

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 4, 2020
Urban Conference Room, Kent State University**

Board Members Present

Ralph Della Ratta, Chair
Virginia Addicott
Todd Davidson
Robert Frost
Jasmine Hoff
Robin Kilbride
Nick Kollar
Donald Mason
Stephen Perry
Shawn Riley
Catherine Ross
Michael Solomon
Ann Womer Benjamin

KSU President's Cabinet Present

Todd Diacon, President
Alfreda Brown
David Dees
Paul DiCorleto
Nick Gattozzi
Lamar Hylton
Rebecca Murphy
Joel Nielsen
Mark Polatajko
John Rathje
Charlene Reed
Steve Sokany
Melody Tankersley
Willis Walker

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Ralph Della Ratta called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Urban Conference Room, Kent State University. Trustee Addicott 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

Chair Della Ratta announced that in accordance with Chapter 121.22, section G of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board has 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 matters of real estate for public purposes [121.22 (G)(2)]; (iii) conference with attorney for the public body concerning disputes that are or may be 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)]; (vi) details relative to security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office [121.22 (G)(6)]; and audit conference with Kent State's external audit firm.

Trustee Mason moved, seconded by Trustee Frost, that the Board retire into Executive Session. Trustee Addicott 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 10:00 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 two special guests who were in attendance: Dr. Patricia Ackerman, who is serving as the 2020 Presidential Ambassador for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Dr. Pam Grimm, chair of the Faculty Senate.

Chair Della Ratta then moved to approval of the agenda. He asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing no corrections or additions, the agenda was adopted by general consent.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES

Chair Della Ratta then asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the December 4, 2019, business meeting of the Board. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by general consent, with the abstention of Trustee Womer Benjamin who was not in attendance at the December meeting.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Della Ratta congratulated President Diacon, the students, faculty and staff for another terrific semester. He remarked that Kent State continues to excel – a consistent theme heard throughout the meetings and interactions that day.

Chair Della Ratta observed that Kent State was just two months away from the culminating events of the yearlong 50th Commemoration of May 4, 1970. The Board commends the university community for the thoughtful planning behind this far-reaching program. He said trustees had the opportunity at lunch to meet seven faculty members who are keeping the history and lessons of May 4 alive through their compelling educational and research projects. As history has shown, the faculty of 1970 saved lives and went to extraordinary lengths to keep students on track toward their college degrees. The faculty of today are carrying that torch into the future with their extraordinary projects and dedication to the May 4 legacy, he said.

Chair Della Ratta said it was enlightening to see how the faculty are using technology in creative ways to bring the history to life and reaching future generations through projects aimed at middle- and high-school teachers. He thanked the faculty members for taking time out of their

busy schedules to join the Board for lunch and to share an overview of their projects, all of which were or will be featured prominently during the 50th Commemoration year.

He thanked Trustees Riley and Ross for joining the Campaign Executive Committee on which Trustee Solomon and he now serve. Chair Della Ratta and Trustee Riley met with members of the Foundation Board and the campaign committee the previous week in Naples, Florida. Additionally, he and his wife, Rosalie, were pleased to co-sponsor a wonderful dinner with many Kent State alumni and friends in Florida. It was gratifying to see their Kent State pride and interest in contributing to the university's future.

Chair Della Ratta then concluded his remarks and called on President Diacon to give his report.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Diacon shared several recent highlights as well as the university's emerging response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). He congratulated Director of Athletics Joel Nielsen and Head Football Coach Sean Lewis for achieving Kent State's first-ever bowl victory with a 51-41 win over Utah State at the Tropical Smoothie Café Frisco Bowl in December. He praised the Golden Flashes for representing themselves and Kent State amazingly well throughout the festivities. He invited Coach Lewis to say a few words. Coach Lewis thanked President Diacon for the opportunity to coach such a commendable football program. He remarked this success was the culmination of two years of hard work, with Director Nielsen and everyone recognizing the opportunity here and giving the coaches a chance to come and build something truly special.

The women's golf team ranked fifth in the nation by the Women's Golf Coaches Association behind Duke and ahead of Wake Forest, Stanford, Florida, and the University of Arizona. At the start of the spring season, Kent State had three players nationally ranked, with the University of Texas at Austin the only other school in the country with this distinction, he noted.

Kent State continues to garner national recognition for its outstanding programs for veterans, he said. Kent State's Center for Adult and Veteran Services has received the 2020 Outstanding Adult Learner Program Award. He recognized Josh Rider, interim assistant dean and the center's director, who was in attendance. Kent State ranked among the Military Times' Best for Vets: Colleges 2020 and was named a military friendly school by G.I. Jobs for the 11th year in a row.

Kent State's pledge of free tuition for four years and one year of free room and board to the first class of students in the LeBron James Family Foundation's first I PROMISE Network received amazing coverage from CNN, Good Morning America, CBS Sports, Sports Illustrated and ESPN, he said. He thanked Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Melody Tankersley for her work with the foundation and Akron's I PROMISE School.

President Diacon introduced Dr. John Gunstad, professor of psychological sciences, who received a five-year, \$2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for his research on a new method for early detection of Alzheimer's Disease. His research uses automated speech analysis as a "digital marker" for the disease. Since early detection is key in developing new treatments and interventions, the project has tremendous potential to improve brain health.

President Diacon said he was pleased to meet with Ohio Lt. Governor Jon Husted and Chancellor Randy Gardner in mid-December, when they announced Kent State was awarded a \$2-million Choose Ohio First grant to strengthen Ohio's workforce in high-demand computer science and related fields. Kent State received the second-highest award to a public university, said President Diacon, noting that the university will use the award to attract and graduate more economically disadvantaged, first-generation and female students into the fields of computer science. He thanked Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs Paul DiCorleto for his leadership.

He announced keynote speakers for the upcoming commencements. Speaking at the Advanced Degree ceremony on May 8 will be Dr. Thomas Grace, who was wounded on May 4, 1970, went on to earn a Ph.D. in history and is now a professor in the SUNY system. Speaking at the One University Commencement on May 9 will be Dean Kahler, who was shot, wounded and paralyzed on May 4, 1970. Mr. Kahler has a very positive outlook on life and will be a terrific speaker for commencement.

