

## Minutes

**The University of Toledo  
121<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Monday, June 17, 2019  
Libbey Hall  
1:45 p.m.**

The one-hundred twenty-first meeting of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees was held on Monday, June 17, 2019, in Libbey Hall's Main Dining room. Chair Mary Ellen Pisanelli called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. Board of Trustees Secretary Joan Stasa recorded the minutes.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

The following Board of Trustees members were in attendance:

Alfred A. Baker, Vice Chair  
Kyle D. Bergen, Student Trustee  
Stephen P. Ciucci  
Jeffrey C. Cole  
Hedyeh Elahinia, Student Trustee  
Daniel J. Guttman  
Patrick J. Kenney  
Will Lucas  
Mary Ellen Pisanelli, Chair  
Sharon Speyer

**ATTENDANCE**

The following Board of Trustees members were absent:

Roy V. Armes, National Trustee  
Christine E. Brennan, National Trustee  
Birdel F. Jackson, III

A quorum of the Board was constituted.

The following individuals were also in attendance:

Jim Anderson, VP Enrollment Management  
Karen Bjorkman, Interim Provost/EVP Academic Affairs  
Timothy Brakel, President Faculty Senate  
Christopher Cooper, EVP Clinical Affairs/Dean COM&LS  
Meghan Cunningham, Director University Communications  
David Cutri, Executive Director Internal Audit/Chief Compliance Officer  
Sharon Gaber, President  
Rick Gerasimiak, Manager Desktop Support  
Mary Humphrys, Associate Professor Business Technology  
Charles Jake, Deputy General Counsel  
Adrienne King, AVP Marketing and Communications  
Linda Lewandowski, Dean College of Nursing  
Ken McFeggan, Instructional Media Specialist

Diane Miller, AVP Government Relations/Interim Chief of Staff  
Michael O'Brien, VP Intercollegiate Athletics  
Peter Papadimos, VP and General Counsel  
Matthew Schroeder, Interim EVP Finance and Administration/CFO  
Joan Stasa, Secretary Board of Trustees  
Amy Thompson, Vice Provost Faculty Affairs  
Bri'on Whiteside, Reporter for *The Blade*  
Cheryl Zwyer, Associate VP Development

Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion to waive the reading of the April 15, 2019 Board meeting minutes and approve them as written. A motion was received from Trustee Ciucci, seconded by Trustee Speyer, 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 Ciucci, seconded by Trustee Cole, and approved by the Board.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

President Gaber commented that it was another year of great accomplishments. To showcase the year, a video was put together to provide some of the highlights. Dr. Gaber mentioned that the video would be sent out to the campus community after the meeting. After watching the video, Dr. Gaber thanked Marketing and Communications for their work in putting the video together.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Board Chair Pisanelli echoed President Gaber's comments in celebrating the many great accomplishments in student success, research and scholarship this academic year.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

In addition to celebrating 3,000 new graduates and welcoming them to our family of Rocket alumni, the commencement ceremonies brought national attention thanks to our featured speakers. Actress and producer Katie Holmes addressed our undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 4. Highlights of her appearance were featured on the NBC Nightly News, as well as in *People Magazine* and *U.S. News & World Report*. Dr. Scott Parazynski, a pioneering astronaut and physician, delivered the commencement address for the College of Medicine and Life Sciences on May 10.

Dr. Mass Foss, Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre and Film, won the Kennedy Center's David Mark Cohen National Playwriting Award for his adaptation of "All Quiet on the Western Front."

Trustee Pisanelli extended congratulations to Rocket student-athletes, who earned a school-record 3.306 grade point average in the spring semester. This is the ninth consecutive semester in which they have earned a semester GPA of 3.2 or higher.

At last week's Board dinner, Chair Pisanelli presented Proclamation No. 19-06-08 to Steve Cavanaugh in recognition of his six years on the Board. Mr. Cavanaugh

resigned last month due to a new position he accepted with ProMedica. Board Chair Pisanelli read Proclamation No. 19-06-10 in recognition of Sharon Speyer and presented it to her. Trustee Speyer's nine-year term on the Board will end on July 1, 2019. Additionally, Trustee Pisanelli read Proclamation No. 19-06-09 in recognition of Hedyeh Elahinia and presented it to her. Student Trustee Elahinia's two-year term on the Board will also end on July 1, 2019.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Chair Jeffrey Cole did not have a report.

**ACADEMIC  
AND STUDENT  
AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE**

Clinical Affairs Committee Chair Sharon Speyer presented the April 15, 2019 meeting minutes for the Board's approval. Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion for approval, which was received by Trustee Ciucci, seconded by Trustee Baker, and approved by the Board.

**CLINICAL  
AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE**

Finance and Audit Committee Chair Sharon Speyer did not have a report.

