

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A newsletter for faculty, staff and students of The University of Findlay

Special Edition

Oct. 20, 2003

HIGHLIGHTS FROM TRUSTEES' MEETING

The Board of Trustees of The University of Findlay met on Oct. 17, 2003, on campus. Twenty-six trustees attended, as well as undergraduate student representative Kyle Stone, graduate student representative Anne Hohenbrink, faculty representative Dr. Linda Peck and four staff members.

The Board reviewed and considered reports that had been prepared beforehand on academic affairs, business affairs, institutional advancement, student services and trustee personnel matters. Highlights and information shared with the Board follows.

Fall enrollment was 4,711 compared to 4,586 last year, an increase of 125 students, or 2.7 percent. There are 430 international students enrolled. This places the University among the top few private institutions in the country in the percentage and number of international students.

Over the last four years, total enrollment has increased from 4,182 to 4,711, an increase of 529. The number of graduate students has increased from 854 to 1,281, an increase of 427.

Undergraduate enrollment has increased from 3,328 to 3,430, an increase of 102.

Student housing occupancy is 1,164 compared to 937 last year, an increase of 227. The number of student contracts for the dining service has increased from 841 last year to 960 this year, an increase of 119. Both new residences and dining facilities have been received well by students and are serving well.

There are 157 full-time faculty members and 145 adjunct faculty who began the 2003-04 academic year. Of the full-time faculty, 68, or 43 percent, are tenured, and 79, or 50 percent, hold terminal degrees in their fields.

Full-time faculty, as part of their regular contracts, teach 49 percent of

the student credit hours generated. They teach 18 percent of the student credit hours generated as overloads. Part-time faculty teach 33 percent of the student credit hours generated.

Academic actions shared with the Board included:

- Two volunteer faculty and staff groups under the structure of the Teaching Learning and Technology Center have developed a syllabus template and copyright policy manual for use by faculty.
- An online student course evaluation was developed and implemented this fall.
- A student retention program was initiated this fall and is off to a good start.
- Accreditation for the master of athletic training has been approved, and the occupational therapy program received 10-year accreditation with no qualifications.

The report for the visit in February 2004 by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) was discussed.

The operating budget for 2002-03 was balanced with a margin of \$303,000 if depreciation expense is not included. The audited budget for 2002-03 shows a change in net assets of \$618,017 when depreciation, amortization, net assets released from restriction and investment gains are included.

The proposed operating budget for 2003-04 was approved. It includes a five percent tuition increase for next academic year and a three percent salary increase, which is effective January 1, 2004. The budget for 2003-04 is pro-

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jected to be balanced if depreciation expense is not included.

In implementing the plan for salary increases, a pool of funds, amounting to three percent of total salaries for 2003-04, will be allocated to the vice presidents for salary increases, which are to be effective January 1, 2004.

The University successfully completed several improvement projects during the spring and summer. About \$1.25 million of the costs of those projects were to be paid from operating budgets, with \$1,172,000 of that cost forward funded to the 2003-04 budget. This will place a strain on the 2003-04 budget.

The teaching and compensation system is being reviewed by a faculty task force consisting of a faculty member from each of the five colleges. The task force has been asked to review the current system and recommend ways to improve it that will be seen as fair and that will be educationally beneficial. The task force report will go to the Deans' Council and Graduate Council who will make recommendation to the Faculty Senate, which will provide final recommendation to the president by Dec. 1, 2003.



The Office of Undergraduate Admissions had a good recruiting year, with 708 new students. Five counselors who resigned in the spring and early summer have been replaced. The office has several compatible and mutually supportive activities with the Office of Student Services and has been made a part of student services.

Investment results during the last few months have been better than market averages. The Investment Committee recommended, and the Board approved, a change in investment policy which would permit up to 10 percent of invested assets to be in liquid alternative investments. An example of the latter would be hedge funds.

The Board approved the audit report for 2002-03 that was submitted by the outside auditor, Ernst and Young. The audit report shows a change in net assets of \$618,017, with depreciation and amortization of \$2,447,249, net assets released from restriction of \$2,528,000, and investment gain of \$728,301.

Total private giving for fiscal year 2003 was \$2.1 million plus \$1.3 million in federal and state grants and \$1.8 million of gifts in kind, for a total of \$5.2 million. The Office of Research and Grants has been made a part of the Office of Institutional Advancement.

Student Services offices have been active as the year began in a



wide range of services which include counseling, disability, health, intramurals, minority, safety and security, activities for commuter students, campus ministry, academic support center and dining services.

Mr. Bruce Lee, an executive with Fifth Third Bank, was appointed to the Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Robert J. King, Jr., also of Fifth Third. Two former trustees have resigned, Dr. W. Terrell Jones and Mr. Dennis Foster.

Several positive features of student and faculty activities were reviewed during the trustee meeting. Those included the favorable opening of school, as well as successful student participation in equestrian competition, theater, music, athletics, student government and in many other ways. Faculty teaching and commitment were reported to be excellent. Student involvement in activity was similarly reported to be excellent.

The Concert and Lecture Series will be initiated with a concert by the Toledo Symphony on Jan. 30, 2004.

Speaker for the Dec. 6 commencement will be Dr. Jerry Mallet, professor of education.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees is Dr. C. Richard Beckett. Vice Chairman is Mr. Richard E. White.

The trustees will meet again on Feb. 6, 2004.