

**Board of Regents Meeting**  
**Northern Kentucky University, Student Union, Room 104**  
**March 20, 2019**

Regent W. Lee Scheben, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Board of Regents to order at 1:00 pm, Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

**Roll Call:** Michael Baranowski, David Bauer, Richard Boehne, Normand Desmarais, Hannah Edelen, Ashley Himes, Terry Mann, Dennis Repenning, W. Lee Scheben, Gregory Shumate, Andr Ward.

Other Attendees: Ashish Vaidya, Wendy Peek, Tammy Knochelmann, Ben Jager, Joan Gates, Eric Gentry, Sue Ott Rowlands, Daniel Nadler, Kathleen Roberts, Kim Scranage, Mike Hales, Lori Southwood, Valerie Hardcastle, Diana McGill, Johnna Kleymeyer, Kevin Kirby, Dale Stephenson, Alar Lipping, Robert Zai, James Buss, Chris Bowling, Tracy Insko, Travis Gibbons, Jason Houston, Katelyn Clough, Allen Cole, Ande Durojaiye, Melissa Gorbandt, Sara Kelley, Larry Meyer, Russ Kerdolff, Mary Paula Schuh, Leah Stewart, Syed Zaidi, Jason Vest, Janel Bloch, Chad Ogle, Christian Gamm, Matthew Zacate, Anna Wright, Ryan Padgett, Donna Smith, Josh Goad, David Berland, Atley Smedley, Sharmanthie Fernando, Andy Meeks.

Regent David Bauer seconded Regent Gregory Shumate’s motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2019 Board of Regents meeting. **(Motion carried)**

**Presidential Comments:**

MLK Day of Service

On Martin Luther King Jr Day, I was proud to join nearly 800 Norse students, faculty and staff as we spent the day volunteering in the community at 28 different sites. It was exciting to see so many people helping to make our community a better place. I hope this can become a yearly tradition for our campus. Thanks to the Office of Student Engagement for coordinating this event.

Homecoming Recap

Last month we celebrated homecoming by recognizing some of our most outstanding alumni at the awards ceremony that weekend.

Tom Munninghoff, a 1976 Chase grad, was given the Outstanding Alumnus Award. The Distinguished Service Award went to two very deserving individuals – Diane Sticklen-Jordan, a two-time NKU alum, and former NKU Foundation President Barry Kienzle. The Outstanding Young Alumnus Award was given to 2014 grad Brad Jolly. And last but not least, former staff regent Arnie Slaughter was honored with the Faculty/Staff Strongest Influence Award. For anyone who knows Arnie, it would be hard to find a staff member who is more dedicated to our students that he is.

We are fortunate to have so many dedicated and talented NKU alumni in our community. Congratulations to all the winners.

### Career Expo

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, NKU's Career Services held their annual Career Expo in the Student Union. With a maximum of 139 employers in attendance recruiting and interviewing our students, we had 802 students and alumni participate in this important event. This was a record-breaking attendance, up 41% in student attendance from last year and up 23% from our previous record in 2014. This is exciting news, particularly as we look at ways in our new strategic framework to expand the career preparedness of our students and embed career readiness throughout the lifecycle of the student. I want to thank Career Services for their leadership of this event, and to all those who partnered with Career Services in supporting our students.

### Cyber Defense Team

NKU's Cyber Defense Team placed first in the 5-state combined Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition in February. Teams were from KY, OH, IN, MO and WI. This means we beat Purdue as well as our archrival the University of Louisville. This round was done online, and the NKU team competed from the donor-funded JRG Cyber Threat Intelligence Lab in Griffin Hall. The team headed to Chicago the weekend of March 15-17 to compete in the Midwest Regionals for the seventh time in ten years and placed third overall. Two Electronic Media and Broadcasting students traveled with the team to do a "reality TV" style mini-documentary on the experience.

### Physical Disability Campus Ranking

We were recently named as a top 10 campus for supporting students with physical disabilities by College Magazine for our accessible residence halls, classrooms, and transportation options as well as general campus advocacy related to disability awareness and inclusion. Congratulations to Director Cindy Knox and her staff in the Office of Disability Programs and Services for providing excellent support to our students.

### Military Friendly Campus Ranking

We were also recognized as a military-friendly campus by Victory Media which is the premier publication for service members transitioning back into civilian life. This is our 9<sup>th</sup> straight year on this list. Congratulations to the staff in the Veteran's Resource Station for the outstanding service they provide to our military families.

### FUEL NKU Opening

Back in February I was honored to join Kroger CFO Mike Schlotman as we opened the new FUEL NKU food pantry. Through a generous partnership with Kroger, we were able to greatly expand the physical space, food offerings, and hours to help support the needs of our students. This will go a long way toward helping the growing number of students who face food insecurity.

### Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure

In just a few moments, I will ask the board to approve my recommendations regarding the reappointment, promotion and tenure of several faculty members. I'd like to especially recognize those faculty who I am recommending for tenure and promotion. This is a significant accomplishment and milestone in a faculty member's career and deserves special recognition.

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### Individual Recognition

I would like to recognize Lori Wright, director of TRiO Student Support Services and graduate student in our Ed.D. program, who together with a group of women from NKU, Cincinnati State, and Mt. St. Joseph, are writing a collaborative, co-authored dissertation on feminist leadership in the academy. They also received permission to write a graduate textbook as an extension of their doctoral dissertation. We are very proud of the work of our staff and graduate students and look forward to the publication.

Dr. Holly Riffe of the department of Counseling, Social Work and Leadership in the College of Education and Human Services has been recognized as Outstanding Educator for 2019 in *Cincy Magazine*. Congratulations to Holly on this tremendous honor.

Dr. Steve Crites of the department of Teacher Education of COEHS received a continuation of the Kentucky Traineeship in Special Education grant of \$777,000,000 for the 2019-2020 school year. This grant is funded by the Kentucky Department of Education with federal money from the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide tuition funding for graduate students seeking certification in special education.

Lastly, I am proud to announce that our Student Regent Hannah Edelen was recently awarded the prestigious Henry Clay Internship in Public Policy through the Kentucky Society for Washington. Hannah will intern with the Kentucky congressional delegation this summer in Washington, D.C. Congratulations Hannah.

### Pension Update

The legislature adjourned on March 14 not to return until March 28, where they will have one day to override any gubernatorial vetoes and act on legislation. Any bills passed on March 28 will be subject to gubernatorial vetoes without ability to override.

There are two bills relating to NKU pension reform:

#### SB41

An amendment was filed to SB41 last Thursday to freeze KERS contribution rates on all quasi agencies, including universities, for one more year. While we appreciate a one-year freeze, this is not a long-term solution. Earlier this week, Senate leadership stated they did not see this bill passing either, and we echoed our continued support for HB358.

#### HB358

House Bill 358 reflects the consensus proposal recommended by all of the affected universities. Working together since late summer, we developed this plan as a solution to our pension challenge. Representative James Tipton, Chair of the House Budget Review Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, worked with us to develop this proposal and carried it through its passage of the House.

After passing the House, the bill was sent to the Senate and amended by Sen. Chris McDaniel through a Senate Committee Substitute (SCS), with language that was less favorable for NKU.

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The amended language does not allow for a “level-dollar” approach to paying off our unfunded liability which would reduce NKU’s contribution amount since we are over-paying the system currently using the % of payroll calculation.

The committee substitute also added all quasi-governmental agencies to our bill rather than it being a standalone higher education bill. The quasi-agencies received different options in the bill than us, specifically that existing employees at these quasi-agencies would not have the option to stay in KERS or opt to a defined contribution plan. This became an issue for non-university quasi-agencies with employees close to retirement milestones that prefer the option to stay.

The Senate passed this version of HB358 and sent it back to the House for their concurrence. The House did not concur and sent the bill back to the Senate for them to recede on the SCS.

The General Assembly adjourned last Thursday without taking further action.

It’s our understanding House and Senate members will attempt to meet during the recess to develop a solution. We will continue to work with members of both chambers to aid finding a solution.

### Athletics Highlights

Alec Sandusky won the 5,000m event at the Horizon League Indoor Track & Field Championship, earning First Team all-Horizon League honors. Sandusky followed 24-hours later with a third-place finish in the 3,000m. On the women’s side, BriAuna Keys finished second, earning a silver medal, in the women’s 400m.

The men’s basketball continued its unprecedented success in the DI era, winning the Horizon League Tournament Championship and sharing the regular-season title this year. In just three years with active Division I status, we have claimed two Horizon League regular-season titles (2018, 2019), two league tournament titles (2017, 2019) and has played in two NCAA Tournaments (2017, 2019) as well as the NIT (2018).

Our players have also racked up several individual honors this year. The accolades include Jalen Tate making his second straight Horizon League All-Defensive team.

And what can you say about Drew McDonald that hasn’t already been said? Drew broke the school record for most free throws made in a career and became NKU’s all-time leading scorer with 2,011 points on his way to being named as the Horizon League Player of the Year.

Our players also shine in the classroom. Both Drew and Dantez Walton made the Horizon League All-Academic Team as well.

Now I come from a hockey school, so I’m still learning what it means to be a college basketball fan in Kentucky, but I don’t think I could have asked for a better first year as president than this one. I think my voice is still hoarse from that buzzer beater shot against Oakland.

The team will play in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Friday at 1:30pm against Texas Tech in Tulsa. It will certainly be an exciting day for our campus and community.

