

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

Special Edition

May 8, 2006

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SPRING BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the University met on May 4 and 5 on campus. Thirty-three trustees attended the meeting, as well as undergraduate student representative Katherine O'Connor, faculty representative Dr. Linda Peck, alumni representative Dr. Julie McIntosh, five staff members, and President Freed.

The Board reviewed and considered reports, which had been prepared and provided to them beforehand on academic affairs, student affairs, business affairs, development, and trustee personnel.

A principal focus of the meeting was on academic affairs, including renovations of the recently acquired for-

mer Owens facility, possible appointment of two new deans, and additions to the faculty. Academic programs were discussed in terms of recruiting, enrollment, teaching, learning, assessment, and financial support. Preparation of material for approval and accrediting agencies for several programs was reviewed.

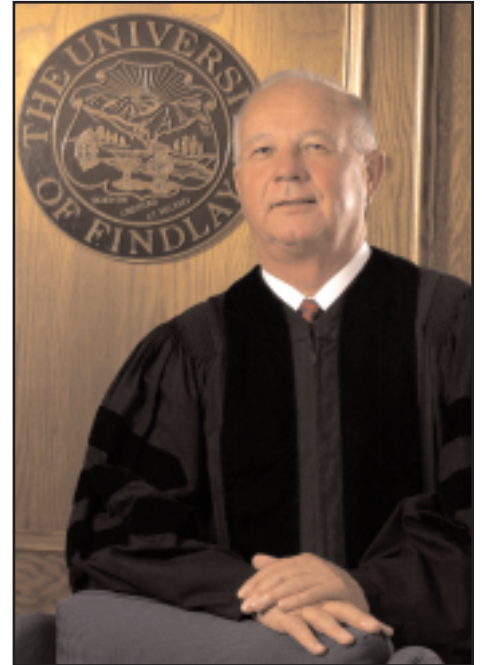
Spring semester full-time equivalent enrollment is 3,398, compared to 3,311 last year and 3,546 the year before. Headcount enrollment is 4,269, compared to 4,159 last year and 4,352 the year before. Enrollment of international students is 515, compared to 467 last year and 405 the year before.

The numbers of undergraduate inquiries and deposits for first-time freshmen for next fall are up. The number of applications is about the same as last year. Transfer applications and deposits are up.

The first registration day on May 11 is fully subscribed at 180 new students. A hope is that applications, deposits, and registered students can pull ahead steadily and consistently.

Enrolling 800 new full-time undergraduate students next fall, about 50 more than last fall, can help to populate academic programs where there is excellent teaching capability that is not now being fully utilized.

Retention of first-time freshmen from fall semester to spring semester is 90 percent this year, compared to 87 percent last year and 84 percent the year before.



Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chairman of The University of Findlay Board of Trustees

The number of students living on campus in University housing is 1,141, compared to 1,026 last year and 1,069 the year before. The number of student contracts for the dining service is 966, compared to 946 last year and 960 the year before.

Residence hall improvements include completing the refurbishing of Fox and Bare halls with new room furniture, flooring, and lounge furniture. Total cost of residence hall improvements is expected to be about \$400,000.

Through the first three-fourths of the current fiscal year, the budget is balanced, with a positive net reserve.



The mission of The University of Findlay is to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.

Projections are that the budget for the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2006, will be balanced, and all projects will be paid from operating funds or contributions. Year-end results will depend somewhat on early summer enrollment.

The projected budget for 2006-07 is based on enrollment similar to this year's enrollment. With that assumption, the budget is projected to be balanced, with a positive net reserve.

Plans are to add faculty for next year in biology, chemistry, pharmacy, and other needed areas.

Efforts to strengthen salaries of middle and lower income personnel were noted, as well as plans for a further equity adjustment, probably in late summer.

A total of \$7.2 million is expected to be spent on campus and western farm projects during the summer and next fall. The Mazza Museum expansion will be \$2.2 million. An estimated \$3.0 million will be spent to prepare the former Owens facility for UF instructional use. Academic and campus physical plant improvement projects amount to about \$1.5 million.

Return on University's invested total pooled funds for the first quarter of 2006 was up 5.8 percent, compared to the Standard & Poor Index (S&P) for the same period of 4.2 percent. For the trailing 12 months, the University's pooled funds were up 17.4 percent and the S&P Index for the same period was up 11.7 percent.

To serve the increased number of western equestrian students better, an arena is under construction. This follows the addition last year of an isolation barn and enclosed area for lockers. Fall enrollment for the western equestrian program is estimated to be 190-200 students.

Several positive features of student and faculty activities were noted during the trustee meeting. Those included successful participation in equestrian competition, theatre, music, athletics, numerous service and charity projects, student government, and in many other areas.

Faculty teaching and commitment to student learning were reported to be excellent. Student involvement in campus activity was similarly reported to be excellent.

Gifts and grants through March 31, 2005, were \$4.3 million compared with \$3.4 million the year before. December giving was ahead of recent years, partially as a result of two large gifts for the Mazza Museum expansion. The \$2.2 million campaign goal for an addition to the Mazza Museum was met and exceeded. More systematic and energetic fund raising will be undertaken among trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and others.

SEEM operations are to focus on those services that meet societal needs and result in fee income. Funding for an ALERT center will be pursued but construction will not be initiated until needed funds from non-University sources are in hand or committed.

Trustees formally approved the purchase of the former Owens facility, the financing plan for it, and reviewed tentative plans for initial use of the building.

Trustees had available to them and reviewed, results of attitudinal surveys of faculty and staff and of students.

Trustees were informed of an out-of-state developer's proposal for the Brandman property, south of the University campus. The plan to support the general concept while also analyzing the impact of each feature of the proposal on UF operations was reviewed.

Initial planning for the 125th Anniversary celebration continue.

Reports were made to the Board by student, faculty, and alumni representatives on events and activities that they considered important. Four students made presentations on what attending The University of Findlay has meant to them on Thursday night of the two-day meeting.

Dr. C. Richard Beckett is the chairman of The University of Findlay's Board of Trustees and Richard E.

White is vice chairman.



Pastor Benjamin Keckler, right, was granted status as a trustee emeritus at the May Board of Trustees meeting. He has served as a Board member since 1985. A 1952 graduate of then-Findlay College, he also earned a degree from Winebrenner Theological Seminary in 1955. Keckler served as a pastor of Parkwood Church of God in Fort Wayne, Ind., for more than 40 years.