Kent State was hosting an exhibit entitled "A Second Moon" and gallery talk by war photojournalist and author Ben Brody as part of the yearlong May 4 commemoration events. Mr. Brody served in the U.S. Army from 2002 to 2008, which included two tours of duty in Iraq. After leaving military service, he was a photojournalist in Afghanistan embedded with U.S. troops. He is the author of *Attention Servicemember*, which has received accolades from *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Times*, and is on the shortlist for the Aperture/Paris Photo First PhotoBook Award. President Diacon asked Ben Brody and Moema Furtado, curator of the exhibit, to stand to be recognized.

Throughout the past several weeks, President Diacon has had the opportunity to experience campus the way that students, faculty, and staff experience Kent State through an initiative he dubbed, "Todd Tries It." He said the goal of the activities are not just to have fun, but to help him as president better understand the worlds that people occupy. The more he can become familiar with the great things our Kent State people are doing and the more he can understand their lives, the more effective he will be as the university's leader. He shared immersion experiences to date with Aeronautics students, with Kent State's live TV2 broadcast, and a simulation exercise with nursing students.

Kent State officials are closely monitoring the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis to ensure the health and safety of the university's students, faculty, staff and the communities it serves, he reported. In conversation with Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Lamar Hylton during the first week of January, both recognized the situation was going to be more serious than most people may have thought at the time. Under Dr. Hylton's leadership, a pandemic planning committee was organized in January to begin drafting an action plan for an emergency response to COVID-19. University Health Services was charged with leading the committee and the action plan was to include strategies for prevention, communication and business continuity. The university has launched a website for COVID-19 information at www.kent.edu/coronavirus.

President Diacon recounted Kent State's first major test came February 23, when he received an email noting the first coronavirus cases reported in Italy. In just one week, the situation escalated

from that first notice to a Warning Level 3 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), requiring the university to return 220 students from the Florence campus. The university team came together and made a lot of very tough decisions quickly, keeping students' interests first and foremost and securing travel home for all, he noted. He recognized several members of the Kent State community who have been working on the COVID-19 response: Interim Chief University Physician Dr. Lisa Dannemiller, Interim Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of University Health Services Julie Volcheck, Associate Provost for Global Education Marcello Fantoni, Interim Vice President Hylton, and Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Melody Tankersley.

He commended the School of Theatre and Dance for its recent presentation of *Parade*, a Tony award-winning production centered on the 1913 Atlanta murder of Mary Phagan and the conviction, commutation, and lynching of Jewish factory superintendent Leo Frank. He said the production is challenging as the play deals with difficult themes of anti-Semitism, racism and violence against women. He introduced Matthew Hommel and Madison Chaitoff, the student co-leads and musical theatre majors, and asked them to comment on their experience. Mr. Hommel thanked President Diacon for supporting the arts and the theatre department. Ms. Chaitoff said she was grateful they were able to create a dialogue about how the issues in the show are still relevant and in the spirit of the May 4 legacy, to embrace that new dialogue and discussion. After the production, two historians and an education professor discussed the issues of the day raised in the play, which was a beautiful learning moment, according to President Diacon.

In closing, President Diacon announced that a Kent State University Press book, *Resurrection of the Wild: Meditations on Ohio's Natural Landscape* by Deborah Fleming, won the 2020 PEN America Art of the Essay Award. He recognized press director Susan Wadsworth-Booth and showed a brief video of the award presentation.

With that, President Diacon concluded his presentation.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

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

President Diacon called on Dr. Tankersley to present the academic personnel actions. She noted the proposed actions generally were routine in nature. Of special note were the requests for Emeritus status for five faculty members including Dr. Patrick Coy, professor and inaugural director of the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, and Dr. Donald Williams, whose career spanned more than 30 years at Kent State, including service as dean of the Honors College and associate dean of the College of Business Administration.

President Diacon next called on Senior Vice President Mark Polatajko to present the non-academic personnel actions. He stated that all non-academic personnel actions were routine and customary in nature.

By general consent, the proposed personnel actions were placed on the consent agenda for approval.

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 called on Trustee Kilbride to present the report of the External Relations and Development Committee.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Kilbride reported that the External Relations and Development Committee met earlier that day to discuss one proposed naming action and to receive informational reports on government relations, enrollment messaging, campaign planning, and fundraising.

NAMING OF THE MARTY ERBAUGH (I3) LAB WITHIN THE DESIGN INNOVATION HUB

Committee Chair Kilbride presented a resolution requesting Board approval of the naming of the Marty Erbaugh (I3) Lab within the Design Innovation Hub. She explained that I3 stands for Ideate, Innovate, Incubate. When complete, the lab will be abuzz with the frenetic entrepreneurial spirit key to any aspiring business founder's success, she noted, as student projects resulting from Design Innovation courses, hackathons and other challenge-based competitions will be grown there with intentional programming and supports. The proposed naming was made possible due to a generous gift of \$250,000 from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation in honor of the late Marty Erbaugh. Mr. Erbaugh was a dedicated and influential advisor to Kent State's LaunchNET program for student entrepreneurs as well as a longtime member of the foundation's Board of Trustees. She shared that Mr. Erbaugh's personal commitment to empowering others through entrepreneurship was described as contagious, and he believed in supporting entrepreneurs of all ages. The recommendation has the support of Design Innovation, the Division of Institutional Advancement and the President, and is consistent with university naming policy. The committee recommended that the resolution be placed on the consent agenda for approval.

Resolution 2020-1

NAMING OF THE MARTY ERBAUGH (I3) LAB WITHIN THE DESIGN INNOVATION HUB

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Burton D. Morgan Foundation wish to honor the memory of the late James Martin (Marty) Erbaugh through a philanthropic naming; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Erbaugh was a longtime advisor to LaunchNET at Kent State University and served as a Trustee of the Burton D. Morgan Foundation from 1990 until his death in May 2019; and

WHEREAS, his personal commitment to empowering others to follow their passion and purpose through entrepreneurship was contagious, and he believed in supporting entrepreneurs of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Burton D. Morgan Foundation has a longstanding relationship with Kent State, providing more than \$5 million in support for university programs and initiatives since 1976; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Burton D. Morgan Foundation approved a grant of \$250,000 supporting the development and designation of an area special to Mr. Erbaugh; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of students, faculty and staff, and citizens of Northeast Ohio and beyond who will benefit from the facility, hereby memorializes the legacy of Marty Erbaugh and expresses appreciation to the Burton D. Morgan 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 Marty Erbaugh (I3) Lab in the Design Innovation Hub.

