

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
May 28, 2014  
Urban Conference Room**

**Board Members Present**

Virginia Albanese  
Stephen Colecchi  
Margot J. Copeland  
Ralph Della Ratta  
Dennis Eckart  
Alex Evans  
Emilio Ferrara  
Monique Menefee  
Richard Marsh  
Lawrence Pollock  
Jane Murphy Timken, Chair  
Michael Solomon

**KSU President's Cabinet**

President Lester A. Lefton  
Todd Diacon  
Gregg Floyd  
Alfreda Brown  
Iris Harvey  
Greg Jarvie  
Edward Mahon  
Joel Nielsen  
Joe Vitale  
Willis Walker  
Charlene Reed, Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Board Chair Jane Murphy Timken called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Urban Conference Room. Trustee Stephen Colecchi called the roll, and a quorum was present.

**PROOF OF NOTICE**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Trustee Copeland moved, seconded by Trustee Marsh, that the Board retire into Executive Session.

By virtue of a unanimous roll call vote, the Board adjourned into Executive Session. The session concluded at 9:15 a.m. and Chair Timken declared the meeting in recess.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Board reconvened for the business portion of the meeting at 1:15 p.m. in Urban Conference Room. Chair Timken thanked everyone for being there as the Board gathered to conduct important business of the university and also to offer appreciation to several departing university leaders, including President Lefton.

Chair Timken observed that President Lefton has been the right leader at the right time, and Kent State, Kent, Northeast Ohio, and Ohio are better because of his leadership. On behalf of the Board and the university community, she commended President Lefton and President-elect Beverly Warren for their efforts to ensure a successful and seamless presidential transition.

She thanked President Lefton for his leadership and for keeping momentum strong, stating because of his leadership the university is on track to another record-breaking gifted class for the fall of 2014, among other achievements. Chair Timken also publicly thanked Dr. Warren for her extraordinary commitment to meet and to learn throughout the semester. During the past five months, Dr. Warren has visited eight campuses, traveled more than 5,916 miles across four states, and met with more than 1,300 people.

Chair Timken then asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved by general consent.

### **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Chair Timken then asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the March 12, 2014, meeting. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved by general consent.

### **PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Chair Timken asked President Lefton to present the personnel actions. President Lefton called on Provost Diacon to present the academic personnel actions followed by Interim Vice President Joe Vitale to present the non-academic personnel actions.

#### *ACADEMIC PERSONNEL*

Provost Diacon reported that the personnel actions to be considered at this meeting were primarily routine and included 15 retirements. Of special note were appointments of Dr. Bradley Bielski as Dean and Chief Administrative Officer of Kent State University at Tuscarawas, effective July 1, and the appointment of Dr. Steven Dennis as professor and Firestone Chair of Finance, with the rank of professor and tenure effective August 15.

## *NON-ACADEMIC PERSONNEL*

Interim Vice President Vitale commented that all non-academic actions were routine in nature.

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

## **EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Trustee Larry Pollock began his report, noting that the External Relations and Development Committee met this morning to consider 15 management decision items and received three reports on various topics. He noted that 11 recommendations are tied to fundraising for the new Center for Architecture and Environmental Design. After verifying that the proposed naming actions complied with university naming policy and procedures, the Committee recommended their approval.

The naming actions are described in the resolutions below.

### **Resolution 2014-22**

#### **NAMING OF THE M. CRAIG ALLEN '80 and THOMAS M. TETI '80 CRITIQUE SPACE**

WHEREAS, Image Associates, whose partners M. Craig Allen ('80 B ARCH) and Thomas M. Teti ('80 B ARCH), are graduates of Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Image Associates recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Image Associates recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has provided a gift of \$25,000 in support of the construction of the fourth floor critique space of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University, and current and future students who will benefit from

this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Image Associates and M. Craig Allen and Thomas M. Teti for their generosity; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The M. Craig Allen '80 Thomas M. Teti '80 Critique Space at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

### **Resolution 2014-23**

#### **NAMING OF THE LAWRENCE R. AND SANDRA C. ARMSTRONG GALLERY**

WHEREAS, Lawrence R. Armstrong is a graduate of Kent State University (BS '79, BARC '80) and Sandra C. Armstrong attended Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Armstrong is CEO of Ware Malcomb, which employs numerous Kent State University graduates; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong recognize that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong recognize the University's importance in regional development, and consequently have provided a gift of \$110,500 in support of the construction of the gallery space of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Lawrence and Sandra Armstrong for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Lawrence R. and Sandra C. Armstrong Gallery at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

### **Resolution 2014-24**

#### **NAMING OF THE BIALOSKY + PARTNERS ARCHITECTS SEMINAR ROOM**

WHEREAS, Bialosky + Partners Architects employs numerous Kent State University graduates; and

WHEREAS, Bialosky + Partners Architects recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Bialosky + Partners Architects recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has provided a gift of \$30,000 in support of the construction of the seminar room on the third floor of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Bialosky + Partners Architects for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Bialosky + Partners Architects Seminar Room at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

#### **Resolution 2014-25**

#### **NAMING OF THE RICHARD L. BOWEN & ASSOCIATES GRAND STAIRCASE**

WHEREAS, Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., employs numerous Kent State University graduates; and

WHEREAS, Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has provided a gift of \$250,000 in support of the construction of the grand staircase of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Richard L. Bowen & Associates, Inc., for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Richard L. Bowen &

Associates Grand Staircase at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

