

For the Record...

March 2004

Welcome to the sixth issue of “For the Record...”

The purpose of this publication from the Office of Marketing and Communications is to keep the campus community informed of the latest actions, deliberations and discussions of the YSU Board of Trustees. “For the Record...” will be distributed after the regular quarterly meetings of the board. Comments and suggestions may be sent to Ron Cole, manager of news and information services, at 330-941-3285 or racole.01@ysu.edu.

A series of gifts for the \$12.1 million campaign for a new student recreation center, a new associate’s degree program in construction technology and a partnership with a university in Italy highlighted meetings of the YSU Board of Trustees in March. The board also approved resolutions in memoriam for trustees Charles B. Cushwa III and F.W. Knecht, who died Dec. 6 and Jan. 28, respectively. The panel also voted on resolutions of appreciation for trustee Joseph S. Nohra and student trustee Matthew Pastier, whose terms on the board expire in June.

Here is a summary of the board’s actions and discussions at the March 19 full board meeting, as well as committee meetings on March 2 and 4.

Board of Trustees, March 19

Chander M. Kohli, chair

Larry E. Esterly, vice chair

The board met in Tod Hall:

- Trustee Kohli called for a moment of silence in memory of Trustee F.W. “Bill” Knecht III, who died Jan. 28.
- President David C. Sweet reported that Sharon, Pa., businessman Jim Winner has donated a brass statue of three penguins to YSU. The statue was given to Winner by Knecht. “We will put them in an appropriate place, and we will think of Bill when we pass by,” Sweet said.

Sweet recognized Trustee Joseph Nohra, whose nine-year term on the board expires. “I know his heart will remain with this university,” he said.

The president also reported that, as chairman of the Inter-University Council of Ohio, he wrote a letter to Gov. Bob Taft, thanking him for sparing higher education deep cuts in the latest round of state budget reductions.

Sweet also reported that enrollment is up for the eighth consecutive semester and that several planning initiatives are underway, including an enrollment management plan, technology master plan, campus master plan and centennial fund-raising campaign. He noted that groundbreaking ceremonies for the new \$12.1 million student recreation and wellness center will be April 19.

- Tony Atwater, provost and vice president of academic affairs, reported that the most recent performance report from the Ohio Board of Regents shows that YSU is rated high in many categories, including the percentage of first-year students taught by faculty with rank, retention of students and scores on licensing exams in healthcare areas.

The provost reported that a delegation from YSU recently returned from Salerno, Italy, where YSU and the University of Salerno further discussed a sister-university partnership. He also cited that the amount of external grants received by faculty and staff continues to grow.

- Cyndy Anderson, vice president of student affairs, reported that the number of students who have been accepted for enrollment is up for summer and fall semesters. “We’re anticipating very good numbers,” she said. She also complimented the university’s Center for Student Progress.

The board also:

- Approved resolutions in memoriam for trustees Cushwa and Knecht. Cushwa, retired director of the Cushwa Center for Small Business Development at YSU, died Dec. 6, during surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. Knecht, CEO and chairman of Wendell August Forge, died Jan. 28 of cancer.
- Endorsed a partnership between the University of Salerno and YSU. In committee discussions, Provost Atwater noted that the board’s approval of the resolution is the culmination of a yearlong process to develop an academic partnership with the University of Salerno.
- Approved a new associate of technical studies degree in construction technology. Atwater said in committee meetings that the degree reflects YSU’s commitment to workforce education. Sweet commended Cynthia Hirtzel, dean of the Rayen College of Engineering and Technology; William Wood, associate professor and director of the School of Technology; and David Kurtanich, assistant professor of civil and construction engineering technology.
- Agreed to grant faculty rank and tenure for Michael Theall, director of the YSU Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning. Trustee Larry Esterly abstained from the vote, noting his earlier opposition to granting tenure and faculty rank to administrators.
- Heard a report from George McCloud, special assistant to the president for development and public relations, about the upcoming centennial fund-raising campaign, the Penguin Parade project and the Seventh Annual Summer Festival of the Arts in July.
- Approved a resolution to accept \$2.8 million in gifts to the university from October to December 2003.
- Agreed to name the main lobby in Kilcawley Center the William and Alyce Cafaro Lobby. Anthony Cafaro Sr., a 1968 YSU graduate and a member of the YSU Foundation governing board, has provided a \$250,000 gift to the campaign for the new Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center in honor of his parents.
- Voted in favor of a resolution to name the men’s locker room in the new recreation center as the Don Constantini Locker Room. Constantini, a 1966 YSU graduate and a member of the YSU Penguin Club Board of Trustees, has given \$150,000 to the recreation center campaign.
- Approved a resolution naming the Alan W. Cope Professional Development Center on the second floor of Williamson Hall. Cope, a 1963 YSU graduate, donated \$100,000 to establish the suite. Cope is a lifetime member of the YSU Alumni Society and serves on the Williamson College of Business Administration Business Advisory Council.
- Agreed to name the resource suites in the new recreation center as the Henry/Hively Wellness Center Resource Suites. John “Bud” and Dorothy Henry, and Lee Hively, have

- provided a \$150,000 gift to the recreation center campaign. The Henry and Hively families have a long history of benevolence to YSU. Lee is a 1974 YSU graduate, and Bud has served as a board member to the Penguin Club.
- Voted to name The Gallery in Kilcawley Center as the C. Gilbert and Adeline Wick James Gallery. Gib James, named the University's Distinguished Citizen in 1990, has donated \$125,000 to the recreation center campaign.
 - Approved a resolution naming the recreation center suites as the Carmen and Gail Policy Wellness Center Suites. Policy, a 1963 YSU graduate, and his wife have provided a gift of \$150,000 to the recreation center campaign.
 - Voted to name the Fountain Commons Lounge in Kilcawley Center as the Thomson Family Fountain Commons Lounge. Mark and Kathy Thomson have established a trust to provide scholarships to YSU students. The Thomsons made the gift in appreciation of the education that their daughter, Shannon, received at YSU in earning a degree in dietetics in 1995.
 - Passed a resolution authorizing inter-fund transfers for expansion and renovation of the campus bookstore. In committee meetings, Vice President for Administration John Habat said expansion of the bookstore, which is being done in conjunction with the construction of a new recreation center on campus, will cost about \$800,000. To fund the expansion, the resolution allows an inter-university loan of \$600,000 from Kilcawley Center's equipment replacement reserve. The remaining \$200,000 will come from the bookstore's equipment reserve.
 - Approved a resolution to ratify faculty/staff appointments.
 - Voted for a resolution to settle a grievance filed by the YSU-Association of Classified Employees regarding how student employment relates to the calculation of longevity pay and vacation accrual for university employees.
 - Voted in favor of a resolution of appreciation for the Women's Indoor Track and Field team, which won the 2004 Horizon League Women's Indoor Track and Field Championship.
 - Approved a resolution of appreciation for Joseph S. Nohra of Liberty, whose nine-year term on the YSU Board of Trustees is expiring. "It has indeed been a pleasure to serve Youngstown State University ... and to serve with outstanding colleagues," he said. Nohra is a YSU graduate and retired senior vice president of finance for the Cafaro Corp. "I have a deep, deep love for YSU," he added. "I think I was born a penguin."
 - Passed a resolution of appreciation for Matthew T. Pastier, whose two-year term as a student member of the YSU Board of Trustees is expiring. "I'm grateful for this experience," said Pastier, who graduates in May.
 - Kohli announced the following upcoming meetings for the board: 3 p.m. Friday, June 18, 2004; 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, 2004; 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004; and 3 p.m., Friday, March 18, 2005.

Finance and Facilities Committee, March 4

Larry E. Esterly, chair

Larry D. DeJane, vice chair

- John Hyden, executive director of facilities, reported that the bid date for the new recreation center is March 25 and that work on the project should begin in early April. Habat reported that an agreement has been reached with employee unions concerning the F2 parking lot, which will be eliminated to make room for the rec center. Parking for faculty and staff will be moved to a lot across Fifth Avenue.

- Habat introduced Jeffrey Taylor, YSU's new director of budget planning and resource analysis. Among Taylor's priorities, Habat said, will be to develop a formula to estimate instructional costs, working on a system to tie long-term revenue projections to long-term enrollment projections, and learning the state subsidy formula.
- Esterly reported that the board's audit subcommittee met on March 2 and is proceeding with the search for a firm to handle the university's internal audit functions. The subcommittee will meet April 7 to hear presentations from four firms, he said.
- DeJane reported that the board's investment subcommittee would meet after the meeting of the finance and facilities committee to, among other things, hear presentations from investment firms.
- The committee received a copy of the YSU Information Technology Plan. Esterly said the committee will review the plan at a meeting on March 25. (It was rescheduled for a later date.)
- Habat reviewed the university's revised state capital improvements budget, which is nearly \$600,000 less than the original request to the Ohio Board of Regents. The budget includes funds for campus development, building system upgrades, masonry restoration, steamline and central utility plant upgrades, technology upgrades and the recreation and wellness center.
- Habat reported that the YSU Shuttle Service started this spring semester. "I think the verdict is out at this point as to how well-utilized the service will be," he said.
- Hunter Morrison, director of the YSU Center for Urban and Regional Studies, and David Reed, project director for the Urban Design Center of Northeast Ohio, presented a progress report on the university's centennial master plan. The eight-page report addresses suggested improvements to Spring Street, campus parking, academic space, student services, athletic and recreational space, housing and greenways, walkways and gateways. Morrison presented a map pinpointing three possible sites for a new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration. He also mentioned that he is working with the Getty Foundation to secure a grant that would develop a plan for improvements along Wick Avenue.