Turning to informational reports, Trustee Kilbride said Executive Director Nick Gattozzi provided the committee with an update on pending state and federal legislation impacting higher education. He reviewed the university's capital budget requests to the State of Ohio as well as legislative proposals regarding student-athletes. The Office of Government and Community Relations continues to proactively engage with elected officials and their staffs as the primary point of contact on a range of issues involving the university, she said.

The committee also received a report on enrollment messaging to students and families from President Diacon and Interim Vice President Rebecca Murphy. They described the university's efforts to recruit the incoming class, with a focus on efforts to attract and provide access to students from low- and middle-income families. Trustee Kilbride reported that information regarding key messaging developed specifically to communicate Kent State's commitment to

access, completion and outcomes was presented. It was noted that the divisions of Enrollment Management and University Relations are working with the colleges and campuses across the university to communicate effectively with these audiences with consistent key messages.

Trustee Kilbride then reported that Vice President Steve Sokany provided an update on current fundraising results. Fundraising as of February 14, 2020, totaled \$20,360,013, which was approximately 51% of the university's projected annual goal of \$40 million and up \$2.6 million compared to the same time last year.

Trustee Kilbride then stated that the committee was informed of President Diacon's approval, consistent with university naming policy, of one naming action. The naming of the Virginia Joanne Crider, Ph.D. Private Study Room and the William S. Fleming, Ph.D. Private Study Room on the eighth floor of the University Library, was approved on January 17, 2020, she said.

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

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Kilbride for her report and asked if any trustee wished to remove the proposed naming recommendation from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing no objections, the resolution was added to the consent agenda by general consent.

Chair Della Ratta next called on Trustee Todd Davidson to present the report of the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Davidson began by thanking Chair Della Ratta and fellow board members. He stated that the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee met earlier that morning and had an extensive list of action items, all of which were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda.

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES FALL 2019

Trustee Davidson noted that the committee recommended the conferral of 2,606 degrees in Fall 2019 for approval by the Board.

Resolution 2020-2

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES Fall 2019

WHEREAS, Section 3341.05 of The Revised Code of Ohio provides that "...On the recommendation of the (KSU) faculty, the (KSU) Board of Trustees may confer such honorary and academic degrees as are customarily conferred by colleges and universities in the United States..."; and

WHEREAS, the faculties, deans and directors of Kent State University's colleges and schools recommend that appropriate degrees be conferred on those Kent State students who completed – during the period August 17, 2019, to December 14, 2019 – the various requirements of the respective programs of study they pursued; and

WHEREAS, the university has recognized completion of said programs of study by awarding diplomas as appropriate at a suitable time, during the period cited, upon such persons listed in the accompanying Summary of Candidates for Degrees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby confirms the conferral of their respective degrees upon those persons who have been officially recorded by the Kent State University Registrar as having completed the requirements during said period August 17, 2019, to December 14, 2019.

REVISIONS TO THE CODE OF REGULATIONS FOR THE KSU FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trustee Davidson then proposed revisions to the Code of Regulations for the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic. He noted that the primary change recommended was to increase the maximum number of directors from nine to 15.

Resolution 2020-3

**REVISIONS TO THE CODE OF REGULATIONS FOR THE
KSU FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic was created on May 4, 2012, as part of Kent State University's acquisition of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University serves as the sole member of the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic, an Ohio nonprofit corporation; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University and the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic undertook a review of the existing relationship, as well as the continuing evolution of activities within each organization; and

WHEREAS, following this review, revisions to the existing Code of Regulations of the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic were recommended to increase the maximum number of directors serving on the Board of Directors at any one time from nine to 15; and

WHEREAS, the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic Board of Directors reviewed and approved the proposed revisions at its meeting on December 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS, as sole member, Kent State University has final approval of revisions to the Code of Regulations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the revisions of the Code of Regulations of the KSU Foot & Ankle Clinic Board of Directors.

Trustee Davidson next presented a recommended revision in name of the School of Digital Sciences to the School of Emerging Media and Technology.

*REVISION IN NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF DIGITAL SCIENCES TO THE
SCHOOL OF EMERGING MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY WITHIN THE
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION*

He noted that the proposed name will more accurately reflect the school's revised curriculum and better align with national trends and new developments in the field. The school now is part of the College of Communication and Information.

Resolution 2020-4

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF DIGITAL SCIENCES
TO THE SCHOOL OF EMERGING MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY
WITHIN THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION**

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information seeks approval of the revision in name of the School of Digital Sciences to the School of Emerging Media and Technology; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name will more accurately reflect the school's revised curriculum and allow the school to align with national trends and adapt to new developments in the field; and

WHEREAS, through an analysis of internal and external data, the College of Communication and Information found that the school name did not adequately convey to students, parents, or employers the subject matter of the school or its programs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name will increase the school's ability to recruit students, remaining competitive with other peer universities; and

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information has focused on a cluster-hiring approach with emerging media and technology skills as a top priority, allowing for joint faculty appointments within the college; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the School of Digital Sciences to the School of Emerging Media and Technology, effective July 1, 2020.

Trustee Davidson then moved to the next action item – the proposed establishment of the Center for Research and Innovation in Translation and Translation Technology, in the College of Arts and Sciences.

*ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN
TRANSLATION AND TRANSLATION TECHNOLOGY*

Trustee Davidson said the center originally was established at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark and then brought to Kent State in 2018. It holds the largest behavioral database in the world of language processing, he said.

Resolution 2020-5

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND
INNOVATION IN TRANSLATION AND TRANSLATION
TECHNOLOGY**

WHEREAS, the proposed center is multidisciplinary, drawing faculty and students from the departments of Computer Science, Psychological Sciences, and Modern and Classical Language Studies with the purpose of supporting opportunities for interdisciplinary scholarship and research; and

WHEREAS, the center, originally established at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark and then brought to Kent State in 2018, has gathered the largest behavioral database in the world of language processing; and

WHEREAS, the center's purpose is to collect, annotate, visualize, and analyze data bringing together faculty and graduate students who are interested in researching how language is processed in humans and machines from a computational, psychological and sociality point of view; 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 formal establishment of the Center for Research and Innovation in Translation and Translation Technology within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Fall 2020.

Trustee Davidson reported that the committee also recommended an additional 16 curricular proposals for Board approval. He noted that all of the curriculum changes were reviewed and approved by the Faculty Senate, the Provost and the President.