**Resolution 2014-26**

**NAMING OF THE RON AND JOAN BURBICK LOBBY AND THE BURBICK PLAZA**

WHEREAS, Ronald and Joan Burbick are advocates of architecture and historic preservation, and are strong supporters of the relationship between Kent State University and the City of Kent; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Burbick recognize that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Burbick recognize the University's importance in regional development, and consequently have provided a gift of \$250,000 in support of the construction of the commons area and entrance plaza at the Lincoln Avenue entrance of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University, and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Ron and Joan Burbick for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Ron and Joan Burbick Lobby and The Burbick Plaza at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

**Resolution 2014-27**

**NAMING OF THE BOB & JOYCE CENE LECTURE HALL TAYLOR, RYAN, ROSS**

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert Cene, Jr., is a graduate of Kent State University ('80 B ARCH); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cene recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cene recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has funded \$125,000 for a scholarship and in addition completed a \$1-million gift to the College in 2013. An additional gift of

\$50,000 was made in support of the construction of the ground floor lecture hall of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Bob and Joyce Cene for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Bob & Joyce Cene Lecture Hall / Taylor, Ryan, Ross at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

### **Resolution 2014-28**

#### **NAMING OF THE ELLIOT STUDIOS FOR DESIGN 2014-28**

WHEREAS, The Elliot Family Foundation, Inc. was created and is directed by John and Fonda Elliot, and Mr. Elliot is a graduate of Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, John and Fonda Elliot recognize that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Elliot recognize the University's importance in regional development, and consequently have directed The Elliot Family Foundation to provide a gift of \$2 million in support of the construction of design studios in the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to John and Fonda Elliot and The Elliot Family Foundation for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Elliot Studios for Design at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

### **Resolution 2014-29**

#### **NAMING OF THE BARRY AND JO ANN FETTERMAN SEMINAR ROOM**

WHEREAS, Barry Fetterman is a Kent State University graduate ('74 BBA Marketing, '76 MBA); and Jo Ann Fetterman attended Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Barry and Jo Ann Fetterman recognize that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Barry and Jo Ann Fetterman recognize the University's importance in regional development, and consequently have provided a gift of \$25,000 in support of the construction of the seminar room located in the faculty suite on the second floor of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Barry and Jo Ann Fetterman for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Barry and Jo Ann Fetterman Seminar Room at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Kent State University.

### **Resolution 2014-30**

#### **NAMING OF THE KARPINSKI ENGINEERING CRITIQUE SPACE**

WHEREAS, Karpinski Engineering recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Karpinski Engineering recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has provided a gift of \$25,000 in support of the construction of the third floor critique gallery of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from



this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Karpinski Engineering for its generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Karpinski Engineering Critique Space at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

#### **Resolution 2014-31**

#### **NAMING OF THE NORA KLEBOW STUDIO**

WHEREAS, Nora Klebow is a graduate of Kent State University ('80 BS Architecture); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Klebow recognizes that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, She recognizes the University's importance in regional development, and consequently has provided a gift of \$25,000 in support of the construction of a studio space of the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Nora Klebow for her generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Nora Klebow Studio at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

#### **Resolution 2014-32**

#### **NAMING OF THE DOUGLAS L & SUSAN R. STEIDL FACULTY LOUNGE**

WHEREAS, Douglas L Steidl is Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design; and

WHEREAS, Douglas L and Susan R. Steidl recognize that Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design programs provide high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Steidl recognize the University's importance in regional development, and consequently have provided a gift of \$40,000 in support of the construction of the faculty lounge in the new College of Architecture and Environmental Design building on Kent State University's Kent campus; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, memorialize the University's sincere appreciation to Douglas L and Susan R. Steidl for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names The Douglas L & Susan R. Steidl Faculty Lounge at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Trustee Pollock then went on to present two naming recommendations within the new Center for the Visual Arts, now under construction.

### **Resolution 2014-33**

#### **NAMING OF THE CRAWFORD GALLERY**

WHEREAS, Dr. John R. Crawford and Frank Spinelli through their philanthropy are committed to "transforming lives through the arts;" and

WHEREAS, Dr. John R. Crawford is the Dean of the College of the Arts and former Director of the School of Theatre and Dance; and

WHEREAS, Frank Spinelli is an arts supporter and the partner of John Crawford; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crawford and Mr. Spinelli recognize that the Kent State University's Center for the Visual Arts provides high-quality learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crawford and Mr. Spinelli recognize the university's importance in ensuring art experiences for all students and the broader community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, express their sincere appreciation to Dr. John R. Crawford and Mr. Frank Spinelli for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names the Crawford Gallery in memory of Nathan P. Crawford and Claire R. Crawford in the Center for the Visual Arts at Kent State University.

**Resolution 2014-34**

**NAMING OF THE JAMES (MEL) SOMEROSKI  
JEWELRY/METALS/ENAMELING STUDIOS**

WHEREAS, Linda Allard Gallen is a passionate advocate for Kent State University providing leadership during The Campaign for Kent State University and leadership support to the Moulton Hall Campaign and the Fashion School's New York Studio; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allard Gallen is a 1962 graduate of the College of Fine and Professional Arts and a recipient in 1991 of an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Allard Gallen, in recognition of her love of her alma mater, and her wish to honor her mentor Dr. James (Mel) Somersoki's historical roots within the School of Art, provided a \$500,000 gift to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and updated furnishings for this highly equipment-intensive discipline; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University's College of the Arts and current and future students who will benefit from these studios, memorializes the University's sincere appreciation to Linda Allard Gallen for her generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names the James (Mel) Someroski Jewelry/Metals/Enameling Studios in the Center for Visual Arts complex at Kent State University.

Trustee Pollock reported the committee is bringing forward one recommendation for the Ashtabula campus—the naming of the Barbara Warren Cordell and James L. Cordell Assistant Director of Student Services Office at Kent State Ashtabula.

**Resolution 2014-35**

**NAMING OF THE BARBARA WARREN CORDELL AND JAMES L. CORDELL  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE AT KENT STATE  
UNIVERSITY AT ASHTABULA**

WHEREAS, James L. Cordell and the late Barbara Warren Cordell through their philanthropy have demonstrated their commitment to improving the quality of life of Ohio residents in Ashtabula County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Cordell have served as advocates for increasing educational opportunities for area residents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cordell recognizes that Kent State University at Ashtabula provides high-quality learning environments for residents of northeastern Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cordell and the Cordell Family, in recognition of the university's importance in regional development, provided a \$25,000 gift to complete renovations of Kent State University at Ashtabula's Assistant Director of Student Services office (Rm. A110M); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of Kent State University at Ashtabula and current and future students who will benefit from this facility, expresses sincere appreciation to Barbara Warren Cordell and James L. Cordell for their generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names the Barbara Warren Cordell and James L. Cordell Assistant Director of Student Services Office in Main Hall at Kent State University at Ashtabula.

Trustee Pollock then noted the committee recommended the naming of the Thomas V. Melillo DPM Meditation Garden at the College of Podiatric Medicine in Independence. He went on to state that Dr. Melillo served as the chief executive officer of the college and the former Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine for nearly 30 years prior to his death in October 2013. The naming of this garden honors Dr. Melillo for his presidential leadership and significant contributions to podiatric medicine.

### **Resolution 2014-36**

#### **NAMING OF THE THOMAS V. MELILLO, DPM, MEDITATION GARDEN**

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas V. Melillo served with distinction for nearly three decades as the Chief Executive Officer of the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine and the former Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Melillo was the longest-serving president of a podiatric college in the United States and was instrumental in the college's recognition as a national leader in podiatric medical education; and

WHEREAS, the College of Podiatric Medicine wishes to honor the accomplishments of Dr. Melillo by establishing and naming a memorial meditation garden in his honor; and

WHEREAS, the Thomas V. Melillo, DPM, Meditation Garden will be located at the College of Podiatric Medicine in Independence, Ohio; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of the College of Podiatric Medicine and its many students, faculty, staff, friends, and family, expresses sincere appreciation for the leadership of Dr. Thomas V. Melillo; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with University policy, hereby names the Thomas V. Melillo, DPM, Meditation Garden in honor of Dr. Melillo and his many accomplishments in the field of podiatric medicine.

Trustee Pollock reiterated that these recommendations are consistent with university naming policy and procedures, and the committee recommended that they be placed on the consent agenda.

Trustee Pollock then remarked that the committee received a fundraising update from Gene Finn, vice president for institutional advancement, which shows that gift commitments to date are in excess of \$20 million. In addition, Vice President Finn made a presentation on steps needed to begin to prepare for the university's next major comprehensive campaign. The discussion focused on the recently completed alumni attitudinal survey, which contains a great deal of information on the views Kent State alumni currently have about their alma mater.

Next, Trustee Pollock stated that the divisions of University Relations and Information Systems presented the new Kent State website. The Kent campus homepage and the Office of Admissions sites were launched on May 4, he noted. Committee Chair Pollock encouraged his fellow trustees to visit the site and view the updated design. He stated that the new sites are designed to simplify the user's experience through ease of navigation and implementation of a responsive design for compatibility with all forms of mobile devices. He noted that the anticipated date for total conversion is the end of 2014.

University Relations also introduced a new Guide to Visual Standards, which serves as a road map for a consistent visual communications for the Kent State brand.

With that, Trustee Pollock concluded his report.

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

Chair Timken then called on Trustee Dennis Eckart to give the report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

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

Committee Chair Dennis Eckart stated that the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee considered three management decision items as well as two information items. He made note that the university recently went through its Higher Learning Commission accreditation site visit, highlighting that verbal feedback thus far has been positive. He commented that the staff did a great job in preparing for the accreditation review.

Trustee Eckart said the recommendations listed below were reviewed and approved through the appropriate faculty and college committees, the Educational Policies Council and Faculty Senate, and carried the endorsement of the Provost and the President.

#### *APPROVAL OF THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY COMPLETE COLLEGE OHIO CAMPUS COMPLETION PLAN*

Trustee Eckart brought forth a resolution regarding the Complete College Ohio Plan. He commented that Kent State can be even more influential in incentivizing young people to go to college and in helping them embrace the prospect of completing college. He observed that the committee learned that about 37% of Kent State students qualify for Pell Grants.

#### **Resolution 2014-37**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY COMPLETE COLLEGE OHIO CAMPUS COMPLETION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio joined the Complete College America Alliance of States in 2013, creating Complete College Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature passed the Complete College Ohio Act with the primary goal to increase dramatically the number of college degrees awarded in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Board of Regents' Complete College Ohio Task Force Report and Recommendations included a core recommendation requiring public institutions of higher learning in Ohio to develop and implement institution-specific campus completion plans; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly passed Amended Substitute House Bill 59 that requires the university adopt a strategic completion plan that is approved by the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the approved Campus Completion Plan must be submitted to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents by June 30, 2014; and

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

WHEREAS, the university supports and expands the state's educational and workforce development initiatives in the broadest and most meaningful sense; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the Kent State University Complete College Ohio Campus Completion Plan, and the submission of the plan to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, at its meeting on May 28, 2014.

*ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER OF COMPARATIVE  
AND INTEGRATIVE PROGRAMS*

Committee Chair Eckart reported that the committee reviewed and recommended the establishment of the Center of Comparative and Integrative Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. Consistent with the objectives of the Complete College Ohio initiative, the center offers a variety of initiatives and programs that may be attractive to broad populations in attending and completing college.

**Resolution 2014-38**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER OF COMPARATIVE  
AND INTEGRATIVE PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences requests the establishment of the Center of Comparative and Integrative Programs; and

WHEREAS, the center will provide an administrative unit to support, foster, and serve students and faculty in existing and new multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary programs; and

WHEREAS, the existing programs include multiple majors, minors, undergraduate courses, and a certificate program that are not currently housed within a department; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of the Center of Comparative and Integrative Programs, within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2014.

*INACTIVATION OF THE VISUAL JOURNALISM MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE*

Trustee Eckart then presented the next management decision item recommended by the committee, which was the inactivation of the Visual Journalism Major within the Bachelor of Science degree.

**Resolution 2014-39**

**INACTIVATION OF THE VISUAL JOURNALISM MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information has recommended the inactivation of the Visual Journalism major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the Visual Journalism major was established within the School of Journalism and Mass Communication with concentrations in Information Design and Photojournalism; and

WHEREAS, the Information Design concentration was inactivated due to lack of enrollment; and

WHEREAS, the Photojournalism concentration was moved to the Journalism major within the Bachelor of Science degree, leaving no concentrations within the Visual Journalism major; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the inactivation of the Visual Journalism major within the Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2014.

Next, Trustee Eckart moved to information items that had been reviewed by the committee. He gave kudos to Vice President Greg Jarvie and his staff for the excellent report on enrollment. All of the numbers that should be up, are up and all of the numbers



that should be down, are down according to Trustee Eckart. He commented that the enrollment update was a testament to President Lefton's leadership and that of his team in increasing the quality and size of the incoming class.

With that, Trustee Eckart concluded his report.

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

Chair Timken asked Trustee Marsh to give the Audit and Compliance Committee report.

### **AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Trustee Marsh stated that the Audit and Compliance Committee met this morning and discussed the internal audit plan for fiscal year 2015 and reviewed an outline of audit projects.

Trustee Marsh noted that the committee reviewed the third quarter report of the fiscal year 2014 Internal Audit Plan budgeted hours to actual, and stated that there were no unusual items to report.

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

Chair Timken then called on Trustee Stephen Colecchi to give the Finance and Administration Committee report.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Colecchi noted that the Finance and Administration Committee considered seven management decision items in addition to routine information items that are prepared by the administration for each meeting of the Board of Trustees. The information items were routine in nature, he reported.

Trustee Colecchi stated that the committee was informed of changes in two administrative policies, and also was provided information regarding the university's Affirmative Action Plan that is used to evaluate annual progress toward major workforce goals.

He went on to state that the following management decision items all are recommended for approval as part of the consent agenda.

#### *APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES EFFECTIVE FALL 2014*

Trustee Colecchi presented the committee's recommendation that basic tuition and fee rates be increased by 2.0% for both undergraduate and graduate students, effective with the Fall 2014 semester. If approved, the resources generated by this increase will be used to preserve

academic quality and student services, to allow for additional investment in financial aid, and to meet contractual obligations.

**Resolution 2014-40**

**APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES  
EFFECTIVE FALL 2014**

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

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio's current budget bill limits increases in full-time, in-state undergraduate tuition to 2%; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the proposed increase in basic tuition rates for both undergraduate and graduate students is 2.0%; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of fees to be effective with the Fall 2014 semester, unless otherwise noted, subject to required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents.

*APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET*

On behalf of the committee, Trustee Colecchi recommended approval of the university's operating budget for fiscal year 2014-15. Stable enrollment from the current fiscal year, and the proposed tuition and fee rates, were used to project revenues. Trustee Colecchi stated that priorities included in the new budget are increases in student financial aid; compensation increases for represented employees and resources identified for unrepresented employees; anticipated increases in health care costs for employees; investments in facilities; library collections and international programs.

**Resolution 2014-41**

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET**

WHEREAS, an annual budget is prepared to provide a financial plan to guide the university for the next fiscal year (2014-15); and

WHEREAS, a separate Board action contains the request to increase undergraduate and graduate tuition by 2.0%, which complies with the tuition adjustment limit per the State of Ohio's budget bill, and requests changes in specific other fees; and

WHEREAS, the continuing priorities of the university are reflected in this budgeted projection including financial aid investments in student scholarships, contractual obligations for employee compensation, and anticipated cost increases in employee health insurance; and

WHEREAS, because the state appropriations have not yet been finalized, university management has identified reserves to be held to ensure that the university's budget is balanced; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2014-15.

*ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-7-12 REGARDING THE  
AUTHORIZATION OF AGREEMENTS TO PURCHASE GOODS AND/OR SERVICES  
AND THE REPORTING OF PURCHASING ACTIVITY*

Trustee Colecchi recommended Board approval of the establishment of University Policy 3342-7-12 Regarding the Authorization of Agreements to Purchase Goods and/or Services and the Reporting of Purchasing Activity. This policy has been under development for some time and will increase board oversight of purchasing activity, consistent with its fiduciary responsibility. He stated that if approved, the policy will specify dollar thresholds at which Board of Trustees or executive officer approval is required to complete purchases as well as establish thresholds that require formal bidding procedures and requirements for reporting purchasing activity to the Board.

**Resolution 2014-42**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-7-12 REGARDING THE  
AUTHORIZATION OF AGREEMENTS TO PURCHASE GOODS AND/OR SERVICES  
AND THE REPORTING OF PURCHASING ACTIVITY**

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

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees has fiduciary responsibility and authority for all procurement activity at Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, there currently is no formal policy in the Kent State University policy register to require Board of Trustees approval of agreements to purchase goods and/or services regardless of dollar amount; and

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 Regarding the Authorization of Agreements to Purchase Goods and/or Services and the Reporting of Purchasing Activity has been developed to establish the dollar thresholds at which Board of Trustees or executive officer approval is required as well as to establish dollar thresholds requiring formal bidding procedures and requirements for reporting purchasing activity to the Board of Trustees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees approves the establishment of University Policy 3342-7-12 Regarding the Authorization of Agreements to Purchase Goods and/or Services and the Reporting of Purchasing Activity to be adopted as a formal policy in the Kent State University policy register.

*AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-5-16  
REGARDING UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT*

Trustee Colecchi reported that the committee seeks approval to revise University Policy 3342-5-16 Regarding Unlawful Discrimination and Harassment. The policy is recommended for revisions to specifically include gender identity, and to correctly place transgender identity in the protected category of gender. The changes demonstrate Kent State's ongoing commitment to the prevention and remedy of discrimination and harassment toward employees, students and visitors, it was noted.

**Resolution 2014-43**

**AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-5-16  
REGARDING UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT**

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

WHEREAS, it is the policy of Kent State University that there shall be no unlawful discrimination or harassment against any student, employee, applicant for admission or employment, or visitor to campus; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the divisions of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Human Resources and the Office of University Counsel have reviewed the

University Policy Regarding Unlawful Discrimination and Harassment (3342-5-16); and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy was revised to specifically include gender identity, and to correctly place transgender identity in the protected category of gender, in an effort to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the prevention and remedy of discrimination and harassment toward Kent State University employees, students, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy was additionally revised to recognize that the Office of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action in the Division of Human Resources is responsible for administering the policy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Kent State University hereby approves the revision of University Policy Regarding Unlawful Discrimination and Harassment 3342-5-16 as presented.

*RECISION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-4-11 REGARDING THE ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) AND HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) TASK FORCE*

Trustee Colecchi presented the next item of business—recision of a university policy adopted in 1988 in response to national concerns regarding HIV/AIDS infection and the need for preventive workplace standards.

The policy set in place an AIDS Task Force that has since become inactive. Trustee Colecchi stated that the university continues to comply with Department of Labor/Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards regarding blood-borne pathogens and other potentially infectious materials through its Office of Environmental Health and Safety and the Division of Human Resources. University Health Services, in collaboration with the Community AIDS Network, also offers many of the activities and events previously designated to the AIDS Task Force.

**Resolution 2014-44**

**RECISION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-4-11 REGARDING THE ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) AND HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, it is of interest to the university to maintain an updated policy register; and

WHEREAS, the university is committed to review, update and remove policies no longer applicable or which contain outdated information; and

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-4-11 Regarding the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Task Force has been identified as no longer active; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 the university created the policy in response to national concern at that time regarding infection and the need for preventive workplace standards; and

WHEREAS, Kent State accomplishes the intended scope and activities provided by the policy through other procedures and programs currently active at the university; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves that University Policy 3342-4-11 Regarding HIV/AIDS be rescinded and removed from the University Policy Register.

*APPROVAL OF MECHANICAL REPLACEMENTS FOR WILLIAMS HALL*

Committee Chair Colecchi asked trustees to approve mechanical replacements for Williams Hall on the Kent campus. He stated that the air handling, compressed air pump and vacuum pump are in failing condition and must be replaced. Williams Hall is a critical component of the Foundations of Excellence sciences initiative.

**Resolution 2014-45**

**APPROVAL OF MECHANICAL REPLACEMENTS FOR WILLIAMS HALL**

WHEREAS, Williams Hall, located along the Science Corridor, was constructed in 1967; and

WHEREAS, the Williams Hall air handling, compressed air pump and vacuum pump, are in failing or failed condition; and

WHEREAS, replacement of the mechanical equipment must be addressed to safeguard student learning and research conducted within the building; and

WHEREAS, \$73 million in capital and Foundations of Excellence bond revenues have been set aside for improvements to multiple science buildings, and

WHEREAS, \$2.5 million of the overall funds set aside for the sciences will be used to address the Williams Hall mechanical replacements; 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 SMITH HALL ENVELOPE RESTORATION*

Committee Chair Colecchi asked trustees to approve critical repairs to restore the failing roof and masonry shell for Smith Hall on the Kent campus. He stated that the building structure, masonry and roof are in failing condition and the severe winter weather has accelerated the failures to the concrete frame. Similar to Williams Hall noted above, Smith Hall is a critical component of the Foundations of Excellence sciences initiative. If approved, construction would commence in early July and run through December 2014.

**Resolution 2014-46**

**APPROVAL OF SMITH HALL ENVELOPE RESTORATION**

WHEREAS, Smith Hall, located along the Science Corridor, was constructed in 1968; and

WHEREAS, the Smith Hall building concrete structure, masonry and roof, commonly referred to as the building envelope, are in failing condition; and

WHEREAS, repair and replacement of the failing building envelope must be addressed to protect the safety of users of the building; and

WHEREAS, \$73 million in capital and Foundations of Excellence bond revenues have been set aside for improvements to multiple science buildings, and

WHEREAS, \$1.7 million of the overall funds set aside for the sciences will be used to address the Smith Hall envelope repairs; 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.

Lastly, Trustee Colecchi stated that the committee also conducted a brief discussion regarding the Foundations of Excellence projects outlined in the materials the board received this morning. The committee was pleased to learn of the initiative's progress and of the projects that are nearing construction or completion.

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

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

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *REPORT FROM AGB NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRUSTEESHIP*

Chair Timken called upon trustees Alex Evans and Monique Menefee to share some of their observations from the 2014 National Conference on Trusteeship in Orlando. They represented the Kent State University Board of Trustees at this national gathering convened by the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

Trustee Menefee and Evans shared their experiences at the conference and said they believed that it was a very beneficial experience.

Chair Timken called again on trustee Evans and Menefee to present the proposed creation of a Student Trustee Alumni Society as a way to continue to build Kent State's pipeline for future leadership.

### *ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE ALUMNI SOCIETY*

Trustee Evans stated that the idea of a Student Trustee Alumni Society grew out of discussions with other student trustees, both nationally and those who previously served at Kent State. This organization would have many benefits, including assisting in the acclimation of new students trustees to their position and further development of a network for the Board of Trustees to obtain the perspectives of recent graduates, he said. Trustee Menefee further elaborated upon the benefits of the group, including how it could assist in cultivating a pipeline of future leaders for the university's various volunteer boards. President Lefton presented the suggestion of collaborating with Alumni Relations to create a student trustee database.

## **Resolution 2014-47**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDENT TRUSTEE ALUMNI SOCIETY**

WHEREAS, since 1988, the Kent State University Board of Trustees has had two student members—an undergraduate and a graduate student—who have served faithfully and effectively in bringing a meaningful student perspective to the Board's work and deliberations; and



WHEREAS, student trustees past and present have performed at a high level, devoting significant time and energy to learning about governance, communicating with their peers, and participating actively in key aspects of the trustee role; and

WHEREAS, in the Board's judgment, both the university and its current and future students and alumni would benefit from the establishment of a student trustee alumni society to continue to cultivate their engagement with Kent State, nurture possible board leaders of the future, and serve as a resource, support system and sounding board; and

WHEREAS, the creation of an organization for former student trustees has been advocated by outgoing student trustees in recent years and is recommended by current student trustees Alex Evans and Monique Menefee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State Board of Trustees hereby establishes the Kent State University Student Trustee Alumni Society, effective immediately, and directs the Vice President and University Secretary to work with the Board's leadership and student trustees to develop and implement the organization.

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

*REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE*

Chair Timken called on Trustee Larry Pollock to present the report of the Nominating Committee. Trustee Pollock said the committee met and voted to present the slate of 2014-2015 officers as follows: Dennis Eckart as Chair, Steve Colecchi as Vice Chair, and Richard Marsh as Secretary. Trustee Pollock also noted that the Nominating Committee recommends the reappointment of Michael Solomon as National Trustee to a three-year term, expiring September 30, 2017.

**ACTION: Trustee Della Ratta moved, seconded by Trustee Ferrara, that the Nominating Committee recommendations be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.**

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO RETIRING DEANS*

Chair Timken called on Trustee Margot Copeland to present resolutions of appreciation honoring three exceptional deans – Dr. Gregg Andrews, Dr. David Mohan, and Dr. Stanley Wearden, all of whom will be leaving their positions this summer.

**Resolution 2014-48**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO GREGORY L. ANDREWS**

WHEREAS, Dr. Gregory L. Andrews will step down as Dean of Kent State University at Tuscarawas on June 30, 2014, following more than 18 years of extraordinary leadership; and

WHEREAS, among the accomplishments of the campus of which Dr. Andrews is most proud, are the development of an outstanding and student-centered faculty, expansion of degree program opportunities to meet needs of the local community, significant contributions to economic and community development, and renovations to facilities and new construction including its state-of-the-industry Science and Advanced Technology Center and world-class Performing Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, given the unique structure of the Tuscarawas campus, his day-to-day responsibilities also have included service to the Tuscarawas County University Branch District Board of Trustees and the Tuscarawas County University Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andrews is active in the local community, volunteering his time to the Stark-Tuscarawas Regional Workforce Investment Board, the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Tuscarawas County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, he was instrumental in the development of the Knowledge-Based Economic Development initiative, the CIC's Tuscarawas Regional Technology Park, and the Tolloty Technology Incubator; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude to Gregory L. Andrews for his extraordinary leadership of Kent State University at Tuscarawas and his contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Dr. Andrews commented that he has spent 29 years at Kent State and that it was an honor and privilege to serve the university.

