

Board of Regents Meeting
Northern Kentucky University, Student Union, Room 104
January 14, 2015

Regent Dennis Repenning, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 1:00 pm, Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

Roll Call: Richard Boehne, Jacqueline Emerine, Virginia G. Fox, John P. B. Jose, Terry Mann, Stephen A. Meier, Dennis Repenning, Nathaniel Smith, Elizabeth Thompson, Andr Ward, Brenda Wilson

Other Attendees: Geoffrey S. Mearns, Kathryn Herschede, Wendy Peek, Sara Sidebottom, Sue Ott Rowlands, Ken Ramey, Peter Gitau, Ken Bothof, Eric Gentry, Sue Hodges Moore, Joe Wind, Kathleen Roberts, Tracy Insko, Chris Bowling, Jonathan Erion, Alex Lefebure, Pat Moynahan, Kathy Stewart, Joel Robinson, Russ Kerdolff, Kevin Kirby, Chris Cole, Larry Meyer, Jeff Standen, Denise Robinson, Katherine Frank, Becky Porterfield, Cynthia Reed, Bill Thompson, Leah Stewart, Larry Blake, Vickie Natale, Ken Jones, Kurt Sander, Thomas McGovern, Leo Feldmann, Melissa Gorbandt, Tory Lentz, Erin Mulligan, Kelly Martin

Regent Stephen Meier seconded Regent John Jose’s motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2014 Board of Regents meeting. **(Motion carried)**

Presidential Comments:

Welcome Back

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was pleased to welcome our faculty and staff back to campus last Monday, and I was delighted to welcome our students back to campus two days ago. As you know, our January Convocation took place last Friday. My remarks are available online. As I said on Friday, we had an outstanding Fall semester, and I look forward to another good Spring semester too. I would like to update you on some of the activities for this semester, as well as share some of our successes from last semester.

Enrollment and Retention

As you know, I spent a significant portion of the fall semester visiting communities and high schools as part of our RoadToNKU tour. During the tour, we visited 25 high schools and met with more than 3,000 high school students.

And during the tour, I met Kennedy and Jenna, two young girls from Lee County who were my guests at the Convocation. As I shared Friday morning, Kennedy and Jenna are two 6th graders from Lee County. When I visited their school, the superintendent invited them to come to my talk as two promising middle school students.

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During our presentation, Kennedy asked, “So, if we go to your college, does that mean we can go to Cincinnati?”

And I said, “Yes, if you come to NKU, you can go to Cincinnati.”

Then Kennedy leaned over to Jenna and said, “If we go there, we can go to Cincinnati!”

I was so impressed with their enthusiasm that I decided that they shouldn’t have to wait five or six years to come to tour campus, to see our community, and to visit Cincinnati.

So Friday was the big day. The girls attended convocation. This photo shows the moment I revealed to Kennedy and Jenna all of the special activities we arranged for them.

The girls started their adventure with trip to our bookstore where Barnes and Noble provided some NKU gear.

Next, Kennedy and Jenna went to the Newport Aquarium where one of our alumni, Alison Ruebusch, hosted them for the day. The girls met Bravo, a 650 pound Galapagos turtle, Paula the penguin, and many of the other animals.

Melissa Gorbandt, our Director of Admissions, took Kennedy and Jenna, and their mothers, to the Montgomery Inn Boathouse for dinner before the big finale of their visit – a trip to the Aronoff theatre to see Cinderella. Another alumni, Todd Duesing, arranged for special seats for the girls.

Finally, on Saturday, the girls and their moms came back to campus to go to the circus where, I’m told, they rode an elephant! During their stay, our guests stayed in a very special room at the Rivercenter Marriott thanks to a good friend of our University. Their room had a beautiful view of Cincinnati.

Last night, Kennedy and Jenna went to the Lee County Board of Education meeting, and they told the board members about their experience in Northern Kentucky and Cincinnati. I hear they had very good things to say. And I also hear that we expect our 2021 class to be up at least two students. Kennedy has already declared her intention to attend NKU!

Thank you to Melissa, Alison, Todd, and all of the people who helped make Kennedy and Jenna’s trip very special.

Turning to some additional enrollment and retention information, as of January 5, 2015, applications to our University were up approximately 29% year-to-date compared to last year. For the 25 schools I visited, applications were up 55% compared to the same time last year. Last year at this time, 400 students from those 25 high schools had applied for admission to NKU; this year, 619 students have applied from those same high schools.

We will continue to monitor these trends closely – determining the number of students who enroll from those high schools in the years to come.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions, within the Division of Enrollment and Degree Management, launched enhanced recruitment initiatives that included earlier outreach efforts, increased mailings, and campus-wide involvement in recruitment strategies.

With this targeted and strategic admissions planning, the Office is currently up 36 percent in undergraduate freshmen who were offered admission. With a concentrated effort on enhancing the academic profile, NKU is experiencing a 13 percent increase in merit-based scholarship offers.

