurchARGE RATES FOR NON-OHIO RESIDENTS

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 currently has three approved reductions in the regular out-of-state surcharge assessed to non-Ohio residents described below and set to expire at the end of this fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, an 80% waiver of the out-of-state surcharge rate currently applies for students attending regional campuses from specific counties in Pennsylvania and West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the university currently applies a reduced special fee of $10 per credit hour for non-Ohio residents enrolled in fully online programs; and
WHEREAS, a special reduced fee of $10 per credit hour for non-Ohio residents currently enrolled in the English as a Second Language program is applied; and

WHEREAS, the university has reviewed the enrollment impact of the special rates and recommends that they be continued; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University proposes to add a waiver of the out-of-state surcharge, not to exceed 97.5%, for students who have completed the two-year dual enrollment program with PUCPR and now wish to complete a bachelor’s degree at Kent State University; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the continuation of the three out-of-state surcharge rates as noted above and the addition of an out-of-state surcharge rate for students completing the dual-enrollment program through the American Academy in Brazil through Spring Semester 2021 and any summer terms that begin prior to June 30, 2021, subject to any required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF ROOM AND BOARD RATES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2019

Trustee Riley then presented proposed room and board rates to be effective for the Fall 2019 semester. He noted that the university’s housing and dining services operate on a self-sufficient basis with the goal of providing high-quality competitive accommodations and services at an affordable price. The leadership of the dining and housing programs have been diligent to ensure affordable room and board rates, which continue to rank roughly in the middle of residential universities in Ohio. He noted that the double-room rate was proposed to increase by 2.99%, and the board rate was proposed to increase by 3.08%, with a blended rate increase of 3.03%.

Resolution 2019-20

APPROVAL OF ROOM AND BOARD RATES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2019

WHEREAS, it is the intent of Kent State University to operate its residence halls and dining programs on a self-sufficient basis; and

WHEREAS, the residence hall and dining programs are intended to provide quality services at a reasonable price that is competitive in the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees has an interest and responsibility regarding the quality and affordability of housing on the Kent Campus; and
WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees has an interest and responsibility regarding the quality and affordability of dining programs throughout the Kent State University system; and

WHEREAS, increasing costs of operations and reinvestment in facilities necessitate fee adjustments to preserve and improve residence hall and board plan offerings; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended the room and board rates be in effect for all students except students in the Fall 2018 tuition guarantee cohort; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by Residence Services and University Dining Services leadership that the double-room rate be increased by 2.99% and the preponderant board rate be increased by 3.08%, with a blended increase for both room and board of 3.03%; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of room and board rates effective for Fall 2019.

APPROVAL OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES BUILDING ENVELOPE RESTORATION

Next, Trustee Riley presented the committee’s recommendation for approval of restoration and repairs to the Mathematical Sciences Building. He noted that the building is exhibiting signs of water infiltration through its roof and walls, requiring a project that would be completed in three phases. The first phase of construction would be completed during the summer of 2020, with the second and third phases addressed in the fall of 2021 and the summer of 2022 respectively, pending receipt of state capital funding.

Resolution 2019-21

APPROVAL OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES BUILDING ENVELOPE RESTORATION

WHEREAS, the Mathematical Sciences Building is exhibiting signs of water infiltration through its roof and walls; and

WHEREAS, this project will target the most critical components including flashing and wall repairs and restoration, a new roof and other minor sealant repairs associated with the project; and

WHEREAS, the project will be completed in three phases covering a two-year period; and
WHEREAS, Phase I in the amount of $700,000 will be funded from local deferred maintenance funds and Phases II and III, in the amount of $1.4 million, would be funded through the 2021-2022 state biennial capital bill; 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 the design and construction of this project in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-04.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK MAIN HALL ENTRY AND ELEVATOR PROJECT

On behalf of the committee, Trustee Riley requested board approval to increase the project budget for the Kent State University at Stark Main Hall entry and elevator project. In June 2018, the Board approved a $1.6-million project to renovate the Stark Campus main hall elevator. Since that time, competitive bidding of the project exceeded the original estimate by more than $500,000. In addition, the university would like to expand its scope to provide a new fire service waterline to improve the overall long-term safety of the structure, which would require an additional $150,000. The committee reviewed this proposal and recommended that an additional $731,000 be authorized, increasing the total project budget not to exceed $2.31 million.