#### **Resolution 2014-49**

#### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO DAVID H. MOHAN**

WHEREAS, in 2004 Dr. David H. Mohan became Dean of Kent State University at Geauga and its Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg, following a successful career as faculty member and director of Kent State's School of Technology and chief operating officer in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, a new state-of-art Regional Academic Center was constructed, supporting the expansion of associate and baccalaureate programs, laboratory instruction, executive education, post-secondary enrollment options, and other needed educational services to the community; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these initiatives, Kent State University at Geauga's concurrent enrollment has increased from 900 to 2,800 students in the combined locations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohan also has been an active leader in the community, serving as the board president of Portage Area Senior Services, board chairman of United Christian Ministries, and as a volunteer for Hospice and the Alzheimer's Association; and

WHEREAS, among his many professional laurels, Dr. Mohan received the university's 2012 Diversity Trailblazer Award, which recognizes individuals or groups for significant contributions to enhance diversity and inclusive excellence at Kent State; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Mohan will take a much-deserved second attempt at retirement when he leaves the deanship on June 30, 2014; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude to David H. Mohan for his leadership of Kent State University at Geauga and his many contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Dr. Mohan commented that it was his privilege to come to Kent State in 1967, serving at both the Kent and Geauga campuses.

### **Resolution 2014-50**

#### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO STANLEY T. WEARDEN**

WHEREAS, Dr. Stanley Wearden joined Kent State University in 1984 as an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, advancing through the ranks and earning a reputation for excellence in teaching and scholarship as evidenced by his receipt of the university's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2002; and

WHEREAS, he also demonstrated a talent for administration, leading to his service as interim and then the permanent director of the School of Communication Studies in 2004 and Dean of the College of Communication and Information in 2009; and

WHEREAS, recent highlights of the college under Dr. Wearden's leadership include increasing college graduate enrollment by 27 percent in four years, growing international graduate enrollment by 160 percent and international undergraduate enrollment by 287 percent, forming a college-wide integrative Ph.D. program, creating education abroad scholarships and programs and increasing education abroad participation in the college by more than 1,500 percent, and opening a student-operated integrated marketing communication firm, IdeaBase, that serves both university and external clients from off-campus commercial space in downtown Kent; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wearden assumes his new role as Senior Vice President and Provost of Columbia College Chicago on July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, he is a well-known and highly respected colleague who will be deeply missed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude to Stanley T. Wearden for his outstanding leadership of the College of Communication and Information and his contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Dr. Wearden thanked the Board for the recognition and the opportunity he has been afforded at Kent State.

**ACTION: Trustee Marsh moved, seconded by Trustee Eckart, that the resolutions be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.**

Chair Timken thanked deans Andrews, Mohan and Wearden for their service and presented them with framed copies of their resolutions.

Chair Timken called on Trustee Larry Pollock to present a resolution honoring Gene Finn, who was joining Columbia University on August 4.

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO EUGENE J. FINN*

Trustee Pollock then presented the following framed resolution honoring Vice President of Institutional Advancement Gene Finn.

**Resolution 2014-51**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO EUGENE J. FINN**

WHEREAS, Eugene J. Finn became Kent State University's Vice President of Institutional Advancement in April 2007 after successful leadership as the associate vice president of advancement for The George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, as Kent State's chief development officer, Vice President Finn has helped advance the quality of teaching and learning, the vitality of scholarship and the arts, the quality of university facilities, the culture of philanthropy, and especially, the opportunities for students supported through the significant expansion of endowed and annual scholarships raised on his watch; and

WHEREAS, his contributions to Kent State's excellence agenda are many and diverse, and include the successful completion of the Centennial Campaign, the largest in university history, which exceeded its \$250-million goal, raising \$265 million in gifts and pledges; and

WHEREAS, as executive director of the Kent State University Foundation, Vice President Finn provided instrumental leadership in the foundation's development of the landmark Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center, which opened in 2013 and served as a critical linchpin for the redevelopment of downtown Kent; and

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2014, he will join Columbia University as Vice President of Development, Arts and Sciences, and Associate Dean for Development and Alumni Relations for Columbia College; and

WHEREAS, the eight campuses of Kent State University have benefitted from Mr. Finn's expertise, energy, and unwavering commitments to excellence and student success; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to Eugene J. Finn for his dedicated leadership and contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

Gene Finn thanked his staff, stating that any of his successes is their successes and stated what a honor it was to serve the university.

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

Chair Timken called on Trustee Monique Menefee to present a resolution honoring retiring Student Trustee Alex Evans.

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO ALEX EVANS*

Trustee Menefee then presented the following resolution honoring Alex Evans.

**Resolution 2014-52**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO ALEX EVANS**

WHEREAS, Alex Evans was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor John Kasich, effective August 13, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Evans is respected by his Board colleagues as a highly motivated, hard-working, and principled individual who is well prepared and professional in his conduct and participates actively in all aspects of the trustee role; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Evans has served as a member of the Board's Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee, and External Relations and Development Committee, and serves on the board-administration Joint Project Oversight Committee offering valuable perspectives regarding the landmark Foundations of Excellence, Building the Future initiative; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Evans has excelled in his studies and in May 2014 will earn three bachelor's degrees — a B.S. in Biology with a Pre-Med concentration, a B.B.A. in Business Management, and a B.S.P.H. in Public Health (Pre-Medicine) — before continuing graduate studies in public health and business administration; and

WHEREAS, along with fulfilling his responsibilities as Student Trustee, he has held a number of leadership roles, including student representative to the Honors College Policy Council, president of Habitat for Humanity – Kent State Chapter, treasurer of the Kent State University Student Ambassadors, and volunteer tutor and peer mentor; and

WHEREAS, the Board, the administration and the university community applaud him for his high performance, dedication to public service, and devotion to Kent State; now, therefore,

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

Alex Evans stated that he was very grateful to serve the last two years and that he has learned a lot during his term.