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## Upcoming Events

### Celebration

NKU's Celebration of Student Research and Creativity will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup> in the Student Union. This will be a day of posters, presentations and performances given by students from across the university. We encourage everyone to come and see the amazing level of scholarly and creative work being done by our students.

### Inauguration Week

Next week begins my inauguration week. The goal is to use this week as an opportunity to celebrate NKU and how we contribute to student success and regional progress. Every day has a theme: Tuesday is community appreciation day, Wednesday features events related to current and future student appreciation, and Thursday is a celebration of our staff and faculty.

There are a few events I'd like to call out:

On Tuesday at 8:30am we will be cutting the ribbon on the Rockwell Automation and CBT Company Mechatronics Lab in the Business Academic Center Room 111.

Also on Tuesday at 10am will be a dialogue on regionalism that will feature our three country judges executive and will be moderated by Johnna Kleymeyer, interim dean of the Haile/US Bank College of Business

Tuesday and Wednesday are Making Teaching Public Days where we will open up a few of our classes to the community to witness the excellence faculty we have on our campus.

On Wednesday at 10am, we will be hosting a Diversity and IT Leadership Panel which will feature some of the most prominent IT leaders in the community and will be hosted by Maureen Doyle, chair of Computer Science in the College of Informatics.

Friday is investiture day and I hope all of you can make it to the ceremony at 2pm in BB&T. A reception will follow.

This is an exciting week for me personally but also for the campus to celebrate its successes as we collectively look toward the future.

For a detailed list of all the events next week, please visit the inauguration website.

Chair Scheben and members of the Board that concludes my remarks for today's meeting.

## **B. Presidential Reports:**

**1. Facilities Management Report** (Co-Interim Chief Administration Officers Mike Hales and Lori Southwood).

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- a. Energy Savings Performance Contract
- b. Herrmann Science Center Roof Restoration
- c. Elevator Improvements (Lucas Administrative Center)
- d. Switchgear Replacement (MEP – Exterior Unit)
- e. Kenton Garage Restoration
- f. Commonwealth Hall Renovation
- g. New Residence Hall
- h. US 27 Development
- i. UK College of Medicine – Northern Kentucky Campus

**2. Research, Grants, and Contracts Report (December 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019)**

(Provost and Executive Vice President Sue Ott Rowlands).

During the December 31, 2018 through January 31, 2019 time period 6 grants were awarded. The total amount of money awarded was \$402,904. For the fiscal year 2018 – 2019 the cumulative total number of grants awarded is 47 totaling \$4,162,093.

**3. Fundraising Report (July 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019)** (Vice President Eric Gentry).

The Fundraising Report summarized fundraising resources committed from July 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019 totaling \$4,121,025 in support of the university.

**4. Quarterly Financial Report (July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018)** (Co-Interim Chief Administration Officers Mike Hales and Lori Southwood).

The Report was reviewed by the Board of Regents Audit Committee in accordance with Article III (D) (2) of the Board of Regents Bylaws.

**5. Policies Report** (Provost and Executive Vice President Sue Ott Rowlands and Vice President for Legal Affairs/General Counsel Joan Gates).

The Policies Report summarized all policies that were approved at the executive-level after proceeding through the campus vetting process. The President and other university administrators determined that approval of these policies by the Board of Regents was not needed per the criteria established in Presidential Recommendation C-7 of the January 2015 regular meeting.

**C. Presidential Recommendations:**

**Consent Agenda Items:** A motion was made by Regent Andr Ward and seconded by Regent Gregory Shumate to approve the Presidential Recommendations as listed; C-1 through C-15. **(Motion carried)**

**1. Academic Affairs Personnel Actions:**

**a. Administrative Appointments:**

**Ms. Johnna Reeder Kleymeyer**, interim dean, Haile/US Bank College of Business, effective January 7, 2019.

**b. Faculty Appointments:**

**Dr. Terrance Anderson**, clinical assistant professor and director of Occupational Therapy, College of Health Professions, effective December 17, 2018; **Dr. Jay-Anthony Avenido**, lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 12, 2019; **Ms. Kinsey Bryant-Lees**, assistant professor in the Department of Psychological Science, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 12, 2019; **Ms. Whittney Darnell**, assistant professor in the Department of Communication, College of Informatics, effective August 12, 2019; **Ms. Rhonda Davis**, lecturer of Integrative Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, effective January 14, 2019; **Mr. Haoquiang (Kevin) Jiang**, assistant professor in the Department of Business Informatics, College of Informatics, effective August 12, 2019; **Ms. Erin Kelley**, lecturer in the Department of Nursing, College of Health Professions, effective January 7, 2019; **Dr. Kathy Noyes**, assistant professor in the Department of Nursing, College of Health Professions, effective January 7, 2019; **Ms. Allison Parker**, assistant professor in Environmental Science, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 12, 2019; **Dr. Mary Schilling**, lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 12, 2019; **Dr. Karen Vietz**, clinical associate professor in the Department of Nursing, College of Health Professions, effective January 7, 2019; **Mr. Cameron Williams**, assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, effective August 12, 2019.

**c. Retirement:**

**Ms. Debby Dempsey**, lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 31, 2019; **Mr. David Manning**, lecturer in the Department of Business Informatics, College of Informatics, effective August 11, 2019.

**d. Phased Retirement:**

**Mr. Perry Bratcher**, professor in the W. Frank Steely Library, beginning July 1, 2019 and terminating June 30, 2021; **Mr. Terry Powell**, associate professor of Theatre and Dance in the School of the Arts, College of Arts of Sciences, beginning August 15, 2019 and terminating May, 2021.

**e. Temporary Faculty Appointments:**

**Mr. Dan Hunter**, Department of Physics, Geology and Engineering Technology, effective partial Academic Year; **Mr. Matt Overwine**, Department of Visual Arts, effective partial Academic Year.

**2. Academic Affairs Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure:**

The Board of Regents approved recommendations on reappointment, promotion and tenure.

**3. Non-Academic Personnel Actions:**

The following categories of non-academic personnel actions which occurred between December 4, 2018 and February 18, 2019 received approval by the Board of Regents: Activations/Rehires; Reassignments, Reclassifications, Title/Status Changes, Promotions; Transfers; Contract/Temporary/Student to Regular & Regular to Contract; Departures; Retirements; Administrative/Executive.

**4. Major Gifts Acceptance:**

The Board of Regents accepted contributions totaling \$1,211,897.19 received by the NKU Foundation Inc. for the benefit of Northern Kentucky University during the period December 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019.

**5. Naming Recommendation:**

The Board of Regents approved the following naming action:

1. The naming of a lab to enable our students and faculty to design, program, and operate manufacturing systems. "The Rockwell Automation & CBT Company Mechatronics Lab".

**6. Honorary Degree - Colvin:**

The Board of Regents approved that Mr. Garren Colvin receive an Honorary Doctor of Business Degree.

**7. Posthumous Degree - Dichoso:**

The Board of Regents approved that Christian Dichoso receive a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

**8. Posthumous Degree - Sershion:**

The Board of Regents approved that Brandon Sershion receive a posthumous Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Information Technology.

**9. New Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Physics:**

The Board of Regents approved a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Physics.



**10. New Master of Science Degree in Athletic Training:**

The Board of Regents approved a Master of Science Degree in Athletic Training.

**11. Proposed Debt Write-Off (Student Account Bad Debts):**

The Board of Regents authorized the Chief Financial Officer to write off student account bad debts totaling \$456,078.57.

**12. Organizational Chart Update:**

The Board of Regents approved the organizational chart, which reflects all NKU Administrative updates through March 20, 2019.

**13. FY 2019-2020 Dining, Parking, Housing and Other Fees:**

The Board of Regents authorized the proposed dining, parking and housing fees and the Schedule of Fees and Service Charges for the 2019-2020 academic year.

**14. FY 2019-2020 Tuition Rates:**

The Board of Regents approved the tuition for the 2019-20 academic year at the rates proposed in the Authorized Schedule of Tuition. The President will submit tuition rates for the 2019-20 academic year to the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) for approval at the April 26, 2019 CPE meeting.

**15. FY 2019-2020 Annual Operating Budget Resolution:**

The Board of Regents approved the resolution establishing and approving the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Annual Unrestricted Operating Budget for Northern Kentucky University.

**Board Recommendation D-1:** A motion was made by Regent Terry Mann and seconded by Regent Gregory Shumate to approve the Board Recommendation D-1. **(Motion carried)**

**D. Board Recommendation:**

The Board of Regents authorized the Audit and Compliance Committee to enter into a contract with the audit firm of BKD, LLC for the annual audit of the University's financial records for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. The contract cost for the year ending June 30, 2019 will be approximately \$99,000. This contract will allow for three one-year renewable options with the concurrence of both parties.

**E. Executive Session:**

Regent Richard Boehne seconded Regent W. Lee Scheben's motion to enter into executive session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1) (b) and (c). **(Motion carried)**

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At 1:47 p.m., Regent Hannah Edelen seconded Regent Dennis Repenning's motion to adjourn.  
**(Motion carried)**

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

*Signature On File*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Benjamin Jager**  
**Executive Assistant to the President/**  
**Secretary to the Board of Regents**

I, Normand Desmarais, 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 March 20, 2019, and that such matters are still in force and effect.

*Signature On File*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Normand Desmarais**  
**Secretary of the Board of Regents**