Resolution 2019-22

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK MAIN HALL ENTRY AND ELEVATOR PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Kent State University at Stark Main Hall entry and elevator project originally was approved by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on June 6, 2018, at a cost of $1.6 million; and

WHEREAS, following competitive bidding of the construction project, the bids submitted exceeded the original estimates by over $500,000; and

WHEREAS, in addition, there is an opportunity to expand the scope of the project to provide a new fire service water line in order to improve the overall long-term safety of the structure; and

WHEREAS, the university wishes to allocate an additional $731,000 to the project, thereby increasing its total budget to $2.31 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 amend the maximum budget for this project as indicated.

APPROVAL OF HVAC PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR THE REGIONAL CAMPUSES

Trustee Riley then noted the current contract for HVAC maintenance at the university’s seven regional campuses would expire at the end of May. Following a competitive bidding process, Gardiner was deemed as providing the best overall value and lowest total cost. The resolution, if approved, would authorize the university to enter into a five-year contract with Gardiner to provide HVAC maintenance services at the Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas campuses at an amount not to exceed $5 million.

Resolution 2019-23

APPROVAL OF HVAC PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR THE REGIONAL CAMPUSES

WHEREAS, Kent State University recognizes a need for contracted HVAC maintenance at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas campuses; and

WHEREAS, requests for qualifications were received from potential vendors on March 4, 2019, for the purpose of providing HVAC maintenance services for the next five years at these campuses; and

WHEREAS, following a comprehensive review of the proposals submitted by potential vendors, Gardiner was deemed to have provided the proposal with the best overall value and most cost-effective approach for delivering HVAC maintenance services at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas campuses for the next five years; 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 five-year contract with Gardiner for HVAC maintenance services at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas campuses not to exceed $5 million.

APPROVAL OF SERVER AND STORAGE EQUIPMENT REFRESH

Trustee Riley presented the final action item, which will meet the university’s requirements for server and storage equipment replacement. Using a competitive bidding process, proposals were sought from a variety of suppliers to refresh and expand IT data service, server and storage equipment and deliver a reliable cost IT infrastructure. The proposal from Dell was deemed the
best overall value, and the proposed resolution sought approval authorizing the university to enter into a five-year agreement not to exceed a total value of $2.5 million, he reported.

Resolution 2019-24

APPROVAL OF SERVER AND STORAGE EQUIPMENT REFRESH

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 server and storage equipment replacement, allowing it to operate effectively; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Information Technology, through the Procurement Department, conducted a competitive bid to determine estimated costs and the most qualified vendor for the provision of server and storage equipment; and

WHEREAS, Dell provided the proposal with the best overall value with an estimated cost not to exceed $2.5 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 execute the refresh plan by entering into a contract with Dell for the provision of replacing aging server and storage equipment for the university, not to exceed $2.5 million, in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

Trustee Riley then stated that all of the proposed action items were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda.

He said the committee also received informational reports on Phase 1 of the Kent Gateway Plan, meetings of the Investment Committee, and administrative policy changes including revisions relating to campus emergencies, safety and security and related technology, and employee moving expenses.

Chair Della Ratta then asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

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

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT

Chair Della Ratta announced that there were several items of new business to come before the board. Given the upcoming presidential transition, the Board of Trustees has completed its annual review of President Warren, he said. Each year, the Board and the President establish presidential goals and actions that will move the university toward its strategic planning priorities and roadmap. They monitor progress towards these goals on a quarterly basis and an annual basis as well. Based on this assessment, he reported that the Board would like to recognize President Warren’s outstanding contributions to the well-being and advancement of Kent State. He commended the university’s progress in a number of important areas including advancing student success, enhancing research, expanding partnerships, planning for the 50th commemoration of May 4, building fundraising campaign attainment, and implementing Phase 1 of the Kent Gateway Plan. Chair Della Ratta presented, on behalf of the Board, the following resolution documenting the outcome of the annual review and the authorization of a 2018-19 performance incentive in the amount of $90,000.

Resolution 2019-25

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees elected Beverly J. Warren as the 12th President of Kent State University, effective July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, her employment agreement as amended May 11, 2016, includes the opportunity for a performance incentive of up to 20 percent of base salary, as determined by the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, her term as President of the University will conclude on June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, given the upcoming presidential transition, the Board has conducted its annual review of progress toward the 2018-19 Presidential Goals and Actions; and

WHEREAS, as a result of that assessment, the Board recognizes President Warren’s outstanding contributions to the well-being and advancement of Kent State and commends the university’s progress in a number of important areas including advancing student success, enhancing research, expanding partnerships, planning for the 50th commemoration of May 4, building fundraising campaign attainment, and implementing Phase 1 of the Kent Gateway Plan; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that President Warren shall receive a 2018-19 performance incentive in the amount of $90,000 effective immediately, and that her employment
shall continue as previously authorized by the Kent State University Board of Trustees.

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

Chair Della Ratta thanked President Warren for her outstanding leadership this year and throughout her tenure at Kent State, noting that further recognition of the president would occur later under new business. He also complimented Dr. Warren upon her presidential portrait, which was formally unveiled April 30 and now hangs in the lobby of the executive offices.

He asked President Warren to present the recommendation to award the President’s Medal to Dr. Laura Davis.

*AWARDING OF THE PRESIDENT’S MEDAL DR. LAURA L. DAVIS*

President Warren remarked that it was her honor to present the resolution for the Board’s approval to award the President’s Medal to Dr. Laura Davis. Dr. Davis certainly meets all criteria for the President’s Medal, which recognizes the contributions of faculty and staff to the advancement of Kent State University through extraordinary and unique service. She noted that the university has awarded the President’s Medal only once since 2008, evidencing the extraordinary nature of this honor. With the Board’s approval, the President’s Medal would be awarded to Dr. Davis at the 2019 One University Commencement ceremony.

**Resolution 2019-26**

**AWARDING OF THE PRESIDENT’S MEDAL TO DR. LAURA L. DAVIS**

*WHEREAS,* as a teacher, scholar and activist, Dr. Laura L. Davis has made an indelible mark on Kent State University and promoted greater understanding of the history, meaning and national significance of the events of May 4, 1970; and

*WHEREAS,* as a Kent State freshman in 1970, her life course was forever changed on that fateful day when she witnessed the shootings of 13 fellow students by the Ohio National Guard, leading her to dedicate much of her life and career to the pursuit of truth and transparency and to the documentation and preservation of the history, memory and lessons of May 4, 1970; and

*WHEREAS,* Dr. Davis joined the university’s faculty in 1977 as a part-time lecturer, advancing through the ranks to Professor of English and Associate Provost before her retirement in 2013; and

*WHEREAS,* her vision to forge a link between vernacular histories of May 4 and institutional history began with her assumption of the teaching of the university’s official course, *May 4 and its Aftermath,* which she team-taught with beloved
colleague, the late Dr. Carole Barbato, a collaboration through which they formed
the idea of creating a permanent, interpretive Visitors Center for the May 4 site,
which became a reality in 2012; and

WHEREAS, as Dr. Davis led development of the May 4 Visitors Center, for which
she served as inaugural director, she took on other initiatives designed to provide
broader education and recognition of the importance of May 4 in our national
history through the site’s listing on the National Register of Historic Places,
creation of a narrated walking tour and designation of the May 4 site as a National
Historic Landmark in 2016 by the National Park Service; 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 President’s Medal to Dr. Laura L.
Davis for elevating understanding of May 4, 1970, as a seminal event in the history
of our university, community and nation, and for contributing immeasurably to the
preservation, remembrance, education and furtherance of its legacy and lessons for
future generations.

