# KENT STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES May 11, 2016

# Center for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement Kent State University

**Board Members Present**KSU President's Cabinet Present

Virginia Albanese Beverly Warren, President Jennifer Bryant Alfreda Brown

Stephen Colecchi
Ralph Della Ratta
Paul DiCorleto
Dennis Eckart, Chair
Perry (P.J.) Kimmel
Robin Kilbride
Stephen Perry
Rebecca Murphy

Lawrence Pollock

Michael Solomon

Stepnen Perry

Rebecca Murph

Joel Nielsen

Mark Polataiko

Mark Polatajko
Charlene Reed, University Secretary

Willis Walker

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Preceding the meeting of the Board as a committee of the whole, the Board convened at 7:30 a.m. for the purposes of executive session. In accordance with Chapter 121.22, section G of the Ohio Revised Code, Chair Eckart stated the Board had a need to meet in Executive Session for the purposes of: (i) considering the employment and compensation of a public employee or official [121.22(G) (1)]; (iii) conference with attorney for the public body concerning disputes that are the subject of court action [121.22 (G)(3)]; (iv) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment [121.22 (G)(4)]; and (vi) details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for a public body or a public office [121.22(G)(6)].

Trustee Albanese moved, seconded by Trustee Colecchi that the Board retire into Executive Session. Executive session concluded at 8:55 a.m.

# **PROOF OF NOTICE**

Chair Eckart stated that public notification was given pursuant to state law and University policy.

# CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board Chair Dennis Eckart called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Event Space of the Center for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement. He noted that this new facility is a testament

to the fabulous direction and momentum of the university. Chair Eckart then called on Trustee Perry (P.J.) Kimmel to call the roll and asked the members of the Board to remain standing after their names were called in remembrance of the late Trustee Richard Marsh. Trustee Kimmel then called the roll, and a quorum was present.

With all the members of the Board standing, Chair Eckart then invited President Beverly Warren, and all present to stand and observe a moment of silence in memory of the late Trustee Marsh. Trustee Kimmel then placed a symbolic presentation of the colors of Kent State over Trustee Marsh's chair as everyone in attendance observed a moment of silence in remembrance of Trustee Marsh and his contributions to Kent State University. Chair Eckart concluded the moment of silence by remembering Trustee Marsh as "a gentleman always, and a Flash forever."

Next, Chair Eckart welcomed Trustee Robin Kilbride to the Board. Chair Eckart also acknowledged the presence of other invited guests, including Chair of Faculty Senate Dr. Linda Williams, incoming Chair of Faculty Senate Dr. Deborah Smith, Executive Director of Undergraduate Student Government Brian Cannon, incoming Executive Director of Undergraduate Student Government Samuel Graska, Executive Chair of Graduate Student Senate Fritz Yarrison, and Foundation Board Chair Gary Brahler. Chair Eckart stated that these guests were invited to receive thanks from the Board for their part in another successful school year at Kent State University.

# APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Eckart then made note of an addition to the agenda under New Business. He noted that pursuant to extended discussions, the Board added the adoption of an amendment to the employment agreement of Dr. Beverly Warren to the agenda for approval.

Next, Chair Eckart requested that this meeting serve as the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees for the election of officers for 2016-17, pursuant to the university constitution and rules. Chair Eckart then asked if there were any objections to these modifications or any additional corrections. Hearing no objections, further corrections or additions, the agenda as modified was approved by general consent.

# **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Chair Eckart requested objections, additions or corrections to the minutes of the Board meeting of March 9, 2016. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by general consent.

#### REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Eckart began with a note of appreciation for University Secretary and Vice President Dr. Charlene Reed, stating that he would not have been able to do his job without her. He next thanked the senior staff and President Warren for completion of another successful year. He stated that the university's great momentum shows the Board that the university leadership has exceeded expectations and has had impact well beyond the borders of Kent State.

Chair Eckart thanked trustees Michael Solomon and Virginia Albanese for participating in Commencement as representatives of the Board and noted the importance of students seeing deeply committed Board members at such an important event.

Chair Eckart also thanked Trustee Stephen Perry for representing the Board in Italy for the dedication of the new facility, the Palazzo Vettori, in Florence. Trustee Perry noted that, in Florence, he joined Kent State students, faculty, donors and staff in celebrating the grand opening of the facility. He also noted that one of the highlights of the event was interacting with the students who were studying in Florence and how impressive it was that these students experience the life-changing event of studying away from home for an extended period of time. Trustee Perry also expressed high praise for Kent State's global education program and the staff and faculty who make the program great. Chair Eckart thanked Trustee Perry for representing the Board well and observed how important it is that Trustee Perry took part in this event in Florence.

Chair Eckart commended trustees Jennifer Bryant and Margot James Copeland for representing the Board at the annual Association of Governing Boards conference. He recognized Trustee Bryant for her leadership as she chaired an event for student trustees and asked her to provide a brief report about the conference. Trustee Bryant thanked the Board and the university for the great opportunity to further develop her leadership skills and better understand university governance. Her session on student participation in boards of trustees was well received, she said. Chair Eckart remarked that Trustee Bryant is another example of Kent State's leadership and excellence.

Chair Eckart next turned his comments toward athletics at Kent State and the accomplishments of Athletic Director Joel Nielsen and the successes of athletic teams including men's golf, women's golf, women's softball and men's baseball. Chair Eckart noted that two student athletes had qualified for the Rio Olympics and that men's baseball Coach Jeff Duncan reached his  $100^{th}$  win. He also highlighted that Kent State had three coaches of the year and eight MAC players of the year.

Chair Eckart then noted that at this Board meeting the university and the Board would celebrate the completion of the Foundations of Excellence campaign and that the Board would participate in a tour to visit many of the buildings that were part of this campaign.

Chair Eckart explained that this current meeting would be conducted as a committee of the whole, instead of separating into the usual standing committee meetings. While the discussion of some items may be brief due to their placement on the consent agenda, every Board member has fully reviewed and considered all meeting materials. Further, he stated that the committee of the whole format enables all trustees to participate in discussion of critical items, and that Board members have the right to call for a separate vote on or consideration of any specific item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart ended reflecting on the good work of President Warren during the past academic year and highlighting that the Board has been very pleased with her ability to exceed expectations. He noted that Trustee Marsh, who led the presidential search committee, did so with the goal of continuing Kent State's momentum, and that the Board believed that momentum certainly had continued under President Warren. With that, Chair Eckart turned the floor over to President Warren for her report.

# REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Warren began by stating that it had been a pleasure to work with Chair Eckart in her first two years, and she thanked him for being so passionate and energetic, believing in the work of the organization, and wanting and demanding the best.

She then addressed Mrs. Joan Marsh, wife of Trustee Marsh, stating that his professionalism, joy, calm demeanor, and confidence in the direction of the university drew President Warren to Kent State. She expressed her gratitude for the experience she shared with Trustee Marsh.

President Warren stated that the Center for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement was evidence of the university's progress and that she was thankful for the efforts of all those who assist in that progress.

President Warren thanked the Kent State community for offering so many well wishes in recent months

Next, President Warren referenced the university's new strategic priorities, which were drafted with her cabinet, students, and others. She noted that she is proud that Kent State University is a *Students First* university in all the right ways including providing quality education, engaged experiences, and opportunities to experience life in ways that would not be imagined nor possible without Kent State. President Warren then thanked everyone for the grassroots efforts to identify and live the Kent State priorities.

President Warren continued by noting that Kent State will focus on nine of the top 12 university-level initiatives during the next two years. The 12 initiatives span the whole influence of a university including student success, diversity, research, global engagement and internationalization, regional impact, and organizational stewardship. President Warren then highlighted the "Great Place" initiative, noting that Kent State is ranked as one of the best colleges to work for in the country. She stated, however, that even within that ranking there was room for improvement to better highlight all of the great things Kent State does. Next, President Warren highlighted the exciting work underway around both the athletics strategic vision and the Healthy Campus initiative.

Moving to the topic of a comprehensive campaign, President Warren stressed the bold goal to far surpass the outcome of the university's last comprehensive campaign. President Warren stated that one component of accomplishing this goal was to be a community engaged university. She

emphasized that individuals give to organizations and places that are making a difference and making this world a better place.

President Warren stated that the Kent State story must be told more boldly, forcefully and broadly than ever before because there are many great things happening here that deserve national recognition. She stated that part of telling that story is clearly defining success, which the university is doing through identifying and setting six-year targets for 16 dashboard measures. She highlighted that this window into the future of Kent State allows for reflection and ambition and for comparison with six peer institutions and five aspirational institutions. She acknowledged that these 16 measures, previously approved by the Board, included ambitious goals pertaining to retention and graduation rates, internationalizing Kent State University, the number and work load of faculty, degrees awarded, research funding, endowment amounts, and the financial health and security of the university. President Warren then displayed data for all of the 16 dashboard measures.

Next, President Warren noted Kent State's jump of 19 spots in U.S. News & World Report 2016 rankings of best national universities, from 194 up to 175. She noted that this movement does not happen without attending to measures that are more than merely cosmetic approaches to greatness but attending to what makes a university great and what allows Kent State to provide a quality education. She explained that in U.S. News & World Report rankings, the two greatest factors are peer assessment and student retention. In addition to these factors she is also concerned about faculty satisfaction in life as a faculty member, as it bleeds into the classroom and student experience. Therefore, Kent State is focused on having the right number of faculty, the percentage of tenure track faculty that make for a strong research university, and a community in which everyone feels valued.

President Warren stated that it was her belief that through the work of the Strategic Roadmap, Kent State could be viewed as a template for a transformational university, a model for higher education, and for best practices in higher education. President Warren concluded that the focus of this Board meeting would show where Kent State is headed in the next academic year. She then yielded the floor to Chair Eckart.

Chair Eckart added that the dashboard is reminiscent of Trustee Albanese's reminder, "We must be sure we are asking all of the right questions all of the time." He noted that through institutionalizing the dashboard and by comparing itself to best practices, Kent State is asking the right questions and the data shows that the institution is headed in the right direction.

# PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Chair Eckart asked President Warren to present the personnel actions. President Warren called on Provost Diacon to present the academic personnel actions followed by Vice President Willis Walker to present the non-academic personnel actions.

### ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

Provost Diacon reported that all academic actions to be considered at this meeting were routine in nature but called attention to three appointments: Mark Mistur as Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design; Kendra Albright as Director of the School of Library and Information Sciences; and Dr. Elizabeth Graham as Director of the School of Communication Studies.

### NON-ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

Vice President Walker reported that the non-academic actions to be considered at this meeting were routine in nature.

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

### MANAGEMENT DECISION ITEMS

NAMING OF DR. SANDRA S. FISHEL HALL

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the first management decision item. Dr. Warren then called on Vice President Jeff McLain to present the proposed naming of the Dr. Sandra S. Fishel Lecture Hall in Williams Hall. Vice President McLain presented the resolution, noting that Dr. Fishel and her husband, Dr. Derry L. Fishel, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry, are longtime supporters of Kent State. Vice President McLain confirmed that this proposed naming conforms to university naming guidelines and there are no concerns

#### Resolution 2016-27

# NAMING OF THE DR. SANDRA S. FISHEL LECTURE HALL

WHEREAS, Dr. Sandra S. Fishel recognizes the chemistry and biological sciences departments in Kent State University's College of Arts and Sciences as leaders in higher education and excellence in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fishel has an accomplished career in the business and sciences world as an owner and operator of a medical testing laboratory in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fishel has the distinction of being the first woman to earn a doctorate in biology at Kent State; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of science facilities for students, Dr. Fishel generously made a \$500,000 commitment to be used toward renovations and upgrades; and

WHEREAS, through this naming opportunity, Dr. Fishel is leaving an enduring legacy of education and philanthropy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, on behalf of the College of Arts and Sciences and the current and future students who will benefit from improved science facilities, including a new Integrated Sciences Building, expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Sandra S. Fishel for her generosity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees, in accordance with university policy, hereby names the lecture hall located on the first floor of Williams Hall at Kent State University, the Dr. Sandra S. Fishel Lecture Hall

# ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

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

President Warren called Provost Diacon to present for approval Kent State University's update to its Campus Completion Plan. Provost Diacon noted that this report comments on progress toward goals established in 2014 and identifies the university's goals with regard to student retention and persistence for the next two years. He highlighted parts of the plan update, including increased freshman to sophomore retention rate across all Kent State campuses and increased graduation rates across the entire Kent State system. Provost Diacon recognized that such accomplishments relate to the first-year retention programs, which have won national recognition; focus on increasing timeliness of declaring a major and adopting a student engagement strategy; developing student leadership; and strengthening the diversity and cultural competence of Kent State's students, faculty and staff. These efforts have been supported by university administration, including Interim Associate Provost Mandy Munro-Stasiuk, Vice President Paul DiCorleto, Dean Eboni Pringle, Vice President Shay Little, and Vice President Alfreda Brown. The updated plan approved by the Board will be submitted to the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE).

