

Minutes
The University of Toledo
129th Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Monday, February 10, 2020
Libbey Hall
1:45 p.m.

The one-hundred twenty-ninth meeting of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees was held on Monday, February 10, 2020, in Libbey Hall's Main Dining room. Chair Mary Ellen Pisanelli called the meeting to order at 4:25 p.m. Secretary to the Board, Ms. Katie DeBenedictis, recorded the minutes.

**CALL TO
ORDER**

The following Board of Trustees members were in attendance:

Eleanore Awadalla
Alfred A. Baker, Vice Chair
Stephen P. Ciucci
Jeffrey C. Cole
Rebekah K. Dangler, Student Trustee
Daniel J. Guttman
Patrick J. Kenney
Mary Ellen Pisanelli, Chair
Richard Walinski

ATTENDANCE

The following Board of Trustees members were absent:

Roy V. Armes, National Trustee
Kyle D. Bergen, Student Trustee
Christine E. Brennan, National Trustee
Birdel F. Jackson, III, National Trustee
Will Lucas

A quorum of the Board was constituted.

The following individuals were also in attendance:

Jim Anderson, VP Enrollment Management
Dan Barbee, CEO of UTMC
Ben Barros, Dean, College of Law
Chrissy Billau, Media Relations Specialist
Karen Bjorkman, Interim Provost/EVP Academic Affairs
Tim Brakel, Professor and President of Faculty Senate
Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Dean, College of Graduate Studies
Lisa Byers, Executive Assistant
Frank Calzonetti, Vice President for Research
Phillip Cockrell, Vice President for Student Affairs
Christopher Cooper, EVP Clinical Affairs/Dean COM&LS
Meghan Cunningham, Director University Communications
Katie DeBenedictis, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Sharon Gaber, President
 Maureen Harper, Falls Communication
 Mary Humphrys, Associate Professor of Business Technology
 Charles Jake, Deputy General Counsel
 Adrienne King, Associate Vice President for Marketing and Communications
 Lori King, photographer for *The Blade*
 Jim Kleshinski, Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affiliation
 Brenda Lee, President, University of Toledo Foundation
 Linda Lewandowski, Dean, College of Nursing
 Tyrel Linkhorn, Media Relations Specialist
 Diane Miller, AVP Government Relations/Interim Chief of Staff
 Jeff Newton, Chief of UT Police
 Peter Papadimos, VP and General Counsel
 Jen Schaefer, Development Officer
 Matthew Schroeder, EVP Finance and Administration/CFO
 Rachel Stanford, Executive Assistant
 Brooks Sutherland, Reporter for *The Blade*
 Rick Swaine, CFO of UTMC
 Rod Theis, Deputy Chief of UT Police
 Amy Thompson, Vice Provost Faculty Affairs
 Jason Toth, Associate Vice President of Facilities and Construction
 Cheryl Zywer, Associate Vice President of Development

Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion to waive the reading of the December 2019, January 2019 and February 2020 Board and Committee meeting minutes and approve them as written. A motion was received from Trustee Kenney, seconded by Trustee Walinski, and approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion for approval of the Consent Agenda for this meeting. A motion was received from Trustee Kenney, seconded by Trustee Baker, and approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President's Report:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dashboard Report

- In your packet you will find February's dashboard report. I especially want to draw your attention to two items:
- Enrollment
 - For the third consecutive year, more than 90% of new students enrolled in the fall continued their studies in the spring semester;
 - This year's fall-to-spring retention rate of 91.5% is the highest in at least a dozen years;
 - The number of new transfer students increased 27.1% over last year;
 - And the number of new high school students earning college credit

at UToledo also increased, up 7.2% to 965 students.

- Research
 - Total research award dollars are at a five-year high at more than \$32.2 million, for the first half of the fiscal year;
 - Funding of new competitive awards is also at a five-year peak at more than \$17.3 million.

Student Success

- The Counseling Center now offers students expanded hours, until 7 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays. This is the latest service improvement under new Director Dr. La Tasha Sullivan, whose team includes three new counselors.

Enrollment, Retention and Graduation

- We had more than 1,200 guests sign up for Experience Day on Saturday, our largest registration since 2016.
 - This is the first of three Experience Days this spring to welcome admitted students and their families to campus to help drive enrollment.
- Applications to our M.D. program are up: the Office of Medical School Admissions has seen a 48% uptick over the last four application cycles.
- Enrollment in the College of Nursing continues to increase—8% higher this Spring Semester 2020 than Spring 2019.
- The RN to BSN Competency-Based Education (CBE) modality launched in fall 2019 as a pilot program for the University, and, has been a big success:
 - Spring enrollment in the RN to BSN CBE program has more than doubled over our enrollment in the RN to BSN program last spring.