Internal Affairs Committee, March 4

Joseph S. Nohra, chair

John L. Pogue, vice chair

- The committee met in executive session to discuss the proposed settlement of a grievance filed by the YSU-Association of Classified Employees concerning prior service credit.
The committee met again on March 19 and voted to approve the settlement.
Christine Domhoff, president of YSU-ACE, said labor relations are improving. "This is one step toward that improvement," she added.
At that same March 19 meeting, the committee approved a resolution of appreciation for the Women's Indoor Track and Field team, which won the 2004 Horizon League Women's Indoor Track and Field Championship.
- Trustees reviewed a report showing the number of full-time YSU employees increased from 1,062 in December 2001 to 1,104 in December 2003. The analysis also showed full-time minority employment jumped from 134 to 146 in the same period.
- Committee members received a report showing that 6.9 percent of the university's purchases of goods and services during the second quarter of fiscal year 2004 went to minority businesses.
- The committee received the minutes of the Dec. 2, 2003, University Diversity Council meeting.

- Ron Strollo, executive director of intercollegiate athletics, highlighted accomplishments of the fall sports teams, including the women's indoor track team's Horizon League championship, and gave a brief report previewing spring sports.
Strollo also talked briefly about extending the broadcast rights contract with ClearChannel radio and presented a report summarizing the revenue and expenses of the football programs at the eight Gateway Conference universities.
- John Habat, vice president for administration, briefly reported on the effort by the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union to unionize Sodexo Inc. workers on campus. The workers are part of university dining services.

External Relations Committee, March 2

H.S. Wang, chair

Millicent S. Counts, vice chair

- Trustee Wang called for a moment of silence in memory of Charles Cushwa III, a YSU trustee and former chair of the External Relations Committee who died in December.
- Paul McFadden, development chief, reported that gifts to the university in the second quarter of fiscal year 2003 increased by 5 percent, from \$2.55 million to \$2.69 million. Gifts received for the first half of the fiscal year, however, are down 6 percent, from \$3.34 million to \$3.14 million.
- George McCloud, special assistant to the president for development and public relations, reported on the results of a preliminary study conducted by Marts & Lundy consultants of New Jersey concerning YSU's preparedness to conduct the upcoming capital campaign tied to YSU's centennial year in 2008.

McCloud noted several recent successes in fund-raising, including \$11.4 million toward the \$12.1 million goal for a new campus recreation and wellness center and a 161 percent increase in money raised in the annual Phonathon campaign.

He noted that the consultants found that the current development staff accomplishes much with relatively few workers. For instance, YSU raises \$17.7 per dollar invested in fund-raising, the highest ratio among comparable universities. "The level of effort has been consistent and persistent, but we're at a saturation point," McCloud said.

The consultants made eight recommendations in preparation for the capital campaign, including increased staff in the development office, fulltime leadership in the advancement division and an upgraded computer system.

Sweet said the university will conduct a feasibility study to determine the goal of the centennial campaign. The public phase of the campaign should begin in 2006, and the campaign should close in 2008, he said "Getting prepared for the campaign will clearly be a priority" when developing the university's fiscal year 2005 budget, he added.

- Shannon Tirone, director of alumni relations, reported on an effort by YSU and the other 12 public universities in Ohio to build an alliance of alumni who can help lobby state lawmakers on behalf of higher education. She said YSU is looking into possibly using a computer software that will allow alumni to communicate directly with legislators on key higher education issues.
- Pam Palumbo, director of events management, reported that Forte on the Fifty on July 10 in Stambaugh Stadium will feature the musical group The Commodores. "We've decided it's time to move Forte up to the next level," she said. "We think it will be a big draw."
She also reported that the annual Friend of the University event on April 17 in the Butler Institute of American Art will honor long-time YSU supporter Helen

Stambaugh. And, she reported that the annual Honors Convocation on April 20 will be moved from the Chestnut Room in Kilcawley Center to Stambaugh Auditorium.