ACTION: Trustee Riley moved, seconded by Trustee Davidson, that the resolution be
approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Chair Della Ratta thanked and congratulated Dr. Laura Davis for her immense leadership and all
she has done for Kent State.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO HERB PAGE

Chair Della Ratta continued with consideration of a resolution of appreciation honoring Coach
Herb Page, which had been referenced at the beginning of the meeting. He reminded those
present that Coach Page had to depart for the NCAA Regional tournament with the men’s golf
team. He then called upon Trustee Solomon, who replied that it would be his honor to present
the resolution.

Resolution 2019-27

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO HERB PAGE

WHEREAS, Herb Page came to Kent State in 1970 as a three-sport student-athlete
(golf, football and ice hockey), earning the first of 45 Mid-American Conference
Championship rings as the kicker on the university’s famed 1972 football team and
also the 1974 MAC Scholar Athlete of the Year; and

WHEREAS, over the past four decades he has become one of the nation’s most
respected golf coaches who built a dynasty in the MAC and whose legacy has
grown with each passing year; and
WHEREAS, as head coach for Kent State men’s golf since the fall of 1977, he has achieved an unparalleled record of success including 24 MAC Coach of the Year honors, 24 MAC golf championships, three NCAA Regional titles, 18 NCAA Championship appearances, and four top-10 finishes at the NCAA Championships; and

WHEREAS, as Kent State’s director of golf, he launched the women’s golf program in 1998, which holds the longest win streak by any sport in conference history with 21 consecutive MAC championships, and he developed a top-notch training facility at Kent State that is envied across the country and plays a major role in the recruitment and development of our Golden Flashes; and

WHEREAS, in June 2019, Coach Page will be inducted into the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame, further extending the long list of professional honors and awards he has received throughout his storied career; and

WHEREAS, Coach Page is well known and loved for his dedication, loyalty and heart, serving tirelessly as a mentor to countless student-athletes, fellow coaches, and Kent State alumni on the professional golf tours over the years; and

WHEREAS, Coach Page plans to retire June 30, 2019; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to Coach Herb Page for his extraordinary contributions to Kent State University and wishes Herb and his wife, Dr. Paula Treckel, success, good health and happiness as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

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

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Chair Della Ratta said it was his honor and pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to present the resolution of appreciation to the Presidential Search Committee, which conducted a national search for Kent State University’s 13th president. He remarked that the committee did an outstanding job, resulting in the selection of Dr. Todd A. Diacon, who will assume the presidency on July 1, 2019. He thanked Trustee Riley for his leadership as chair of the search committee and expressed gratitude to trustees Addicott and Davidson for their service as representatives of the trustees.
Resolution 2019-28

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
TO THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Dr. Beverly J. Warren announced her intention to depart the position of President of Kent State University, effective June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a 16-member Presidential Search Committee was formed on December 10, 2018, and charged with conducting an extensive national search for Kent State’s 13th president; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the faculty, students, administration, alumni and the community who provided dedicated service as members of the Presidential Search Committee were: Dr. Ann Abraham, James Bailey, Dr. Douglas Delahanty, Dr. Pamela Grimm, Nora C. Jacobs, Dr. Mark Kretovics, Dr. Mark Rhodes, Dr. Amy Reynolds, Dr. Nathan Ritchey, David Ruller, Gene Shelton, Bernett L. Williams, and Vala Zeinali; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees expresses appreciation to Trustee Shawn M. Riley, who served as chair, and trustees Virginia Addicott and Todd C. Davidson, who served as members of the Presidential Search Committee, and to Board Chair Ralph Della Ratta for his overall leadership in ensuring an inclusive and successful process; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Search Committee devoted substantial time, effort and energy to its charge, seeking the engagement of the Kent State family and the public in identifying the attributes, skills and vision the next president should possess as well as the opportunities and challenges for the future leadership of the university; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the committee’s outstanding service, the presidential search reached a successful conclusion with the Board’s appointment of Dr. Todd Diacon as Kent State University’s 13th president on April 29, 2019; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to members of the Presidential Search Committee for their exemplary service and dedication to Kent State University and wishes them continued success.

ACTION: Trustee Copeland moved, seconded by Trustee Frost, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.
Chair Della Ratta then asked Trustee Riley if he would like to make a few comments regarding the search.

Trustee Riley said that while he had received many phone calls and emails congratulating him on the search, he felt it was the talented and dedicated search committee members who deserved the credit. Everyone really contributed and played a role in the process, he said, stating it was a privilege to chair the group. He observed that the committee really worked hard to accomplish a great result, and when you get a really good candidate such as Dr. Diacon, it makes the process so much easier.

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Riley and then asked Trustee Addicott if she would like to reflect upon the experience. She shared Trustee Riley’s belief that the search was a team effort and commended him for his extraordinary leadership and dedication to the search process. Trustee Riley spent an inordinate amount of time talking to faculty members and community leaders and rallied everyone to come up with a compelling description of what the university was looking for in its next president. She shared his conclusion that the committee and the university are fortunate that Todd Diacon was the successful candidate among a number of highly-qualified individuals who were attracted by the strength of the opportunity at Kent State.

Trustee Davidson then commented that he echoed Trustee Addicott’s sentiment. He stated that it was a privilege and a pleasure to serve in that capacity under the capable leadership of search chair Shawn Riley. He further remarked that Trustee Riley was a phenomenal leader who did a great deal of work and made the job easy for those who served.

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO JESSICA PECK**

Chair Della Ratta then moved to the proposed resolution honoring Trustee Jessica Peck, whose term expires May 16. He said it was a great honor to recognize such a special person who has contributed greatly to the work of the Board and who will be greatly missed. He said it was only fitting that her fellow student trustee, Nick Kollar, should present the resolution of appreciation on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Kollar thanked Chair Della Ratta, adding that Jessica Peck was the guiding light for him when he joined the Board. She helped him immensely to learn more about Board processes and how to conduct himself and interact with trustees, and was generous with her time in answering his questions. She has been a great leader and role model for him, Trustee Kollar stated. He further remarked that he knows she will continue to lead and inspire others in her life and career pursuits beyond Kent State.

**Resolution 2019-29**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO JESSICA PECK**

WHEREAS, Jessica Peck was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor John Kasich on July 14, 2017; and
WHEREAS, in this role she has demonstrated an informed and passionate commitment to student success, effective governance, and the advancement of Kent State; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Peck has served the Board superbly as a member of its Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee, External Relations and Development Committee, Finance and Administration Committee and Investment Committee; and

WHEREAS, she has represented Kent State University and the Board of Trustees through her participation in the National Conference on Trusteeship held annually by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges and the Statewide Trustee Conference convened by the Ohio Department of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Peck epitomizes Powered by Purpose in her research and scholarship seeking to advance knowledge of impression management in leadership as a means to understanding and fostering authentic and transformative leader behaviors, earning the Doctor of Philosophy degree on May 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in August 2019, she will begin her chosen career as a full-time faculty member at Cleveland State University, achieving her dual goals of joining the academy and staying in her native Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Board, the administration and the university community commend Trustee Peck for her high performance, professionalism, research excellence, community engagement and devotion to the success of her students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses sincere gratitude to Jessica Peck for her outstanding service and wishes her the very best in her future pursuits.

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

President Warren then asked Trustee Peck to join her and led in the presentation of gifts, giving her a framed copy of the resolution so she will always be able to remember their words of appreciation to all that she has done. Dr. Warren stated that the Board, administration and the university community are so grateful for her leadership, and that Trustee Peck exemplifies all the best in the students of Kent State University.

