

Governor appoints final spots on board

BY MICHAEL J. BALALE
The Jambur

After functioning without a full board for three months, Gov. Bob Taft named the final new members of the Youngstown State University board of trustees.

On Tuesday, Taft announced Scott R. Schulick and Don Cagigas as new trustees. Cagigas will fill the unexpired term of F.W. Knecht III, who died in January. Schulick was appointed to a full-term and will replace Joseph Nohra when his term expires in May.

Earlier this month, William Bresnahan was selected to fill the unexpired term of Charles B. Cushwa, who died in December.

The new trustees shared their feelings about their upcoming responsibilities, while one trustee discussed the transition of the new members.

YSU trustee H.S. Wang said he has worked with Bresnahan in the past and is excited about the new members.

"I believe the new members will merge very easily, but we lost two good men in the process," Wang said. "They were longtime Youngstown residents and it has been difficult without all the members."

Wang said Bresnahan has worked with the YSU President David Sweet in the past and his transition to trustee should be smooth.

"I've seen him in action, and he's honest, straight and fair," Wang said.

Bresnahan said he is "pleased to be a part of the university" and is excited and confident about taking on new responsibilities. One of these duties, Bresnahan said, will be maintaining the financial stability of the university.

"In our situation, financial health is an under-pinning of how well you'll operate," Bresnahan said.

As one of Bresnahan's new colleagues, Schulick said he is looking forward to being part of YSU decision-making. The YSU graduate said his only concern is being as influential as the former trustees, but is anxious to meet new challenges.

"I hope that all the new trustees can come together and pick up where the other trustees left off," Schulick said. "I hope that together as trustees that we can all hit the



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ground running.”

Cagigas, also a YSU graduate, said he will be able to do just that by bringing a strong background to the board. Cagigas has over 30 years of experience in banking that he hopes will benefit the board.

He began at Bank One in 1974 and retired in 1999 as the president of the Mahoning Valley region for Bank One.

Cagigas said it is a privilege to serve his alma mater and said he hopes his past experiences will bring value to the board. He said his focus to succeed is easy to understand.

“The bottom line is, if I can help make the university a better place than it is today, I will have succeeded,” Cagigas said.

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