- Walt Ulbricht, executive director of marketing and communications, reported on the university's ongoing advertising efforts featuring YSU professor Sherry Linkon, Ohio Professor of the Year. He reported that applications to YSU are up 9 percent in a 12-county area of Northeast Ohio, including a near 30-percent increase in Cuyahoga County.

Ulbricht was joined by Pat Livingston, news director of NewsChannel 33, and Dave Trabert, general manager of News Channel 33, for a presentation about the second season of Academic Challenge, a weekly game show co-sponsored by the TV station and YSU that features local high school students. Livingston said plans are underway to expand the program into the summer using middle school students as contestants.

- David Luscher, associate director of WYSU-FM, reported on the first phase of the station's conversion from analog to digital technology, funded in part by the Wean Foundation. Luscher said the station's radio equipment, which dates to 1982, has been changed in anticipation of the conversion.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee, March 2

Chander M. Kohli, interim chair

H.S. Wang, vice chair

- Cyndy Anderson, vice president for student affairs, reported that spring enrollment is up by 145 students or 1.2 percent. She also said that applications for summer and fall semesters are up significantly. "I think it's going to be a very positive fall semester," she added.
- Anderson presented the enrollment management plan to the committee. The plan, in the works for more than a year, is aimed at creating sustained, managed enrollment growth leading to the university's centennial year in 2008.

"Enrollment is not only our mission, but our lifeblood," President Sweet said.

Anderson announced that Tom Maraffa, special assistant to the president and former chair of the geography department, will guide the implementation of the enrollment plan.

Maraffa noted that enrollment has been increasing since 2000. "Our biggest challenge over the next five years is to keep the trend going," he said.

He noted that the plan calls for enrollment to increase to between 13,750 and 14,250 by fall 2008. Fall 2003 enrollment was 12,858. He said the goal is ambitious yet realistic.
- Sweet noted that the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy is expected to release its findings soon. He also noted that community colleges in the state have proposed significantly increasing college-going rates in Ohio. Sweet, who is chair of the Inter-University Council of Ohio, said he is working with community college representatives to work cooperatively on increasing college-going rates in the state. Sweet also noted that YSU has had preliminary discussions with Jefferson Community College about creating a partnership that would increase the number of students attending post-secondary institutions.
- Bege Bowers, assistant provost, presented the Ohio Board of Regents' 2003 Performance Report. Bowers noted that the structure of the report changed in 2003, and she also noted that the report contains many good indicators for YSU, especially considering that YSU

is an open admissions university. Kohli pointed out the high first-time pass rates for registered nurses and emergency medical technicians contained in the report.

- Atwater reported that YSU and the Youngstown City School District are still negotiating a memorandum of understanding to develop the Youngstown Early College. The board in December approved a resolution of support for the program, subject to the board of trustees' approval of a memorandum of understanding with the city school district that will outline the fiduciary responsibilities of each party.

YEC, with start-up funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the KnowledgeWorks Foundation, is a partnership between YSU and the Youngstown City School District to provide a transition between high school and college for urban students.

The program calls for opening a high school in Fedor Hall on the YSU campus at the start of the 2004-05 academic year with 100 freshman high school students from the Youngstown public schools. Each fall, a new entering class of 100 students would be added until YEC reaches a maximum of 400 early college high school students, freshmen through seniors.

Atwater said a search committee has been formed and applications received to choose a dean to lead the new school. "There are a lot of wheels turning at this time," he said.

Atwater and Sweet also reported that leaders of KnowledgeWorks visited campus in February to meet with university, city, city school and other education leaders and discuss various education and economic development efforts in the Mahoning Valley. "They are intrigued with the activity underway here in Youngstown," Sweet said.

At a March 19 joint meeting of the finance-facilities and academic-student affairs committees, Sweet presented a draft of the memorandum of understanding for the program. Sweet emphasized that YSU and the school district still have some areas of the agreement to work out. "It's progressing in a very constructive fashion," he said.

Esterly said board members will likely meet in mid-April to consider the final agreement.

- Karla Krodel, director of the Healthcare Industry Cluster, reported on the establishment of NEO Healthforce, an effort to bring together education, employment and economic development institutions to help meet the employment needs of the local health care industry.
- The committee also received information concerning the results of a scheduled review of the history department and the Center for Historic Preservation by the provost's office.
- Atwater presented a report on the continuing increase in funds received by the university through faculty and staff grants.
- Committee members also received: a list of 11 faculty members recommended to receive tenure; a list of 20 faculty approved for sabbatical and faculty improvement leaves; a list of 18 faculty members approved for research professorships.