Committee members were pleased to see the establishment of new majors, particularly those that will meet high-demand workforce needs related to information technology, cybersecurity and engineering in the Northeast Ohio region and the nation, he said. Included among the recommended actions are the establishment of new majors in Acting for the Returning Professional in the Master of Fine Arts Degree; Aerospace Engineering Major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees; Cybersecurity Engineering Major within the Bachelor of Science Degree; Data Science Major within the Master of Science Degree; Theatre Design and Technology Major within the Master of Fine Arts Degree.

Resolution 2020-6

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ACTING FOR THE RETURNING PROFESSIONAL MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of the Arts seeks approval of the establishment of the Acting for the Returning Professional major within the Master of Fine Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, since 1997 the School of Theatre and Dance has offered a track within the Master of Fine Arts degree for seasoned professional performers, and then in 2016 as an official concentration; and

WHEREAS, the Acting for the Returning Professional program provides students with opportunities to hone performance and teaching skills as well as learn a variety of theatre techniques and theories within a flexible model; and

WHEREAS, elevating the concentration into a defined major will allow the Acting for the Returning Professional program to be more visible to prospective students as well as meet the traditional demand for terminal degrees in performance areas by theatre professionals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate school and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 establishment of the Acting for the Returning Professional major within the Master of Fine Arts degree, effective Fall 2020, pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Resolution 2020-7

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AEROSPACE ENGINEERING MAJOR
WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
DEGREES**

WHEREAS, the College of Aeronautics and Engineering seeks approval of the establishment of the Aerospace Engineering major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program prepares students for careers in the aerospace engineering and defense industry, providing students with training and practical research experience in a high-demand field; and

WHEREAS, Ohio is ranked eighth in the country in aerospace manufacturing and first in the country for supplying innovative aerospace components and systems to the aerospace industry; and

WHEREAS, workforce training in aerospace engineering at the graduate level is critical to support the growing needs in Ohio and nationwide in the areas of defense, aerospace manufacturing and research; and

WHEREAS, faculty have developed the program's curriculum to meet the accreditation standards set by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET); and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 establishment of the Aerospace Engineering major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees, effective Fall 2020, pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission.

Resolution 2020-8

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CYBERSECURITY ENGINEERING MAJOR
WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Aeronautics and Engineering seeks approval of the establishment of the Cybersecurity Engineering major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program prepares students for engineering careers in cybersecurity; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing demand in the cybersecurity job market with one million unfilled cybersecurity positions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, faculty have developed the program's curriculum to meet the accreditation standards set by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET); and

WHEREAS, there is no anticipated need for additional faculty hires at this time; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 establishment of the Cybersecurity Engineering major within the Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2020, pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Resolution 2020-9

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DATA SCIENCE MAJOR
WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences seeks approval of the establishment of the Data Science major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program prepares students for careers as machine learning engineers, data scientists, and big data engineers across numerous fields; and

WHEREAS, careers in data science have grown 650 percent since 2012 with an increasing demand for skilled professionals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Data Science program will be cross-collaborative, utilizing many existing courses across various disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 establishment of the Data Science major within the Master of Science degree, effective Fall 2020, pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Higher Learning Commission.

Resolution 2020-10

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE THEATRE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of the Arts seeks approval of the establishment of the Theatre Design and Technology major within the Master of Fine Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, since 1994 the School of Theatre and Dance has offered a concentration within the Master of Fine Arts degree in Design and Technology; and

WHEREAS, over time the Design and Technology concentration has undergone significant course updates, making it clear to faculty that Design and Technology is much broader than a concentration, necessitating a separate program; and

WHEREAS, elevating the concentration into a defined major will allow the Design and Technology program to be more visible to prospective students as well as meet the traditional demand for terminal degrees in performance areas by theatre professionals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed degree program has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate school and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 establishment of the Theatre Design and Technology major within the Master of Fine Arts degree, effective Fall 2020, pending approval of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Trustee Davidson further noted the revision in name of nine majors and the inactivation of the Theatre Studies major.

Resolution 2020-11

REVISION IN NAME OF THE CHEMICAL PHYSICS MAJOR TO THE MATERIALS SCIENCE MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences seeks approval of the revision in name of the Chemical Physics major to the Material Sciences major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees; and

WHEREAS, the revision in name is recommended in order to align with peer institutions as well as to reflect the direction of the field and its research; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name more accurately describes the program's focus on research in liquid crystals, polymers, elastomers, colloids and their compositions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will have no effect on course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Chemical Physics major to the Materials Science major within the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-12

REVISION IN NAME OF THE COMPUTER DESIGN, ANIMATION AND GAME DESIGN MAJOR TO THE TECHNICAL MODELING DESIGN MAJOR WITHIN THE ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of Applied and Technical Studies seeks approval of the revision in name of the Computer Design, Animation and Game Design major to the Technical Modeling Design major within the Associate of Applied Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name Technical Modeling Design better reflects the revised program objectives, focusing on technical programming and two- and three- dimensional modeling; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will have no impact on course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the campus and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Computer Design, Animation and Game Design major to the Technical Modeling Design major within the Associate of Applied Science degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-13

REVISION IN NAME OF THE DIGITAL SCIENCES MAJOR TO THE EMERGING MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of Communication and Information seeks approval of the revision in name of the Digital Sciences major to the Emerging Media and Technology major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, through an analysis of internal and external data, the College of Communication and Information found that the current name did not adequately convey to students, parents, or employers the subject matter of the program; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision in name will more accurately align the program with our peer institutions, making it easier for recruitment and marketing; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name change more accurately reflects the curriculum's focus on web development and programming, providing a pathway for students across emerging media and technology fields; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Digital Sciences major to the Emerging Media and Technology major within the Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-14

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE GERMAN LITERATURE, CULTURE
AND TRANSLATION MAJOR TO THE GERMAN MAJOR WITHIN
THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies seek approval of the revision in name of the German Literature, Culture and Translation major to the German major within the Bachelor of Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has offered a bachelor's degree in German since 1946; and

WHEREAS, German more accurately describes the broad range of courses offered in the areas of German language, linguistics, history, and other German-related studies; and

WHEREAS, removing the word translation from the German major distinguishes it from the Translation major, German concentration; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will not affect other programs, course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the German Literature, Culture and Translation major to the German major within the Bachelor of Arts degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-15