Now, our efforts will begin to transition to focusing on converting admitted application into confirmations and ultimately more enrolled new freshmen. On a related note, we have not seen satisfactory improvement in our retention and persistence rates. Last year, we achieved modest improvement in both metrics. As we begin the Spring semester, though, we are not experiencing similar gains this academic year. The Provost and I will continue to monitor this critical issue.

Health Innovation Center

We continue to make excellent progress in the programming phase of the health innovation center. We are finalizing a draft building program that will be shared with the steering committees later this month. The architects will be back on campus next week for additional meetings with the user groups, steering committee, and the executive oversight committee to review the program for the education, training, and research activities for the facilities. Turner Construction will serve as the construction manager for the project, and they will be joining the design team at the January meetings.

Cyber Security designation

Just before the holidays, we learned that our University is one of 20 institutions in the country to be designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance and Cyber-Security Education by the National Security Agency. This designation recognizes our strength in cyber-security education, and it enables our faculty to apply for enhanced grant opportunities through the federal government. This designation is the culmination of great work by Dr. James Walden, Dr. Frank Braun, Dr. Yi Hu, and Dr. James McGuffee.

Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

Our University has been selected to receive the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's 2015 Community Engagement Classification. NKU originally earned the classification in 2006, the first year it was offered. The classification recognizes our institutional focus on community engagement, and it recognizes the significant engagement of our students, faculty, and staff in our community and beyond. NKU was one of the first universities to receive

this designation in 2006, and I am pleased that our designation in this elective classification has been renewed for another 10 year period.

Intercollegiate Athletics

I am very proud to report that the Fall 2014 all-athlete GPA was 3.22. This number is the best semester GPA since we started keeping record of the all-athlete GPA in 1983. Last Fall marks the 7th consecutive semester that the all-athlete GPA exceeded 3.0. A total of four teams earned GPAs of 3.5 or above. The men's tennis team had a very impressive 3.7 GPA, followed by volleyball and women's cross country at 3.6, and women's tennis at 3.5. I am very proud of our student-athletes and their success in the classroom and on the competition field. And I am grateful to Ken Bothof and our coaches and staff for their continuing commitment to academic excellence.

Ken Ramey

Just before the holidays, Ken Ramey announced that he will be retiring from the University effective June 30 of this year. Ken has served our University with distinction for 37 years. His depth and breadth of knowledge will not only be difficult, but impossible, to replace. Over the next few months, we'll have many opportunities to thank and recognize Ken for his exceptional service to our University. But for now, please join me in recognizing and thanking Ken for his service.

B. Presidential Reports:

1. Facilities Management Report (Vice President Ken Ramey)

- a. Health Innovation Center/Founders Hall Renovation
- b. Campus Recreation Center Expansion/Renovation
- c. Callahan Hall Roof Replacement
- d. Landrum Elevator Renovation
- e. Arc Flash Hazard Assessment
- f. Switchgear Condition Assessment
- g. Founders Hall Switchgear Replacement
- h. Exterior Door Security and Access Control
- i. Sustainability

2. Research, Grants, and Contracts Report (October 1, 2014 – November 30, 2014)

(Provost and Executive Vice President Sue Ott Rowlands)

From October 2014 through November 2014, **12** grants were awarded. The total amount of money awarded was **\$540,520**. From July 1, 2014 through November 30, 2014, the cumulative total number of grants awarded is **44** totaling **\$3,865,971**.

3. Fundraising Report (July 1, 2014 through November 30, 2014) (Vice President Eric Gentry)

The Fundraising Report summarized fundraising resources committed from July 1, 2014 through November 30, 2014 totaling \$2,846,761 in support of the university.

4. Quarterly Financial Report (July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014) (Vice President Ken Ramey)

The Quarterly Financial Report depicted the financial activity of the University during the period from July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014, compared to the annual budget and the prior year's activity.

5. Faculty Development Awards – Project Grants (Provost and Executive Vice President Sue Ott Rowlands)

The Project Grant Report reflected the grants that have been awarded for 2015-2016.

6. Faculty Development Awards – Faculty Summer Fellows (Provost and Executive Vice President Sue Ott Rowlands)

The Faculty Summer Fellows Report reflected the fellows that have been awarded for the summer of 2015.

7. Organizational Changes Report – (Vice President Ken Ramey)

The organizational changes report reflected the reorganization of several existing departments into the new Center for Student Inclusiveness. The organizational changes report also reflected a new organizational structure in Intercollegiate Athletics.

8. Dashboard Report – (Senior Vice President Sue Hodges Moore)

This report provided an update on the progress NKU has made toward the targets set on the Executive Dashboard. The document provided updated information on all metrics for which data is currently available, including fall enrollment, fall retention rates, and the latest graduation rates.