Trustee Peck followed by thanking all trustees for the opportunity to serve. She said she has been doing a lot of reflecting as she prepares to receive her doctorate at the university’s Advanced Degree Commencement ceremony. She said her dreams actually are coming true
before her eyes. She went on to share what education has meant to her family as her mother was a first-generation college student, and her mom and dad both were educators and educated in public education and higher education their entire careers. Trustee Peck said it is truly the realization of her dreams both to serve among trustees who are so passionate about public higher education and to continue to do so for her career as a college professor. She thanked the Board members for their support.

Trustee Della Ratta thanked Trustee Peck for her heartfelt words.

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO MARGOT JAMES COPELAND**

Next, Chair Della Ratta expressed his sadness that this would be the final Board business meeting for Trustee Margot Copeland whose term also expires May 16. He then called on Trustee Todd Davidson to speak and present the resolution of appreciation on behalf of the Board.

Trustee Davidson thanked Chair Della Ratta and remarked that it was his distinct pleasure to offer this resolution of appreciation for someone who he believes to be one of the world’s great leaders who actually represents the very best that the nation has to offer.

**Resolution 2019-30**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO MARGOT JAMES COPELAND**

WHEREAS, Margot James Copeland was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor Ted Strickland on May 27, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Copeland has given extraordinary service to the Board of Trustees as Secretary to the Board (2014-2019), member of the External Relations and Development Committee (2010-2019), and dynamic Chair of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee from 2014 to the present; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Copeland has provided inspired leadership and tireless advocacy for helping all students reach their full potential in earning a college degree, a life’s mission consistent with the KeyBank Foundation’s grant of $1 million to support programs to increase graduation rates of underrepresented students at Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Copeland long will be cherished and remembered for her unwavering devotion to student success, her dedication to academic rigor, collaborative style, her radiant smile and infectious personality, and her personal example of integrity, strength and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University applauds and honors Trustee Copeland as a top executive for KeyCorp, one of the nation’s largest bank-based financial services
companies, and as an iconic volunteer, philanthropist and foundation leader who has advanced non-profit organizations, schools and colleges in Cleveland and nationally far too numerous to list here; now, therefore,

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

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

ACTION: Trustee Davidson moved, seconded by Trustee Riley, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Chair Della Ratta then asked Trustee Copeland to move to the front of the room for the presentation of gifts. President Warren told Trustee Copeland that they were exiting together and that she was so privileged to have seen Trustee Copeland lead with such dignity and respect and commitment. Her extraordinary dedication to the Board’s Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee is one of the many contributions memorialized in the framed copy of the resolution, which President Warren presented to Trustee Copeland.

President Warren explained that given Trustee Copeland’s relentless commitment to student success, there was no better way to honor her than to engage with students. Seven students entered the room and introduced themselves, and shared their hometowns and why they chose Kent State: Melvin Beasley, Dennis Cavin, Theodore Donaldson, Sydney Evans, Krystal Ivy, Rafiat Koiki and Marlon Valladares Nunez. Trustee Copeland expressed deep gratitude for the students and commended them for their achievements and for representing the dreams and aspirations of their ancestors. President Warren then presented Trustee Copeland with a gift of appreciation, which was a custom piece that truly represented who Trustee Copeland is and who she is to Kent State University. President Warren further remarked that all present want Trustee Copeland to always remember how special she is to them and what she has meant to Kent State University.

Trustee Copeland observed that it was such an honor to serve on this Board, and that she treasures the relationships and friendships both old and new. She thanked the trustees with whom she has served and with whom she hopes to stay in touch, Vice President Reed for her support, and President Warren for her example, leadership, tenacity and belief in the possibilities of all students. Trustee Copeland also expressed best wishes to President-elect Diacon and encouraged everyone to call upon her anytime she is needed.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT BEVERLY J. WARREN

Chair Della Ratta then moved to the final action item of the day – a resolution of appreciation honoring President Beverly Warren. He said that throughout all of the Board meetings during
her term, he always had a feeling of tremendous progress and understanding of what it means to be a Kent State family. Never before has the university been stronger academically, financially, or with its relationships with the broader community, he commented. President Warren has been the right leader at the right time, and for the past five years, she has demonstrated her deep commitment to our shared vision of the Strategic Roadmap to the Distinctive Kent State. He added that the results have been nothing less than dramatic and were reflected in the special video prepared in her honor, which was shown at that time.

Chair Della Ratta then presented President Warren with proclamations from State Senator John Eklund and U.S. Representative Tim Ryan, congratulating her upon this milestone and thanking President Warren for her leadership. He then asked Trustee Addicott to present the resolution of appreciation to President Warren on behalf of the entire Board of Trustees.

Resolution 2019-31

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION HONORING KENT STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT BEVERLY J. WARREN

WHEREAS, Dr. Beverly J. Warren has served with distinction and extraordinary commitment as Kent State University’s 12th president since July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, President Warren has made “students first” Kent State’s top priority and mindset, leading to a laser-focus on helping students find their purpose and reach the finish line of a college degree; and

WHEREAS, her leadership legacy includes the development of the Strategic Roadmap to a Distinctive Kent State, which has spurred five years of transformation and positive momentum, further solidified and leveraged the Kent State system as One University, set new records in retention and graduation rates and the number of degrees produced, elevated the university’s academic and research strengths and standing, launched new programs in high-demand and emerging fields, increased its international presence, achieved record levels of fundraising, established Kent State as one of the nation’s healthiest campuses, and modernized facilities to meet the aspirations of students, families, faculty and staff, alumni and the public through the historic Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State facilities master plan that will guide development of the Kent Campus for the next decade; and

WHEREAS, known for her ready smile and her willingness to stop for a selfie and a hug, Dr. Warren’s vision, high energy, care and compassion are and will remain an inspiration to all those who have had the privilege of knowing and working with her; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude and abiding admiration to Dr. Beverly J. Warren for her extraordinary contributions to Kent State, Northeast Ohio and the betterment of our
society and wishes her great contentment and joy as she begins a new chapter in her life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby bestows upon Dr. Beverly J. Warren the title of President Emeritus, effective July 1, 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a symbol of the high esteem with which President Warren is held by all and especially our students, her superb academic record as a professor and scholar in exercise science and her advocacy for healthy lifestyles, with great pride and pleasure, the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby names in her honor the Beverly J. Warren Student Recreation and Wellness Center.

Given this historic moment on this historic day, Chair Della Ratta asked if any other trustees would like to make some comments. Trustee Perry remarked that Dr. Warren has been a transformational leader, not only having changed the lives of students, but certainly has affected board members as well. Trustee Solomon spoke on behalf of the families from the May 4th community to say that she has answered their prayers, adding that part of President Warren’s legacy will be what she did for everyone associated with May 4th. President Warren then thanked everyone and stated it has been an honor, a privilege and true joy of a lifetime to serve as the university’s 12th president. She further remarked that she has never experienced anything like Kent State University, and that she will always be a Golden Flash.

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

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Trustee Della Ratta presented President Warren with a framed copy of the resolution as well as a very special gift – a collage of thousands of selfies sent in from students, faculty, staff and alumni.

President Warren expressed appreciation for the gifts, remarking that the selfie collage says it all. She stated that engagement with students really brings a campus alive and brings what we do to the forefront of how lives are changed. She added that she wanted the students to know that they are connected throughout the fiber of the university, and that means that their president loves them just like every single individual in this university loves them, supports them, pushes them when they need that little push, and helps them succeed. That’s why she has been driven in her higher education career spanning more than 40 years – to see lives change before her very eyes, to see young wings spread and fly and go on to do great, great work. She further explained that this has been the mission of the Board and president together over these years and she was thankful for that opportunity. President Warren again remarked that serving as Kent State’s president has been the joy of a lifetime, and that she will always remember these five years as the most important, the most impactful of her life.
ADJOURNMENT

Chair Della Ratta then announced that the next regular business meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

On motion duly made and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.