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE GLOBAL STUDIES MAJOR TO THE
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF
ARTS DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Arts and Sciences seeks approval of the revision in name of the Global Studies major to the International Relations major within the Bachelor of Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, in Fall 2018 Kent State University Board of Trustees approved the renaming of the International Relations major to the Global Studies major within the Bachelor of Arts upon recommendation by the College of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, there has been a significant decline in enrollment since the revision in name, making it clear that prospective students are confused by the program name; and

WHEREAS, faculty anticipate that by renaming the Global Studies major back to the International Relations major will better serve the interests of students and have positive impact on enrollment; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will have no impact on the program's curriculum, course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Global Studies major to the International Studies major within the Bachelor of Arts degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-16

REVISION IN NAME OF THE MODELING, ANIMATION AND GAME CREATION MAJOR TO THE ANIMATION GAME DESIGN MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of Applied and Technical Studies seeks approval of the revision in name of the Modeling, Animation and Game Creation major to the Animation Game Design major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the Modeling, Animation and Game Creation major within the Bachelor of Science degree in 2018; and

WHEREAS, since then, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) requested a revision to the name and curriculum of the program prior to delivering its approval; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name change more accurately reflects the program's mission and content, preparing students for careers in content creation, technical illustration, two- and three- dimensional modeling, game design, animation and artistic production and exhibition; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will have no impact on course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the campus and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Modeling, Animation and Game Creation major to the Animation Game Design major within the Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-17

REVISION IN NAME OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAJOR TO THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT PERFORMANCE MAJOR WITHIN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

WHEREAS, the College of Education, Health and Human Services seeks approval of the revision in name of the Physical Education Major to the Physical Education and Sport Performance Major within the Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has offered a bachelor's degree in physical education since 1971; and

WHEREAS, a bachelor's degree in physical education does not accurately reflect the current structure and coursework in the major; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will not affect other programs, course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Physical Education major to the Physical Education and Sport Performance major within the Bachelor of Science degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-18

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE REHABILITATION COUNSELING
MAJOR TO THE CLINICAL REHABILITATION COUNSELING
MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Education, Health and Human Services seeks approval of the revision in name of the Rehabilitation Counseling Major to the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Major within the Master of Education degree; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has offered a Master of Education in rehabilitation counseling since 1964; and

WHEREAS, the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs requires institutions to select a specialty focus area; and

WHEREAS, faculty within the School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences selected the clinical rehabilitation counseling specialty, which gives students greater career opportunities upon graduation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling major combines the skills required of clinical mental health counselors and rehabilitation counselors to better serve people with disabilities in a variety of settings; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Rehabilitation Counseling major to the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling major within the Master of Education degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-19

**REVISION IN NAME OF THE SPORT AND RECREATION
MANAGEMENT MAJOR TO THE SPORT ADMINISTRATION MAJOR
WITHIN THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE**

WHEREAS, the College of Education, Health and Human Services seeks approval of the revision in name of the Sport and Recreation Management Major to the Sport Administration Major within the Master of Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has offered a master's degree in sports management since 1988; and

WHEREAS, no programs accredited by the Commission of Sport Management currently use the word “recreation” in its title; and

WHEREAS, renaming the program to the Sport Administration major aligns the program with Kent State’s undergraduate degree, promoting a strong brand identity; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will not affect other programs, course offerings, faculty or students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name revision has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate department and college faculty and curriculum committees, the Educational Policies Council, and the Faculty Senate, 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 revision in name of the Sport and Recreation Management major to the Sport Administration major within the Master of Arts degree, effective Fall 2020.

Resolution 2020-20

INACTIVATION OF THE THEATRE STUDIES MAJOR WITHIN THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

WHEREAS, the School of Theatre and Dance within the College of the Arts seeks approval of the inactivation of the Theatre Studies major within the Master of Fine Arts degree; and

WHEREAS, the Theatre Studies major is comprised of three concentrations, two of which have been successful in enrollment; and

WHEREAS, the School of Theatre and Dance proposes to inactivate the Theatre Studies major within the Master of Fine Arts degree and replace the program with the two successful concentrations, Acting for the Returning Professional and Design and Technology; and

WHEREAS, students currently enrolled in the Theatre Studies program will have the choice of finishing their major under the current program or transitioning to either the proposed Theatre Design and Technology major or the proposed Acting for the Returning Professional major with no impact to their studies; and

WHEREAS, the proposed inactivation of the Theatre Studies major has been reviewed and approved by the College of the Arts, 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 inactivation of the Theatre Studies major within the Master of Fine Arts degree, effective Fall 2020.

The Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee recommended that the academic personnel actions and the management decision items be placed on the consent agenda, he said.

Trustee Davidson then shared that the committee was provided with two informational items. President Diacon introduced Dr. Patricia Ackerman, who is serving as the Presidential Ambassador for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion during the 2020 calendar year; and President Diacon, on behalf of Vice President Mary Parker, gave the committee an update on Enrollment Management.

With that Trustee Davidson concluded his report for the Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee.

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Davidson for his report and asked if any trustee wished to remove any of the resolutions presented from the consent agenda for further discussion. There were no objections and the resolutions were added to the consent agenda by general consent.

Chair Della Ratta then asked Trustee Stephen Perry to present the report of the Audit and Compliance Committee

AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Perry stated that the Audit and Compliance Committee met earlier that morning. Committee members were introduced to RSM US LLP, Kent State University's new external audit firm, and were pleased to meet Matt Garvey, relationship lead and audit partner, and Steve Ansberry, audit senior manager. RSM will serve as the external auditor for Kent State University, the WKSU radio station, and the Kent State University Foundation, and will perform the NCAA agreed-upon procedures. Trustee Perry further noted that the contract is for a five-year period and will encompass fiscal years 2020 through 2024. The RSM representatives presented an outline of the audit activities that will be performed as part of Kent State University's fiscal year 2020 financial statement audit, he said.

The committee also heard a presentation from Director of Internal Audit Jo Ann Gustafson regarding the Office of Internal Audit's performance report for the second quarter of fiscal year 2020. The report compared the internal audit plan budgeted hours to actual hours and there were no unusual items to report. Dr. Polatajko next provided an update on the Office of Internal Audit leadership transition that would occur with Ms. Gustafson's retirement effective March 31, 2020. The university has initiated a national search for a new Director of Internal Audit, which would be concluding soon, according to Dr. Polatajko.