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

Chair Timken then called on Trustee Dennis Eckart.

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO JANE MURPHY TIMKEN*

Trustee Eckart presented the following resolution honoring Jane Timken and presented her with a bouquet of 18 roses. He thanked her for her dedication to the mission of the university, her drive for excellence, and her ability to demand from her peers a holistic understanding of what it is to be a college.

**Resolution 2014-53**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO JANE MURPHY TIMKEN**

WHEREAS, Jane Murphy Timken was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor Bob Taft on May 16, 2005; and

WHEREAS, through her stewardship Trustee Timken has made an indelible impact on Kent State, leading the Board in a variety of important roles and holding the unique and impactful distinction of appointing two university presidents during her Board tenure; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Timken has served on all of the Board's standing committees, chaired the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee (2006-2008), held all of the Board's leadership positions—Chair (2012-2014), Vice Chair (2010-2012), and Secretary (2009-2010)—and served as a member of the board-administration Joint Project Oversight Committee since its inception; and

WHEREAS, as Board Chair from 2012-2014, she has provided inspired leadership at a momentous time in Kent State history, which has included the selection of Dr. Beverly J. Warren as Kent State's 12<sup>th</sup> President succeeding President Lester A. Lefton on July 1, 2014, and the implementation of the historic *Foundations of Excellence, Building the Future* initiative; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Timken has earned wide respect as a willing listener, a principled leader, and a passionate and relentless advocate for excellence and for Kent State; and

WHEREAS, beyond her trusteeship, she has brought distinction to Kent State through her professional achievements and service to the Stark County community, including membership on the boards of Community Services of Stark

County, ArtsinStark, the Archangel Committee of the St. Michael Parish, Family Services, Inc., and the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that because of her superlative commitment and contributions to the advancement of Kent State University as a member of the Board of Trustees, Jane Murphy Timken is hereby designated Trustee Emeritus of Kent State University with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

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

Chair Timken was presented with gifts from the Board. She stated that she could not believe she has been on the Board for nine years and that she really appreciated Trustee Eckart's comments. She went on to state that it has always been her goal to prepare and educate students for a greater future for our country, the state of Ohio, and the city of Kent.

Chair Timken then turned to the final resolution, of Lester A. Lefton. She stated that the Board is extremely pleased and proud of the performance and progress of Kent State; going on to say that never before has the university been stronger academically, financially, or in its relationships with the broader community.

Chair Timken remarked that President Lefton has been the right leader at the right time and that the Board has seen him demonstrate his deep commitment to this vision through the relentless pursuit of excellence—for the sake of our students, our state, and our nation.

She commented that this will be Dr. Lefton's final meeting as our president and asked that everyone take a few moments to view a special video that was prepared in honor of Lester and Linda Lefton, that shows the leader, the man, the father and grandfather.

After the video Chair Timken asked Trustee Della Ratta to present a resolution of appreciation to President Lefton on behalf of the Board.

*RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO LESTER A. LEFTON*

Trustee Della Ratta then presented the following resolution honoring Lester A. Lefton. Before reading his resolution, he stated the President Lefton is a visionary and has an outrageous ambition. He continued by thanking him for everything he has given this university and stated that he cannot imagine Kent State ever having a better leader.

**Resolution 2014-54**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO LESTER A. LEFTON**



WHEREAS, Dr. Lester A. Lefton has served with distinction as Kent State University's 11<sup>th</sup> president since July 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS, his development of and dedication to the university's Excellence Agenda has led to eight years of remarkable growth, transformation and positive momentum; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lefton's leadership legacy includes increasing student retention and graduation, setting new records in enrollment and fundraising, elevating the university's academic strengths and standing, completing the largest-ever Centennial Campaign, increasing Kent State's international presence; and modernizing facilities to meet the aspirations of our students and their families through the historic *Foundations of Excellence, Building the Future* initiative; and

WHEREAS, he has forged a new era of town-gown collaboration, remaking Kent as one of America's best college towns and physically connecting a vibrant campus with a newly vibrant city, which the Board honored in December 2013 with the naming of the Lester A. Lefton Esplanade; and

WHEREAS, his intelligence, strategic vision, vitality and passion for higher education in general and Kent State in particular are and will remain an inspiration to all those who have had the privilege of working with him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude and abiding admiration to Dr. Lester A. Lefton for his extraordinary contributions to Kent State, Northeast Ohio, and the field of higher education; and wishes the president and Linda J. Lefton, who the Board recognizes for her invaluable support of the university and the president, great contentment and joy as they begin a new chapter in their lives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby bestows upon Dr. Lester A. Lefton the title of President Emeritus, effective July 1, 2014.

Lester Lefton thanked the Board for their support in addition to the faculty and deans for their hard work and dedication everyday. He went on to thank individually his cabinet members including Ed Mahon, Joel Nielsen, Alfreda Brown, Greg Jarvie, Joe Vitale, Willis Walker, Iris Harvey, Todd Diacon, Gregg Floyd, Gene Finn, and Charlene Reed. He continued by thanking his assistants, Debra Berry and Shawna Horvath.

With that, Chair Timken announced there was no additional business to come before the board.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Timken announced that the next regular business meeting of the Board of Trustees would occur September 17, 2014, at the Kent Campus in Kent, Ohio. On motion duly made and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.