C. Presidential Recommendations:

Consent Agenda Items: A motion was made by Regent André Ward and seconded by Regent Brenda Wilson to approve the following Presidential Recommendations as listed; C-1 through C-11. **(Motion carried)**

1. Academic Affairs Personnel Actions:

a. Departures

Dr. Jennifer Webster, interim director of Integrative Studies and lecturer in the Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership, effective June 30, 2015.

b. Retirements:

Dr. Hildegard Baldrige, lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences, effective May 17, 2015; **Ms. Barbara Houghton**, professor of art in the Department of Visual Arts, effective May 17, 2015; **Mrs. Andrea Knarr**, lecturer in the Department of Visual Arts, effective May 17, 2015; **Dr. James Ramage**, professor in the Department of History and Geography, effective May 17, 2015; **Dr. Robert Rhode**, professor in the Department of English, effective May 17, 2015.

c. Phased Retirements

Ms. Nancy L. Firak, professor of law at Chase College of Law, beginning August 2015 and terminating at the end of the academic year 2016-17.

d. Leaves Paid/Unpaid:

Ms. Jamie Tanzman, director of American English Language Program, beginning November 6, 2014 and ending May 11, 2015.

e. Temporary Faculty Appointments:

Mrs. Amber Pleiman, Department of Chemistry, Spring 2015; **Ms. John Brengelman**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015; **Mr. David Gutmann**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015; **Ms. Karin Hauschild**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015; **Ms. Lisa Kirk**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015; **Dr. William Thomas Menz**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015; **Ms. Melissa Napier**, American English Language Program, Spring 2015;

2. Non-Academic Personnel Actions:

The following categories of non-academic personnel actions which occurred between October 15, 2014 and, December 2, 2014 received approval by the Board of Regents: Activations, Rehires; Reassignments, Reclassifications, Title/Status Changes, Promotions; Transfers; Contract/Temporary to Regular and Regular to Contract; Departures; Retirees; Administrative/Executive.

3. Major Gifts Acceptance:

The Board of Regents officially accepted contributions totaling **\$850,000.00** received by the NKU Foundation Inc. and the University during the period October 1, 2014 through November 30, 2014.

4. Naming Recommendations:

The Board of Regents hereby approved the following naming actions:

- (1) The naming of an undergraduate scholarship in support of talented and academically proficient students enrolled in the Fine Arts Theatre Program who are pursuing the playwriting area of specialization “The Ken Jones Playwright Scholarship.”
- (2) The naming of an undergraduate scholarship in support of talented and academically proficient students enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Arts degree programs in Theatre with a preference given to students who meet the university’s post-traditional student qualifications “The Henry Konstantinow Post-Traditional Student Scholarship.”
- (3) The naming of an endowed undergraduate scholarship in support of study abroad educational opportunities for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Arts degree programs in Theatre “The Henry Konstantinow Study Abroad Scholarship Full Semester.”
- (4) The naming of an endowed undergraduate scholarship in support of study abroad educational opportunities for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts or Bachelor of Arts degree programs in Theatre “The Henry Konstantinow Study Abroad Scholarship Short Semester.”
- (5) The naming of an endowed undergraduate scholarship in support of outreach efforts of the Department of Theatre and Dance “The Henry Konstantinow Theatre Outreach Program.”
- (6) The naming of rooms 117, 118, and 119 in the Fine Arts Building “The Henry Konstantinow Studio Theatre and Acting Lab” in recognition of Mr. Konstantinow’s gift.

5. Emeritus Status Appointments:

The Emeritus status for the following individuals received Board of Regents approval:

Ms. Mary Cupito, associate professor of journalism in the Department of Communication, effective January 1, 2015; **Mrs. Barbara Houghton**, professor of art in the Department of Visual Arts, effective July 1, 2015.

6. Sabbatical Leaves:

The sabbatical leave recommendations for the 2015-2016 academic year received Board of Regents approval.

7. Revision of University Policies – Removal of “administrative regulation”:

The Board of Regents approved the removal of the term *administrative regulation* as classification for a university policy that requires Board approval.

8. Chase 3 + 3 Program:

The Board of Regents approved the 3+3 Bachelor’s / J.D. program at NKU and the Chase College of Law, for immediate implementation.

9. School of the Arts Recommendation:

The Board of Regents approved a School of the Arts be formed within the College of Arts and Sciences, comprising the existing departments of theatre and dance, visual arts, and music.

10. Facilities Management 225 Johns Hill Road Demolition:

The Board of Regents approved demolition of the residence and outbuildings located on the parcel at 225 Johns Hill Road.

11. Facilities Management Right of Way Acquisition:

The Board of Regents approved the acceptance by the university of surplus Right-of-Way from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

D. Executive Session:

Regent Terry Mann seconded Regent Dennis Repenning’s motion to enter into executive session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(C) in order to discuss litigation against the University.
(Motion carried)

No other matters were discussed. No final action was taken.

At 1:56 p.m., Regent Virginia Fox seconded Regent Steve Meier's motion to adjourn. (**Motion carried**)

Signature On File
Wendy J. Peek
Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of the President

Signature On File
Kathryn J. Herschede
**Executive Assistant to the President/
Secretary to the Board of Regents**

I, Nathaniel Smith, Secretary of the Board of Regents of Northern Kentucky University, certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 14, 2015, and that such matters are still in force and effect.

Signature On File
Nathaniel Smith
Secretary of the Board of Regents