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

Chair Della Ratta thanked Trustee Perry and called on Trustee Donald Mason to present the report of the Finance and Administration Committee on behalf of Committee Chair Shawn Riley.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Mason stated that the Finance and Administration Committee met earlier that day and discussed several items to be considered by the Board. He noted that in addition to the non-academic personnel actions presented earlier, the committee requested Board approval of the following items, all of which were recommended for inclusion on the consent agenda.

He first presented the proposed resolution seeking approval to modify a variety of fees charged to students, including a modest increase in parking rates.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL PROGRAM, COURSE, AND OTHER FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2020

Trustee Mason noted that the proposed changes in fees have undergone rigorous review to ensure the necessity of the fees and/or revisions provided. Some of the proposed changes incorporate course fees into program fees to provide for consistency and predictability and many represent a pass-through of direct expenses incurred by the university on behalf of the student.

Resolution 2020-21

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL PROGRAM, COURSE, AND OTHER FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2020

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

WHEREAS, proposed changes to program, course and miscellaneous fees have been reviewed extensively by university staff including executive officers for compliance with statutory requirements and to ensure that all are in the appropriate amounts and are necessary to protect program quality; 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 2020 semester, unless otherwise noted, subject to required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Trustee Mason then presented the proposed resolution seeking the approval of tuition and fee rates for the College of Podiatric Medicine for the 2020-2021 academic year.

*APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE
2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR*

He noted that third- and fourth-year students begin their new academic year in May, so the approval of final tuition and fee rates was needed at this time so billing could occur prior to the beginning of the semester. Additional resources are needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to repair and maintain academic facilities, he noted. The proposed increase will not change the college's tuition ranking relative to other podiatric medicine colleges in the nation.

Resolution 2020-22

**APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES
COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE
2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR**

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 College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) operates under a different academic calendar than the rest of the university and billing for fall semester occurs in the spring prior to the next Board of Trustees meeting; and

WHEREAS, tuition for KSUCPM is not subject to the tuition increase limitations set forth in the State of Ohio budget bill; and

WHEREAS, additional resources are needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students and to repair and maintain academic facilities; and

WHEREAS, proposed changes to KSUCPM 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; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of proposed fee changes to be effective for the 2020-21 academic year.

Trustee Mason then moved to consideration of room and board rates effective Fall 2020.

APPROVAL OF ROOM AND BOARD RATES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2020

He noted that rising costs of operations and reinvestment in facilities necessitate fee adjustments to preserve and improve residence hall offerings and board plans. The committee reviewed and recommended Board approval of proposals by Residence Services and University Dining Services to increase the double-room rate by 2.99% and the preponderant board rate by 3.62%, with the blended increase for both room and board of 3.24%.

Trustee Mason noted that among the dining improvements for the coming year will be the opening of a new all-you-can-eat facility and retail market in the Design Innovation Hub, which opens for Fall 2020 classes, and major upgrades to Rosie's Diner in the Tri-Towers Rotunda. Residence Services will provide additional support for the planned living/learning community expansion, student scholarships, and needed capital projects such as window replacements in Fletcher and Manchester halls.

Resolution 2020-23

**APPROVAL OF ROOM AND BOARD RATES,
EFFECTIVE FALL 2020**

WHEREAS, Kent State University operates its residence halls and dining programs on a self-sufficient basis; and

WHEREAS, the residence hall and dining programs seek to provide high-quality, competitive accommodations and dining services at a reasonable price that aligns with the Tuition Guarantee Model; and

WHEREAS, increasing costs of operations and reinvestment in facilities necessitate fee adjustments to preserve and improve residence hall offerings and board plans; 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 3.62%, with the blended increase for both room and board of 3.24%; 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 the Fall 2020 tuition guarantee cohort, unless otherwise noted.

APPROVAL OF VERDER HALL HVAC REPLACEMENT AND STUDENT ROOM IMPROVEMENTS

Next, Trustee Mason presented the request for approval of Verder Hall HVAC replacement and student room improvements. He stated that constructed in 1957, Verder Hall has been targeted for a full mechanical system replacement and upgrade. If approved, the project would replace the existing heating-only system with a new HVAC system, address the abatement of asbestos-containing materials, and extend and utilize the existing chilled water resources on campus as well as replace and upgrade the existing floor finishes and room furnishings. Residence Services has set aside \$7,000,000 for planned upgrades to Verder Hall, he said.

Resolution 2020-24

**APPROVAL OF VERDER HALL HVAC REPLACEMENT
AND STUDENT ROOM IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Verder Hall was constructed in 1957 and is one of the oldest residence halls on the campus; and

WHEREAS, Residence Services has set aside \$7,000,000 for planned upgrades to the building; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will replace the existing heating-only system with a new heating, ventilating and air conditioning system (HVAC), address the abatement of asbestos-containing materials, and extend and utilize the existing chilled water resources on the campus; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project also will replace and upgrade the existing floor finishes and room furnishings; and

WHEREAS, the design, bidding, and construction of these projects will follow all state laws and regulations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to proceed with this project in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-04.

Trustee Mason then presented a proposed resolution that would further extend the joint efforts of Kent State University, the City of Kent and Portage Area Regional Transit Authority (PARTA) to create a more vibrant city/campus environment for the university community and the City of Kent community.

***APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND PROJECT
AUTHORIZATION FOR EAST MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS***

Board approval is requested of a memorandum of understanding and project authorization for East Main Street improvements, he noted. The City of Kent would be the lead agency in the management of the project and a mutually agreed upon design consultant will provide professional surveying and engineering services for the preliminary and final design of the proposed project. Under the resolution, Kent State's participation in the design cost and the local match would be limited to the \$2.325 million over the next seven years.

Resolution 2020-25

**APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND
PROJECT AUTHORIZATION FOR EAST MAIN STREET
IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Kent State University, the City of Kent, and Portage Area Regional Transit Authority (PARTA) jointly have committed to the economic redevelopment of retail/entertainment areas serving students, employees and guests of the university and the city; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University, the City of Kent, and PARTA jointly have committed to work toward a successful design solution to alleviate traffic congestion and safety concerns along East Main Street from Willow Street to Horning Road; and

WHEREAS, the project will be developed in alignment with Phase I of the university's 2018 *Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State* master plan; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of the university, the City of Kent, and PARTA have agreed in principle to the terms of the attached memorandum of understanding (MOU); and

WHEREAS, \$2,325,000 will represent Kent State's share of the grant funding match portion, provided from university facility renewal and replacement funds payable over the next seven years; 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 strongly supports the partnership efforts of the university, the City of Kent, and PARTA in the redevelopment project to transform Main Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding and to proceed with this project in accordance with university policy 3342-7-04.

COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE HOUSE BILL 7 ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT

Trustee Mason then presented the request for approval of the College of Podiatric Medicine House Bill 7 Energy Conservation Project. He stated that in October 2019, a Request for Proposal was issued for an Energy Services Company to provide performance contracting to reduce energy consumption and operating costs for the facility at the College of Podiatric Medicine. The vendor judged to deliver the best value was the Brewer-Garrett Company, which was recommended for selection. He further noted that the total proposed project cost was up to \$2.35 million with a 15-year payback based on approved cost savings. The project will be funded through renewal and replacement funds that the College has allocated to meet ongoing capital and deferred maintenance needs, he said.

Resolution 2020-26

**COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE
HOUSE BILL 7 ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees met on June 6, 2012, and approved the use of House Bill 7 to fund energy improvements; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has completed several phases of energy conservation projects improving nearly every building on nearly all campuses; and

WHEREAS, the associated energy savings have exceeded the financial goals in all cases and have greatly benefitted the institution and its physical plant; and

WHEREAS, the work and the energy savings associated with this project will be guaranteed by the provider; and

WHEREAS, the College of Podiatric Medicine has allocated up to \$2.35 million in renewal and replacement funds to support the completion of this project; and

WHEREAS, the contractor will be responsible through a performance guarantee for any costs that do not meet the projected savings; and

WHEREAS, the request for proposals followed 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 of this project in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-04 and to authorize the construction of the project.

AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-4-08 REGARDING PARKING REGULATIONS

Trustee Mason then noted an amendment of University Policy 3342-4-08 Regarding Parking Regulations. He said that Parking Services requested the proposed language changes to the policy including the removal of the parking fine rates from the policy. The parking fine rates, which are adjusted from time to time, would be placed more appropriately in the university fee register, he said.

Resolution 2020-27

**AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-4-08
REGARDING PARKING REGULATIONS**

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

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly has granted the Board of Trustees the authority to create parking and traffic regulations to control the use of all vehicles on university property; and

WHEREAS, Parking Services is responsible for enforcing all parking regulations on the Kent campus; and

WHEREAS, Parking Services has proposed language changes to University Policy 3342-4-08 Regarding Parking Regulations that would remove the parking fine rates from the University policy and place them in the University fee register; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached language changes to University Policy 3342-4-08 Regarding Parking Regulations.

Trustee Mason next presented the request for approval of an amendment of University Policy 3342-10-02 Regarding Research Compliance.

***AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-10-02 REGARDING
RESEARCH COMPLIANCE***

He stated that to ensure compliance with the National Institutes of Health guidelines, a biosafety committee needs to be formed. The Division of Research and Sponsored Programs has proposed language changes to the policy regarding research compliance to include an institutional biosafety committee and an institutional safety and compliance committee, which the committee recommended for Board approval.

Resolution 2020-28

**AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-10-02
REGARDING RESEARCH COMPLIANCE**

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

WHEREAS, the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs is responsible for the university's research compliance efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs has proposed language changes to University Policy 3342-10-02 Regarding Research Compliance to include an institutional biosafety committee and an institutional safety and compliance committee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached language changes to Policy 3342-10-02 Regarding Research Compliance.

Trustee Mason then noted the committee considered the proposed sale of university-owned property, which was one of several surplus properties previously authorized for marketing and sale.

***AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON STATE ROUTE
59, FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, OHIO***

Trustee Mason reported that Kent State University received an offer equal to the appraised value for 25 acres of a larger parcel identified as the Slates/Golf Course Parcels B & C. Upon recommendation of the administration, the committee requested Board approval to enter into a purchase agreement property located on State Route 59, Franklin Township, Ohio, at the appraised value of \$897,436.

Resolution 2020-29

**AUTHORIZATION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON STATE
ROUTE 59, FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, OHIO**

WHEREAS, Kent State University has completed its Gateway to a Distinctive Kent State master plan; and

WHEREAS, certain real estate parcels have been identified as surplus real estate assets by the university and available for disposition; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2018, the Board of Trustees authorized the marketing and sale of the parcels; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly authorized the sale of the parcels in legislation passed on July 18, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the university has received an offer in the amount of \$897,436 to purchase 25 acres of a larger parcel of vacant land identified as Portage County Permanent Parcel Nos. 12-019-00-00-002-001 and 12-019-00-00-002-000, which is equal to the appraised value of the acreage; 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 purchase agreement for the sale of 25 acres of the real property located on State Route 59, Franklin Township, Ohio.

As chair of the Investment Committee, Trustee Mason then shared a report from the committee's January 22, 2020, conference call, noting that the December 31, 2019, and January 31, 2020, investment reports were located in the board books.

Trustee Mason next stated that the committee received several information reports, which included revisions to selected administrative policies regarding parking regulations, guests in residence halls, and discrimination by registered student organizations, and establishment of a new administrative policy regarding animals on university property. Finally, the committee reviewed informational items routinely provided to the Board for its consideration.

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

Chair Della Ratta asked whether any trustee wished to remove any of the above items from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, the resolutions were added to the consent agenda by general consent.

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

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

Chair Della Ratta stated that the consent agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Della Ratta announced that there were three items of new business to come before the Board.

Chair Della Ratta then called on President Diacon to present the first item of new business, which was the proposed awarding of the honorary degree to Dr. Earl Miller.

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE UPON EARL K. MILLER

President Diacon began by saying that Dr. Earl Miller embodies who Kent State is as an institution, what the power of a Kent State degree is, and the impact of the university's work with students.

Resolution 2020-30

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE UPON EARL K. MILLER

WHEREAS, Earl K. Miller began his distinguished scientific career as an undergraduate psychology major and first-generation college student at Kent State University, receiving his B.A. in Psychology *summa cum laude* in 1985; and

WHEREAS, after earning advanced degrees at Princeton University, he joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1995 as an assistant professor and rapidly rose through the academic ranks, becoming full professor in just seven years and advancing to the distinguished rank of Picower Professor of Neuroscience in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Professor Miller is a world-renowned neuroscientist who has made pioneering contributions to our understanding of how the brain accomplishes complex cognition, laying the foundation for understanding dysfunctions of the brain such as those that occur in autism, schizophrenia and attention deficit disorder; and

WHEREAS, his groundbreaking research has led to more than 150 refereed publications in the world's top scientific journals including *Nature*, *Science* and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, millions of dollars in federal research grants, multiple patents, and several startup companies; and

WHEREAS, Professor Miller has received numerous honors and awards including the George A. Miller Prize in Cognitive Neuroscience, Paul and Lilah Newton Brain Science Award, Goldman-Rakic Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Cognitive Neuroscience, National Academy of Sciences Troland Research Award, and election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Miller and his wife Marlene M. Wicherski have pledged \$2 million to create three scholarships and an endowed professorship in neuroscience at Kent State, paying it forward and demonstrating a body of work and life the university is proud to support and honor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Kent State University, upon the recommendation of the Citation and Recognition Committee, with the full concurrence of the President, hereby approves that the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, be conferred upon Earl K. Miller for his preeminent contributions to the field of neuroscience and for his inspiring example to all Golden Flashes everywhere, and wishes him continued success.

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

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

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR JO ANN GUSTAFSON

Chair Della Ratta then announced the second item of new business. He asked Trustee Perry to present the resolution honoring Director of Internal Audit Jo Ann Gustafson, who was retiring from Kent State on March 31, 2020.

Trustee Perry remarked that he was very pleased to read this resolution of appreciation.

Resolution 2020-31

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO JO ANN GUSTAFSON

WHEREAS, Jo Ann Gustafson holds a unique vantage point on public higher education in Northeast Ohio, having served as the chief audit officer for Kent State University, The University of Akron, and Cleveland State University for a combined total of 30 years; and

WHEREAS, she joined Kent State University as Director of Internal Audit in December 2008; and

WHEREAS, in this role Ms. Gustafson has served the Kent State University Board of Trustees and the university community well, contributing significantly to the

continuous improvement of colleges, campuses, divisions, departments and other units; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure she has helped elevate the work of the Board through the establishment and ongoing development of an Audit and Compliance Committee and her outstanding service as a liaison between the university and its external auditors, reflected in successive clean annual audits over the years; and

WHEREAS, through her extensive university experience and early years in the corporate sector, she has developed and shares generously her keen insights in identifying opportunities for improving operational performance; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gustafson will retire from Kent State University on March 31, 2020; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude to Jo Ann Gustafson for her leadership of the Office of Internal Audit and for her many contributions to the sound and effective operational performance of Kent State University and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

Chair Della Ratta asked Ms. Gustafson if she would like to make any remarks. She expressed her gratitude for the kind recognition observing that it was her professor, Dr. Michael Pearson, as an undergraduate student at Kent State who started her down the path of auditing and she has never looked back. She said she felt very blessed to finish her career at her alma mater.

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

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

Chair Della Ratta then asked Senior Vice President Polatajko if he would like to make a few comments. Dr. Polatajko thanked Ms. Gustafson for her leadership, for her professionalism and for being an outstanding value-added resource to the many constituents and stakeholders of Kent State University. He remarked that she truly has been a champion ambassador of continuous positive improvement and effectiveness and efficiency that has made Kent State University a sustainable financial enterprise.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO ALFREDA BROWN

Next, Chair Della Ratta remarked he was sad to say that this would be the final Board meeting for Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Dr. Alfreda Brown, who has announced her intention to retire at the end of May. In recognition of her outstanding service to the university, Chair Della Ratta asked Trustee Davidson to present the resolution of appreciation honoring Vice President Brown.

Resolution 2020-32

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO ALFREDA BROWN

WHEREAS, Dr. Alfreda Brown joined Kent State University in 2009 as its inaugural Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and

WHEREAS, she has provided groundbreaking leadership of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion since its inception and invaluable counsel to three presidents of the university, leading institutional efforts to increase diverse representation, create and sustain equity of opportunity, and intentionally foster an inclusive environment across all Kent State campuses; and

WHEREAS, motivated by her passion for the success of diversity and inclusion in all aspects of life and for all people, Dr. Brown has led the division in building and supporting diversity initiatives throughout the university; recruiting and supporting faculty, staff and students from diverse populations; establishing a five-year diversity scorecard to improve overall institutional effectiveness of diversity and inclusion strategies; collaborating with others in the implementation of a university-wide climate study and other initiatives to create a more inclusive community; and expanding cultural competency and other training; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has elevated its results and national recognition in diversity and inclusion, as evidenced by awards and honors such as the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from 2013-2019, recognition by Forbes Magazine in 2019 and 2020, respectively, as the nation's fourth and 13th best employer for diversity; and the 2014 Institutional Excellence Award from the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her distinguished service to Kent State and her 31-year career as a leader for diversity issues, she received the university's 2020 Diversity Trailblazer Award and the annual award was named in her honor for perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown is fondly appreciated for, and finds her greatest joy in, taking a personal interest in the lives and successes of students as they progress through their college careers;

WHEREAS, she has announced her intention to retire on May 31, 2020; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses deep gratitude to Alfreda Brown for her contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University and wishes her great contentment and joy as she begins this new chapter in her life.

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

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

Chair Della Ratta announced that the motion had passed.

He then asked President Diacon to make a few comments. President Diacon described Dr. Brown as small in stature but big in heart and impact, soft spoken but powerful in her commitment to making Kent State University a welcoming place for everyone. She possesses an ability to turn a conversation that is going one way, the wrong way, to a better direction, he said, adding that empathetic, caring, passionate and eminently approachable are words that describe her. President Diacon asserted that he is a better person having known and worked with Dr. Alfreda Brown. And far more importantly, Kent State University is a better place because of her work, he said.

Dr. Brown said she has been blessed to work with tremendous people, recognizing Dr. Dana Lawless-Andric and Sonya Williams who were present at the Board meeting. She thanked them and all of the division's committed, passionate people for their support and dedication. The division is very inclusive, inviting everyone into their doors, and engaging across the institution. She cited the 80-member University Diversity Action Council (UDAC) as an example of broad involvement in forging change. While it has been amazing to see what Kent State has accomplished, the work is never done according to Dr. Brown. She thanked all those present for their dedication to changing lives.

Chair Della Ratta thanked Dr. Brown and said that as always, her words were inspiring. He asked that a framed copy of the resolution to be presented to Dr. Brown at her retirement celebration planned for April 20, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Della Ratta announced that the next regular business meeting of the Board of Trustees was scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

On motion duly made and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.