Trustee Stephen Colecchi asked whether the State would respond or formally accept the report. Provost Diacon responded that after Kent State's report was submitted, it would be placed on the website of the ODHE, where it can be compared with other institutions' reports. President

Warren added that the ODHE also could return the report to Kent State with a request for additional information.

#### Resolution 2016-28

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly passed Amended Substitute House Bill 59 that requires the university to adopt a strategic completion plan that was approved by the Board of Trustees and submitted to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents by June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the board of trustees of each institution of higher education is required to update its plan at least once every two years and to provide a copy to the Chancellor upon adoption; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University has updated the Kent State University Complete College Ohio College Completion Plan and seeks approval of the Board of Trustees to submit this updated plan to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education by June 30, 2016;

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the updated Kent State University Complete College Ohio Campus Completion Plan, and the submission of the plan to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, by the June 30, 2016, deadline.

ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

### REVISIONS TO THE STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

President Warren invited Vice President Shay Little to present proposed revisions to University Policy 3342-4-02 Regarding Administration of Student Conduct. Vice President Little said the revisions reflect changes to the organization of the Division of Student Affairs, mirror language of other policies in the Policy Register, and more directly relay the administration of the policy of student conduct and include the role of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

#### Resolution 2016-29

# REVISION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-4-02 REGARDING ADMINISTRATION OF STUDENT CONDUCT

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

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Board of Trustees is responsible for the administration of student conduct, including procedures for the administration of student conduct; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has delegated the responsibility and authority for the discipline of all students to the President, and the President has delegated day-to-day administration and oversight of the student conduct process to the Vice President for Student Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Students Affairs requests revisions to University Policy 3342-4-02 Regarding Administration of Student Conduct; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revisions identify the correct title of the Vice President for Student Affairs and update language that authorizes the Vice President for Student Affairs to establish administrative procedures and delegate responsibility to direct the student conduct process to the Director of Student Conduct; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revision to University Policy 3342-4-02 Regarding Administration of Student Conduct has been reviewed and approved by the Office of Student Conduct, the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Office of General Counsel, and the President's Cabinet, and carries the endorsements of the President and the Provost; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees approves the revision of University Policy 3342-4-02 Regarding Administration of Student Conduct, effective August 1, 2016.

# ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart called Trustee Ralph Della Ratta and Senior Vice President Mark Polatajko for presentation on University Policy 3342-7-03 Concerning University Investments.

# REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY POLICY CONCERNING INVESTMENTS

Trustee Della Ratta shared that the policy was reviewed to ensure that funds are used responsibly and ethically.

#### Resolution 2016-30

# AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-7-03 REGARDING UNIVERSITY INVESTMENTS

WHEREAS, Section 3345.05 (C) of the Ohio Revised Code assigns the oversight for investments made by public universities to the board of trustees of each state-supported university; and

WHEREAS, Section 3345.05 (C) also requires that such investments be made in accordance with an investment policy adopted by the board of trustees consistent with all provisions contained in Section 3345.05; and

WHEREAS, the Board's Investment Committee has worked with university administration along with its investment advisor, Graystone Consulting, to modify the investments policy for adherence to the provision related to social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Investment Committee recommends the revised policy be adopted; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees adopts amendments to University Policy 3342-7-03 Regarding University Investments as contained in the attachment.

# ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

### CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

President Warren introduced this item by remarking on the importance of campus accessibility. She also reported that Accessibility Services would be moving to a new location that is more accessible to students on a first floor. President Warren invited Senior Vice President Polatajko

to present for approval the recommendations for campus accessibility improvements. Senior Vice President Polatajko reminded all that Kent State has a strong commitment to diversity and accessibility and as such has set aside funds in the Foundations of Excellence portfolio toward accessibility. In the additional improvements proposed, 23 buildings were identified in collaboration with the University Accessibility Committee for improvements in doorway access, accessibility, and restrooms. The project funding comes from \$1.6 million in Foundations of Excellence funds as well as \$600,000 in facility funds that were identified several years ago for these improvements.

#### Resolution 2016-31

# APPROVAL OF CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 1 BUILDING AND TOILET ROOM ACCESS

WHEREAS, providing an accessible environment is a priority for Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, accessibility improvements will continue to be necessary for many of the aging academic facilities; and

WHEREAS, current and future renovations and rehabilitation projects will meet all accessibility regulations; and

WHEREAS, this project will address building and toilet room access modifications in 23 campus buildings that do not currently meet the university's goals for accessibility; and

WHEREAS, this project will include modifications to the main entry doors to the building and the primary toilet rooms to address building security concerns and provide door operation for those with mobility impairments; and

WHEREAS, \$1.6 million in university funding (\$1.0 million in Foundations of Excellence bond revenues and \$600,000 in facility funds previously allocated for accessibility) has been set aside for this project; and

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

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

ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

### RECOMMENDATION FOR JET AND AVIATION FUEL PROVIDER

President Warren called on Senior Vice President Polatajko to present the recommended vendor for jet and aviation fuel. Kent State requires this type of fuel to support the aeronautics program as well as for resale to pilots who land at the Kent State airport, he explained. After a formal competitive process, Senior Vice President Polatajko proposed a two-year contract with Arrow Energy. The firm, which was judged to have offered the lowest and best bid, has been the provider to Kent State since 2011.

#### Resolution 2016-32

# APPROVAL OF VENDOR SELECTION TO SUPPLY AND DELIVER JET AND AVIATION FUEL TO KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AIRPORT

WHEREAS, University Policy 3342-7-12 requires Board of Trustees approval of any single agreement to purchase goods and/or services with an estimated total cost of \$1 million or more, including the initial term and any optional renewals; and

WHEREAS, the Kent State University Airport requires jet and aviation fuel; and

WHEREAS, in response to a request for proposal issued by the Kent State University procurement department, Arrow Energy, Inc. provided the proposal with the best overall

WHEREAS, the estimated cost for these purchases is a two-year initial term of \$768,000 with the potential of three additional one-year periods at approximately \$384,000 per year to be funded by the Kent State University Airport; 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 contract with Arrow Energy, Inc. for the provision of jet and aviation fuel for the Kent State University Airport for two years plus a university option to renew up to three additional one-year periods in accordance with University Policy 3342-7-12.

ACTION: There were no objections to placing this management item on the consent agenda.

### APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Eckart reported that the Board had reviewed all items including management items and personnel matters that were to be placed on the consent agenda, and he requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

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

# MANAGEMENT DECISION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

Chair Eckart noted that the next items on the agenda would be considered separately and voted on individually. He then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

# **ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECTS**

Dr. Warren called on Senior Vice President Polatajko who presented for approval the proposed next phase of energy conservation projects on the Kent Campus and related financing. He reported that through energy conservation efforts, Kent State has decreased spending and energy consumption. Related savings have been used to address numerous longstanding deferred maintenance needs and Kent State University has become a leader in energy management and conservation. Senior Vice President Polatajko noted that many of the positive gains associated with the university's energy conservation efforts were made possible by House Bill 7. He also indicated his confidence that with approval of the recommended projects and financing proposal, Kent State would remain a leader in this arena and continue to realize financial savings.

### Resolution 2016-33

# APPROVAL OF ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECTS AND RELATED FINANCING ON THE KENT CAMPUS, PHASE 2

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees met on June 6, 2012, and approved a \$35- to \$50- million energy conservation project; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University proceeded with an initial phase of the project valued at \$26 million; and

WHEREAS, the university wishes to proceed with a second phase, which will not exceed \$20.5 million, and will build on the successes of the first phase; and

WHEREAS, with the completion of this second phase, the university will have reduced its energy and water usage by more than 20% as compared to the levels used in 2004, an energy conservation goal established and required by House Bill 251; and

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

WHEREAS, the project will be funded through a 15-year capital lease with Bank of America at 2.01%; and

WHEREAS, the project will be self-funded with repayment structured to utilize the energy cost savings within a maximum of 15 years; and

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

WHEREAS, the design and implementation of this project will follow all state laws and regulations; now, therefore,

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

Chair Eckart commented that the numbers reported were impressive. Trustee Della Ratta asked Senior Vice President Polatajko to comment on his experience with Brewer-Garrett, the contractor involved in the energy conservation efforts, during the last year. He reported that the experience had been very positive, and due to its success with the first phase of projects, staying with the firm was a logical next step.

# ACTION: Trustee Albanese moved, seconded by Trustee Della Ratta, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

#### STARK FINE ARTS BUILDING RENOVATIONS AND ADDITION

President Warren noted that Kent State University at Stark serves as a mecca of fine arts for that area; however, its arts building requires renovations. She called on Senior Vice President Polatajko to offer details on the funding sources for the project. He reported on the sources of funding, which include university capital funding, state funding and philanthropic funds. He noted that no commitments for the work would be made until all funding was secured. Chair Eckart then called on Provost Diacon, who welcomed and thanked Dean Denise Seachrist. He noted that this will be the new home for the music technology program at Stark, which currently operates in a leased facility that offers limited access to studios and technology.

#### Resolution 2016-34

# KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK FINE ARTS BUILDING RENOVATIONS AND ADDITION

WHEREAS, the Stark Fine Arts Building is home to the campus's growing arts program and frequently is used for community events, attracting thousands to the campus annually; and

WHEREAS, the existing building will be expanded and renovated to accommodate the growing program, to address deferred maintenance and safety needs and to modernize classrooms, offices, studios and practice rooms; and

WHEREAS, the building renovation and addition will improve the educational programs by providing better and safer facilities; and

WHEREAS, the renovation and addition will permit programs currently taught off- campus to return to campus; and

WHEREAS, \$9.786 million has been allocated for the project, of which \$1.586 million is from state funding, \$5.2 million from campus fund balances and approximately \$3.0 million will be from future fundraising efforts; 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.

Chair Eckart congratulated Dean Seachrist on her work and noted that the proposed improvements had been discussed for some time.

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

Commenting that the Foundations of Excellence initiative is drawing to a close on time and on budget, Chair Eckart called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

# COMPLETION OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

President Warren expressed her gratitude to present and former trustees, President Emeritus Lester Lefton, and everyone who played a role in supporting this initiative. Dr. Warren called on Senior Vice President Polatajko who reviewed the Foundations of Excellence initiative, its seven signature projects, and the benefits to Kent State including addressing deferred maintenance and

providing students with 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environments. Senior Vice President Polatajko also highlighted that this work occurred across multiple campuses in the Kent State system and that all projects were on schedule to be completed by July 2017. He noted that the success of the initiative was due in part to the Joint Project Oversight Committee (JPOC). Senior Vice President Polatajko noted that Chair Eckart, Trustee Colecchi, and Trustee Marsh all were charter members. He also presented for approval the need to establish a comprehensive facilities master plan to continue to guide campus development and capitalize on the positive campus planning work already underway.

### **Resolution 2016-35**

# COMPLETION OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, beginning in 2009 and culminating in 2012 with the issuance of \$170 million in general receipts bonds, Kent State University set about creating a multi-phased program of capital improvements, which became known as the Foundations of Excellence, Building the Future initiative; and

WHEREAS, the focus on strategic investment for Kent State's second century spurred a thorough assessment of the state of university facilities, producing a compelling list of needs to improve the student learning environment, enhance operational efficiency and accessibility, and address deferred maintenance of \$354 million system-wide; and

WHEREAS, the Foundations of Excellence plan ultimately has produced seven signature projects – the Aeronautics and Technology Building, the Center for Undergraduate Excellence, the Center for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement, the Center for the Visual Arts, the Center for Architecture and Environmental Design, the Integrated Sciences Building and Science Corridor renovations – and a multitude of additional improvements increasing accessibility, energy efficiency and connectivity to the community; and

WHEREAS, the university's historic commitment has complemented significant public and private investments adjacent to Kent State campuses, particularly the revitalization of downtown Kent; and

WHEREAS, with the final signature projects moving toward successful completion next year, it is time to launch a new comprehensive master plan that will align facility and space planning with the Strategic Roadmap for a Distinctive Kent State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses gratitude to the Kent State University community for exemplary service and dedication to bringing the Foundations of Excellence projects in on time and on budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to continue to provide and enhance 21st century learning environments for the students of Kent State University, the Board supports the establishment of a new initiative for a comprehensive facilities master plan to guide campus development in 2018 and beyond.

Chair Eckart reflected that the Foundations of Excellence initiative was a true representation of excellence in execution and that he and President Warren had the privilege of leading the celebrations of completion of many projects started before they began their terms as Chair and President, respectively. Trustee Perry asked whether Kent State was at a point where the Foundations of Excellence master plan provided a platform on which to build the new facility master plan or if the current strategic planning efforts had set a new course that required that the university start over in its facility planning efforts. Chair Eckart answered that the Foundations of Excellence initiative was based on current needs of the university at that time. President Warren noted that the next master plan would be campus-wide and focused on supporting the Strategic Roadmap, including 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms. Trustee Colecchi added that the original deferred maintenance report that drove many of the recommendations was presented and discussed in great detail at a joint meeting of Kent State boards, several years ago.

# ACTION: Trustee Della Ratta moved, seconded by Trustee Albanese, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Chair Eckart noted that tuition and fees required a separate proposal and approval. Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the management decision item related to tuition.

#### TUITION AND FEES

Dr. Warren called on Senior Vice President Polatajko, who explained the fee increases recommended for graduate tuition and non-resident surcharges.

# Resolution 2016-36

### APPROVAL OF TUITION AND FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2016

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for approving fees for instruction and other educational services; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio's budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 has frozen undergraduate in-state tuition at the 2014-2015 amount; and

WHEREAS, additional resources are needed in a number of areas to preserve academic program quality and services to students as well as to provide additional resources for student financial aid; and

WHEREAS, changes to graduate tuition and out-of-state surcharges have been proposed to meet these needs and reviewed by executive officers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached schedule of tuition and fees to be effective with the Fall 2016 semester, unless otherwise noted.

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

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the management decision item related to fees. Dr. Warren called on Senior Vice President Polatajko, who reflected on the philosophy associated with setting program, course, and other fees. He then called on Provost Diacon for further detail on the proposed fees. Provost Diacon noted that fee changes include moving from individual, multiple fees to a single program fee, which is easier to understand for students and their parents. Provost Diacon highlighted that a new standard has been put in place whereby increases to program fees will not occur any earlier than five years after the last change to the specific fee.

### Resolution 2016-37

# APPROVAL OF SPECIAL PROGRAM, COURSE AND OTHER FEES, EFFECTIVE FALL 2016

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, 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 2016 semester, unless otherwise noted.

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

Chair Eckart noted that state statute requires the Board to approve the annual budget, which is a roadmap that is a clear declaration of institutional priorities. He acknowledged the work of Senior Vice President Polatajko and Gregg Floyd before him and the staff in Division of Business and Finance. Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

### APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2017 UNIVERSITY BUDGET

President Warren commented that approving a university budget is one of the most serious undertakings of a board of trustees. She reminded those present that Kent State is committed to continued fiscal health, as one of the top three fiscally solvent universities in the state of Ohio, and how the budget impacts students, student debt, and completion rates. Senior Vice President Polatajko acknowledged the dedicated effort of the budget development team including Provost Diacon, Senior Associate Vice President Jeannie Reifsnyder, Associate Vice President Denise Zelko, and Associate Vice President Melissa Hunter. He thanked the Board and other staff of the university who played a role in the development and vetting of the budget proposal. He moved on to report external evidence of Kent State's financial health. He then presented the proposed fiscal year 2017 budget for approval, which included review of tuition and fees, special programs fees, enrollment projections, and projected state appropriations. Dr. Polatajko concluded by offering to the Board a balanced budget for the Kent and regional campuses.

#### Resolution 2016-38

### APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2017 UNIVERSITY BUDGET

WHEREAS, an annual budget is prepared to provide a financial plan to guide the university for the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, revenue projections for the proposed FY2017 university budget include tuition and fee changes recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees in separate resolutions; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the Kent Campus provides for an undergraduate enrollment increase of 0.9%, resulting primarily from increased first-year retention of undergraduate students and no change in graduate enrollment over the current year; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the Regional Campuses provides for no change in enrollment from the current year; and

WHEREAS, the budget for the College of Podiatric Medicine contains the prior approved increase of 4% in fees along with an enrollment decline of nine students or 2%; and

WHEREAS, the state appropriations budget has been estimated at a 4.0% increase over the prior year actual to reflect the overall increase in the State's higher education appropriation; and

WHEREAS, the continuing priorities of the university are reflected in this budgeted projection including increased investments in student scholarships and other financial aid, academic programs (including new faculty positions), and anticipated cost increases in employee health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget provides for salary increases negotiated with represented faculty and staff as well as a 2% salary increase pool for unrepresented employees and a pool for represented non-tenure track faculty subject to collective bargaining; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby approves the attached proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2016-17.

Trustee Perry asked if special program, course and other fee increases would be one-time changes or if the fees were reevaluated each year. Senior Vice President Polatajko assured that fees are reevaluated each year keeping in mind the goals of affordability and quality and that fee increases occurred on an as-needed basis. Chair Eckart called on Finance Chair Colecchi for remarks on the budget development process. Trustee Colecchi noted that he met with Senior Vice President Polatajko multiple times throughout the process and confirmed that the university was in excellent financial shape and sought to retain that status in the proposal budget.

# <u>ACTION: Trustee Colecchi moved, seconded by Trustee Albanese, that the resolution be</u> approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

### COMPLETION OF THE 2016 AFFORDABILITY AND EFFICIENCY REPORT

President Warren noted that the 2016 Affordability and Efficiency Report was in response to the Governor's Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency. The State budget mandated that Kent State and other Ohio public institutions address issues related to cost efficiency and savings by August 1, 2016. Dr. Warren stated that the university had been hard at work on matters related to affordability and efficiency since August 2015 and welcomed the opportunity to report its progress to the State. She called on Senior Vice President Polatajko to report on Kent State's progress and on the proposed approach to completing the mandated report by the August 1 deadline. Senior Vice President Polatajko reinforced Dr. Warren's assertion that Kent State had been working in these areas for some time, referencing the internal Effectiveness and Efficiency Taskforce at Kent State chaired by Vice President Ed Mahon and Senior Associate Vice President Jeannie Reifsnyder. The work of the taskforce focused on quality and value and aligned nicely with the Governor's mandates, he said. Additionally, Senior Vice President Polatajko outlined the scope of the mandates, recommendations and process outlined by the

Governor's taskforce. He then presented proposed steps to completing the report, which were generated in consultation with the Chair of the Board's Finance and Administration Committee. Dr. Polatajko described next steps in terms of seeking approval of the report for submission by the August 1 deadline, with the intention of presenting the final report for Board ratification at the September meeting. He then invited questions from the Board.

### Resolution 2016-39

# REGARDING COMPLETION OF THE 2016 AFFORDABILITY AND EFFICIENCY REPORT

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

WHEREAS, toward this end, Kent State has continued to explore innovative ways of funding the academic enterprise, strategically address opportunities to right-size operating budgets, and to optimize resources by emphasizing effectiveness, efficiency and continuous process improvements; and

WHEREAS, in the early part of 2015, Governor John Kasich created the Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency to make recommendations to Ohio's institutions of higher education based on three simultaneous principles - 1) to be more efficient both in expense management and revenue generation, 2) while offering an education of equal or higher quality, and 3) decreasing costs to students and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly ultimately passed Amended Substitute House Bill 64 (Section 369.550) that requires the boards of trustees of public universities to complete an efficiency review, based on the Task Force's recommendations, by July 1, 2016, and to submit findings and implementation plans to the Chancellor within 30 days, or by August 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, consistent with that requirement, the university administration has developed an initial draft of a broad-based plan that includes a series of opportunities with the greatest potential for Kent State to deliver on the objectives set forth by the Ohio Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that 1. The Finance and Administration Committee is authorized to work with the university administration to complete the report and then, upon signature of the Board Chair and the Committee Chair, submit the 2016 Affordability and Efficiency Report to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education by the required deadline of August 1, 2016; and

2. The Kent State University Board of Trustees will accept and ratify the 2016 Affordability and Efficiency Report at its next regularly scheduled meeting on September 7, 2016.

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

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to present the next management decision item.

IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-5-21 REGARDING SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

President Warren noted that the discussion around smoke-free and tobacco-free campus began before her tenure and that of Vice President Little. She noted that the current proposal was approved at the cabinet level and that she and the cabinet felt it was important to present the item to the Board today for its approval and endorsement. She noted that students were instrumental in endorsing the plan. She specifically acknowledged Executive Director of Undergraduate Student Government Brian Cannon and incoming President, Undergraduate Student Government Samuel Graska for their leadership roles in securing the endorsement of Undergraduate Student Government. Dr. Warren then called on Vice President Little, who presented the *Clear the Air* proposal regarding implementation of University Policy 3342-5-21. She recommended an effective date of July 1, 2017, based on the rationale of making large-scale changes at the start of fiscal and academic years. Additionally, she discussed the foci of the 2016-17 year as promotion of smoking cessation resources for employees and students, marketing of the policy and its impacts, the charge of an implementation team, and preparations for enforcement of the policy.

# Resolution 2016-40

# IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSITY POLICY 3342-5-21 REGARDING SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

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

WHEREAS, smoking is the number one preventable cause of death according to the Centers for Disease Control; and

WHEREAS, one initiative in the Strategic Roadmap (5.1) endorsed by the Board of Trustees outlines a healthy campus initiative; and

WHEREAS, a number of governmental and health organizations (i.e., Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Centers for Disease Control) have recommended smoke-free and/or tobacco-free policies on college campuses; and

WHEREAS, data from students and employees indicate health risks correlated to smoking and/or tobacco use; and

WHEREAS, smoking and tobacco use is one of the seven priorities of the healthy campus initiative; and

WHEREAS, the proposed implementation of University Policy 3342-5-21 Regarding Smoking and Tobacco Use at Kent State University was reviewed and endorsed by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Office of General Counsel, Healthy Campus Steering Committee, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration, and carries the approval of the President and the President's Cabinet; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees approves the implementation of University Policy 3342-5-21 Regarding Smoking and Tobacco Use at Kent State University, effective July 1, 2017.

Trustee Perry asked if any other Ohio universities had implemented a smoke- and tobacco-free policy. Vice President Little stated that Cleveland State University was close to implementation and most public universities have gone either smoke- or tobacco-free already or were headed in this direction. Trustee Perry asked if this marketing will also be packaged within the Healthy Campus programming. Vice President Little confirmed that smoking is one of the seven priorities of the Healthy Campus initiative and is a critical point in changing the culture. Trustee Pollock asked for confirmation that this policy will be implemented university wide, and Vice President Little confirmed that the smoke- and tobacco-free policy would apply to all campuses and university-owned properties.

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

# **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chair Eckart then called on President Warren to provide an update on planning for a Global Living and Learning Center.

UPDATE, GLOBAL LIVING AND LEARNING CENTER PLANNING

President Warren began the update on the planning for a Global Living and Learning Center by emphasizing Kent State's priority to be a leader in internationalization, evidenced by the vision of a living and learning residence hall focused on students, both domestic and international, with international interests. She noted there remained many important questions and factors to consider regarding developing a living-learning experience of this type and called on Provost Diacon to present more details on the current thinking regarding this experience. Provost Diacon discussed ongoing exploration of the potential style and scope of the project, potential locations, and possible funding sources. Provost Diacon discussed three plans, all of which include 350

beds and a combination of new construction and renovations of existing buildings and spaces. Throughout the presentation, Provost Diacon noted that offering economical and affordable living options for international students desiring residence in this living and learning community as well as the cost of the overall project were chief concerns. Provost Diacon concluded by reporting that work continues with the goal of offering a well-developed and cost-effective proposal to the Board in the next year.

### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO PERRY J. KIMMEL

Chair Eckart noted a deviation in the printed agenda to allow Trustee Kimmel to leave the meeting early for a final exam. Chair Eckart then asked Trustee Bryant to present the resolution of appreciation to Trustee Kimmel for his service as a member of the Board and of the Board's committees

#### Resolution 2016-41

#### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO PERRY J. KIMMEL

WHEREAS, Perry J. (PJ) Kimmel was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor John Kasich on August 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, in this role he has demonstrated an informed and passionate commitment to student success, to college affordability, and to the sound fiscal management of the university; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Kimmel has served capably as a member of the Board's Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee, External Relations and Development Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, and the Investment Committee; and

WHEREAS, further reflecting his deep and unwavering commitment to service, Trustee Kimmel has been an active student leader and community volunteer as well as honors scholar, participating in such wide-ranging activities as the Financial Management Association, Student Ambassadors, Relay for Life, Campus Kitchen, Super Service Saturdays, MLK Day of Service, Alternative Spring Break and many others; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Kimmel exemplifies the possibilities of a Kent State University education, splendidly navigating an educational journey from the Salem Campus to Kent Campus to across the nation in his prestigious internship with the Eaton Corporation; and

WHEREAS, he will begin full-time employment with the company following his graduation with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in Finance on May 14, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Board, the administration and the university community commend Trustee Kimmel for his high performance, community engagement, and devotion to Kent State University; now, therefore,

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

Chair Eckart and President Warren praised Trustee Kimmel for his service and presented him with a framed resolution as a token of congratulations and appreciation. Trustee Kimmel thanked the Board and emphasized that he is honored to have had the opportunity to serve on the Board

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

Chair Eckart noted that the informational items are routine and provided at each meeting and can therefore be moved through relatively quickly. Chair Eckart then moved to new business items.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO BEVERLY J. WARREN'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Chair Eckart presented the resolution to extend President Warren's contract through June 30, 2020. Chair Eckart noted the significance of the year 2020 was not lost on the Board because by that time the Strategic Roadmap would be in its sixth year of implementation and many of the milestones built into the plan would have been reached. Chair Eckart stated that there would be no better person than President Warren, who has led the charge to develop this plan, to also see it through its stated end. He noted that the Board wishes for the leader who has worked tirelessly and effectively to incite successes to continue at the helm as Kent State enters a new orbit, a higher orbit, with greater trajectory, velocity and force, which the Board knows Kent State deserves but that sometimes takes the world a little longer to discover.

# Resolution 2016-42

# ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO BEVERLY J. WARREN'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND ANNUAL ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

WHEREAS, Beverly J. Warren joined Kent State University as its 12<sup>th</sup> president on July 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, her original employment agreement with the Kent State University Board of Trustees is set to expire June 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has found that Kent State University has developed tremendous momentum under President Warren's exceptional leadership and seeks to extend her employment agreement to express its strong confidence in her leadership and the University's direction; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees and President Warren, unanimously, desire to extend the relationship through June 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as part of this process, the Board has undertaken a review of President Warren's employment agreement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby adopts contract adjustments contained in a First Amendment to Employment Agreement that will be signed by both parties and attached to this resolution in final form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, as required by the Constitution of the University, Beverly J. Warren is hereby elected President of Kent State University for a third annual term, effective July 1, 2016.

President Warren expressed gratitude to be part of the Kent State community and for the opportunity to work with the Board. She added that she knew from the beginning that Kent State was a special place. It took only a moment of time to understand how very special Kent State University is because of the people who make it up, she added. She ended by acknowledging the honor she felt in serving the university and her gratitude and excitement for the opportunity to continue that service.

# ACTION: Trustee Della Ratta moved, seconded by Trustee Albanese, that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair Eckart then called on Trustee Perry to give the report of the Nominating Committee. Trustee Perry noted that he was providing the report on behalf of Nominating Committee Chair Margot Copeland who was unable to attend the Board meeting. He then thanked the trustees who had served as officers in the 2015-16 year – Chair Dennis Eckart, Vice Chair Steve Colecchi, and Secretary Richard Marsh – for their dedication and work in developing the Strategic Roadmap. He presented the committee's recommendations for 2016-17 officers: Larry Pollock for Chair, Ralph Della Ratta for Vice Chair, and Margot Copeland for Board Secretary. Trustee Perry noted that all individuals nominated had agreed to serve if elected. Chair Eckart asked if any trustee wished to make a separate nomination. Hearing none, Chair Eckart requested a motion to support the report of the Nominating Committee.

# ACTION: Trustee Colecchi moved, seconded by Trustee Solomon, that the report of the Nominating Committee be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Trustee Pollock offered remarks as the new Chair of the Board. He noted his deep support for the mission of Kent State and especially its focus on students first. Additionally, he pledged to work to uphold the mission and to work with stakeholders to achieve the university's strategic plan. He stated that he is pleased that President Warren will be staying on for four more years, and he thanked everyone for their support.

### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION OF DOUGLAS L. STEIDL

Chair Eckart then called on Trustee Albanese to present the next resolution. Trustee Albanese presented the resolution of appreciation for Douglas L. Steidl, who will retire as Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design on August 31.

#### Resolution 2015-43

### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO DOUGLAS L. STEIDL

WHEREAS, Douglas L. Steidl joined Kent State University in 2010 as Dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, bringing a wealth of experience as an award-winning architect and as a national and global leader in the development of professional standards in architecture; and

WHEREAS, among his many contributions to the field include service as President of the National Architectural Accrediting Board in 2009, President of the American Institute of Architects in 2005, and Co-Director and Secretary of the Professional Practice Commission of the International Union of Architects from 2008 to 2011; and

WHEREAS, a founding principal of Braun and Steidl Architects, Dean Steidl joined Kent State at an opportune time as the college opened a new center for the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative in Playhouse Square and developed the signature Center for Architecture and Environmental Design on the Lefton Esplanade, which opens for classes in the fall of 2016; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership the College also has established new master's degrees in landscape architecture, health care design and architectural research; energized its alumni base and attracted more than \$12 million in new commitments from donors, and built exceptional relationships with professionals in the fields of architecture, interior design and landscape architecture; and

WHEREAS, through his dedicated service Dean Steidl has elevated both the profile of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and Kent State University; and

WHEREAS, Dean Steidl will retire August 31, 2016; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees expresses its deep gratitude to Douglas L. Steidl for his contributions to the education of students and the advancement of Kent State University, and wishes he and his wife Sue well in their future endeavors.

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

Dean Steidl remarked that he was honored by the recognition. Dean Steidl noted that he came into this position and did the best he could, and that he could not have asked for better leadership, peers and students. He reflected on the fortuitous timing of his journey in academe as the college developed a new building and most importantly raised its impact and profile in the field.

#### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION OF RICHARD H. MARSH

Chair Eckart next called on Trustee Della Ratta to present the resolution of appreciation of Richard H. Marsh. Trustee Della Ratta began by noting that he knew Trustee Marsh for 25 years and was deeply honored to present this resolution.

# Resolution 2016-44

# RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO RICHARD H. MARSH

WHEREAS, Richard H. Marsh was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Kent State University by Governor John R. Kasich on July 27, 2011; and

WHEREAS, as a distinguished alumnus of Kent State University where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree, Trustee Marsh gave back to his alma mater in lasting and meaningful ways, shaping the strategic directions of Kent State and leaving a rich legacy that will benefit generations of students, graduates and the university community; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Marsh was recognized as a leader not only in his profession – in which he advanced to Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of FirstEnergy Corp. – but also in his personal life and service to the Kent State University Foundation, Summa Health System, Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, and other organizations too numerous to cite here; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Kent State Board of Trustees, he provided exceptional and inspired leadership, serving as Secretary of the Board and as a member of the Finance and Administration, Investment and Governance committees, and chairing the Audit and Compliance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Marsh often shepherded the Board's most important and challenging responsibilities, bringing a dedication and diligence to his work that was a marvel to behold and fruitful in terms of positive outcomes, perhaps best exemplified by his leadership of the Presidential Search Committee that recruited Beverly J. Warren as Kent State's 12th President in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Marsh's organizational acumen, high integrity, positive demeanor and approachability made him a favorite of all with whom he worked and served; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, the Kent State community, and his countless friends and beneficiaries were deeply saddened by Trustee Marsh's death on March 24, 2016; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees expresses its deepest appreciation for the service and friendship of Richard H. Marsh, applauds his far-reaching contributions to the development of young people and to the advancement of Kent State University, and expresses its gratitude and best wishes to his loving wife Joan, daughters Elizabeth and Kathleen, and to all of the Marsh family.

# ACTION: All Trustees moved and seconded that the resolution be approved. There were no objections. The motion passed.

Joan Marsh accepted the resolution on behalf of the Marsh family and thanked the trustees for their work with her husband. She noted that Trustee Marsh loved his work at Kent State and with the Board.

#### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION OF DENNIS E. ECKART

Chair Eckart passed the gavel to Chair-Elect Pollock, who congratulated Chair Eckart on his successes during his two-year term of leadership. He described Chair Eckart as strategic, insightful, thoughtful, and well-spoken. President Warren offered remarks of appreciation for Chair Eckart, noting that he instilled trust and confidence in the organization that he led. She thanked Chair Eckart for his guidance and support throughout her presidency. President Warren closed with a video of student testimonials regarding how the Dennis E. Eckart Endowed Student Leadership Fund has changed their lives. Trustee Colecchi then presented the resolution of appreciation of Dennis E. Eckart.

#### Resolution 2016-45

### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO DENNIS E. ECKART

WHEREAS, Dennis E. Eckart was appointed to the Kent State University Board of Trustees by Governor Ted Strickland on June 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the self-proclaimed "recovering politician" first served the Kent State footprint from 1980 to 1993 as a leading member of the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, since his retirement from Congress Trustee Eckart has had a successful legal and governmental affairs practice in Ohio and DC, served as President/CEO of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, and continues as one of Northeast Ohio's most recognizable advocates; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating his avid commitment to student success, in 1994 he created the Dennis E. Eckart Endowed Student Leadership Fund at Kent State, which has granted more than \$200,000 to more than 1,800 students broadening their educational, civic and leadership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Eckart has given tireless service to the Kent State Board, chairing its Academic Excellence and Student Success Committee (2009-2014) and External Relations and Development Committee (2008-2009), advancing through its leadership ranks as Secretary of the Board (2010-2012), Vice Chair (2012-2014) and Board Chair (2014-2016), and serving on the Presidential Search Committee that recruited Dr. Beverly J. Warren as Kent State's 12th President; and

WHEREAS, as Board Chair he has provided inspired leadership at a momentous time for Kent State, which has included the transition of a new president, the development of an ambitious six-year Strategic Roadmap for a Distinctive Kent State, the reimagining of government and community relations, a focus on a synergistic university system, the launch of a new brand, and the successful completion of the historic Foundations of Excellence initiative that he set in motion in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Trustee Eckart long will be remembered for his collaborative style, keen insight, capacity to think out-of-the-box, colorful oratory, and voracious appetite for all things higher education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that because of his deep commitment and contributions to the advancement of Kent State University as a member of the Board of Trustees, Dennis E. Eckart is hereby designated Trustee Emeritus of Kent State University with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

Chair Pollock called for a motion to approve the resolution.

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

Following the approval, President Warren presented a gift of appreciation to Trustee Eckart. Chair Pollock then called on Trustee Eckart for remarks.

Trustee Eckart began by acknowledging his wife Sandy Eckart, his son Eddy Eckart and his daughter-in-law Misty Kochemba Eckart, all of whom were present at the meeting. He then thanked the Board and leadership team and provided a presentation entitled "Top 10 Reasons Why Being on the Kent State University Board of Trustees Had Been One of Life's Greatest Pleasures." He concluded by saying that serving as a trustee of Kent State University has made a fundamental impact on his life.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Pollock called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Albanese made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Trustee Solomon seconded the motion; and all trustees approved the motion to adjourn. On motion duly made and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.