**FINANCE  
AND AUDIT  
COMMITTEE**

Trusteeship and Governance Committee Vice Chair Al Baker requested an Executive Session to discuss the employment of a public employee. Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion for such request, which was received by Trustee Speyer, and seconded by Trustee Lucas. A roll call was taken by Ms. Stasa: Mr. Baker, yes; Mr. Ciucci, yes; Mr. Cole, yes; Mr. Guttman, yes; Mr. Kenney, yes; Mr. Lucas, yes; Ms. Pisanelli, yes; and, Ms. Speyer, yes.

**TRUSTEESHIP  
AND  
GOVERNANCE  
COMMITTEE**

After Executive Session, Trustee Baker announced that the Board was back in open session following the annual review of the President's performance. He stated that the Board believes that strong leadership is critical in accomplishing the ambitious goals set forth in the Strategic Plan. The Board takes the responsibility of evaluating the University's leader seriously, using specific goals and metrics to review the President's performance to ensure that the University is making progress. Trustee Baker asked Board Chair Pisanelli to provide a summary of the factors the Board discussed when conducting the annual review of Dr. Gaber.

Board Chair Pisanelli stated that student success is the top priority for everyone at The University of Toledo and that starts at the top with President Gaber. The most significant achievement of the 2018-2019 academic year is accomplishing a graduate rate goal set in the Strategic Plan three years ahead of schedule. The six-year graduation rate has climbed nine percent over three years to its highest level in school history. We set an ambitious goal and President Gaber accepted that challenge in her commitment to ensuring student success. The University is stronger today because of her vision for our future and her sense of urgency and

collaborative style with getting everyone on board to accomplish it. The improvement in graduation rate aligns with six consecutive years of increased first-to-second-year retention rates.

In addition to the student success improvements, this is the fifth consecutive year of increases in research awards as we recommit to our place as a nationally recognized public research university.

Philanthropy is key to accomplishing our goals. Last year we received the largest gift in University history. We followed that up this year with a dramatic increase in the success of our second annual Day of Giving and exceeding our ambitious goals of \$25 million as we set the stage for a campaign.

All of these things together, including the following, are moving the bar when it comes to enhance the reputation of UToledo.

- We attracted the highest academically prepared class of first-year students in school history this fall.
- We are sharing the University's story with media articles highlighting our successes in local, regional and national outlets reaching more than five billion people.
- We launched Rocket Week with The City of Toledo to celebrate our Rocket pride with neighbors and friends.

We look forward to launching a new brand for UToledo to continue this positive momentum into next year. We are talking boldly and confidently about how this University is fueling tomorrows.

Board Chair Pisanelli thanked President Gaber for her commitment in moving The University of Toledo forward.

Trustee Baker thanked Board Chair Pisanelli for her comments. He stated that, in Dr. Gaber we have strong and consistent leadership. Not only is she one of the longest serving presidents in Ohio, but her peers recently selected her to chair the Inter-University Counsel of Ohio (IUC), which represents all of the state's 14 public universities. Dr. Gaber also serves on the NCAA Strategic Plan Committee, represents the Mid-American Conference on the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities. In recognition of her leadership both on campus and in the higher education community at large, the Trusteeship and Governance Committee recommends to the full Board of Trustees an annual performance increase consistent with her contract for excellent performance, as well as the increase commensurate with the general university population.

Trustee Jeff Cole mentioned that the Board takes the University leader's performance review very seriously. A very detailed process is meticulously

followed, which includes talking to students, faculty and administrative representatives about Dr. Gaber's performance. All their comments goes into the Board's evaluation process. Mr. Cole thanked Dr. Gaber for her dedication and enthusiasm with leading the University.

Board Chair Pisanelli requested a motion for approval of the performance incentive as discussed for Dr. Gaber. The motion for approval was received by Trustee Lucas, seconded by Trustee Cole, and approved by the Board. Trustee Pisanelli thanked Trustees Baker and Cole for their comments and assistance with the evaluation process.

Nominating Committee Chair Sharon Speyer stated that in a meeting held earlier that day, the Committee agreed to recommend Trustee Pisanelli for a second term as Board Chair and Trustee Baker for a second term as Board Vice Chair. The Committee also recommended that Joan Stasa, Secretary to the Board, continue in that role. Committee Chair Speyer thanked the Committee for their service on this committee. Trustee Speyer inquired if there were any further nominations from the floor, and hearing none, closed the nomination process. Trustee Speyer requested a motion for approval of the FY20 Board officers as discussed. A motion for approval was received from Trustee Cole, seconded by Trustee Lucas, and approved by the Board. Trustees Baker and Pisanelli abstained from voting.

With no further business before the Board, Trustee Pisanelli adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

**NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE**

**ADJOURNMENT**