Academic Affairs

- Congratulations to Dr. Karen Bjorkman! On Jan. 13, we were pleased to announce her as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, after serving in the interim role for the past year.
 - Under her leadership, we'll continue to enhance the educational experience for our students and opportunities for excellence amongst our faculty and staff.
- Lee Strang, the John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and Values in the College of Law, just released a new book. "Originalism's Promise: A Natural Law Account of the American Constitution" examines how the constitution has been interpreted throughout our country's history.
- This week, we're excited for the UToledo Law Review to host a lecture featuring Jim Obergefell (OH-ber-ga-fell) and Rick Hodges, from opposite sides of the 2015 landmark U.S. Supreme court case on same-sex marriage.

- They've since formed an unlikely friendship and will talk about finding common ground and civility.

Research

- Dr. Steven Sucheck and Dr. Katherine Wall have been awarded a \$2.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to create a synthetic vaccine against drug-resistant bacteria.

Alumni Relations

- Associate vice president of alumni relations, Dan Saevig, will retire on March 2, after more than 27 years of service to the University.
 - On behalf UToledo and our thousands of alumni, I'd like to thank Dan for his years of dedication and hard work.
 - Billy Pierce, currently senior director of alumni engagement, will be assuming Dan's role.

Student Life, Campus and Community

- This month our campus is celebrating Black History Month. Last week, we welcomed activist Tiffany Loftin, director of the NAACP's Youth and College Division, to campus to give the keynote address and spoke about advocacy and empowerment for communities of color.

Trustee Pisanelli report:

Welcome

- On behalf of the Board, I'm pleased to celebrate some of the University's achievements during fall semester.

Student success

- I was proud to represent the Board during Fall Commencement ceremonies this past Saturday, when we congratulated more than 2,000 candidates for degrees!
 - Our newest graduates join our growing alumni network of more than 157,000 around the world.
- The University of Toledo was recognized recently by:
 - The Military Times in its "Best for Vets" rankings, where the University jumped 43 places. The annual ranking measures our support for veteran and military students, and their rates of academic achievement.
 - Princeton Review listed the UToledo College of Law #1 in Ohio and Michigan for most accessible professors in its "Best Law Schools 2020" rankings.

Community partnerships

- On Dec. 6, student teams from the College of Engineering presented projects and ideas to the public during the Senior Design Expo.

**CHAIR'S
REPORT**

- One great example is the team that worked with the Toledo Symphony on a 3D-printed violin to improve access to instruments for children in low-income and remote areas.
- Our Center for the Visual Arts recently completed an exhibition of more than a dozen panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt in recognition of World AIDS Day.
- In November, the University and the Ohio State Highway Patrol broke ground on a shared Public Safety facility at the corner of Dorr Street and Secor Road.
 - This unique partnership offers the university an opportunity to increase collaboration, public safety and serve the community.

Day of Giving

- In October, our third annual Day of Giving, titled “Rocket Forward,” raised \$859,990 from our alumni, faculty, staff, students and supporters everywhere.
 - This amount surpassed our goal by more than \$100,000
 - and was a nearly 20% improvement over 2018.

Honors

- I’d like to congratulate President Gaber, as well as College of Graduate Studies Dean Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, on being recognized by the YWCA of Northwest Ohio for their leadership and empowerment of women.
 - President Gaber has been named the recipient of the 2020 Milestone Award for education; and Dr. Bryant-Friedrich is the recipient for science.
 - They will be honored during the Milestone Award ceremony on March 12, so we look forward sharing in that celebration of their leadership!
- Additionally, on behalf of the entire board, I want to recognize Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich’s election as a 2019 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, the world’s largest general scientific society.
 - This lifetime appointment was awarded to only 443 scientists worldwide this year, and is a high honor.
 - UToledo now has 5 AAAS fellows.
 - Dr. Bryant-Friedrich, congratulations on this wonderful recognition!

Closing

- I also want to wish everyone happy holidays, and thank all of you for your contributions this year.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Chair Daniel Guttman did not have a report.

**ACADEMIC
AND STUDENT
AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**

Clinical Affairs Committee Chair Stephen Ciucci did not have a report

**CLINICAL
AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**

Finance and Audit Committee Vice Chair Steve Ciucci did not have a report.

**FINANCE
AND AUDIT
COMMITTEE**

Trusteeship and Governance Committee Chair Patrick Kenney did not have a report.

**TRUSTEESHIP
AND
GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE**

With no further business before the Board, Trustee Pisanelli adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT