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### University Update - May 23, 2013

Kathy Krendl  
*Otterbein University*

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**University Update: Highlights of May 17-18, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**President Kathy A. Krendl**  
**May 23, 2013**

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In the midst of the excitement of undergraduate and graduate commencements, the University's Board of Trustees was engaged in the important work of leadership transition, budget approval, and confirmation of the University's vision and mission. Below are important highlights from our sessions.

**Passing the Torch**

Saturday, May 18, marked the last meeting for Chairman Tom Morrison. He has served the Board for 26 years and as its chairman for the past eight years. Board members shared their gratitude at a Friday dinner in addition to a presentation that included photos and memories during his Otterbein days. He shared with the Board that he has enjoyed his time on campus over the years, but plans to move out of the way for Mark Thresher to take the helm in the fall. Morrison does not intend to slow down, however. He will work on a project called "Funds for American Studies" based in Washington, D.C. and enjoy time with his wife, Sarah, and family. Also stepping down from their posts are: John King retiring after 18 years of service, student Chelsea Jenney (2010-2013), and student Taylor Harle (2011-2013).

New officers include: Chairman of the Board - Mark R. Thresher, Vice Chairwoman - Peggy M. Ruhlin, Vice Chairman - William E. Harrell, Secretary - Alec Wightman, and Assistant Secretary - Cheryl Herbert. Newly appointed members are: Christina Kirk, elected Faculty Trustee (2013-2017), David W. Fisher, elected Trustee (2013-2017), Madeleine Holmes, elected Student Trustee, and Nikki Sherbahn, elected Student Trustee.

**Approval of FY 2014 Operating Budget Focused on Strategic Investments**

The Board of Trustees took action to support strategic investments for human resources, to enhance student success, strengthen academic excellence and improve financial strength. The total University budget increased by \$2 million, or 3.3%, to \$63.7 million, with the most significant investment of \$1.5 million for compensation.

**Continued Good Service and Compensation Correction Increases Approved**

Pay checks to Otterbein faculty and staff will show signs of improvement with a 3% increase to salary for continued good service. An additional investment of \$556,000 will support additional compensation corrections in year three of the University's five-year plan to bring average faculty and administrator salaries to the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile of our Carnegie classification and raise average staff wages to the median. The final budget reflects the recommendations of both the Compensation Committee and Budget Committee. Otterbein's investment in human resources totals \$39.7 million (or 63% of the University's operating budget).

**Enrollment Management and Academic Plan Support**

In addition to key investments in compensation, the approved FY 2014 Operating Budget includes funding to implement strategies of the enrollment and academic plans, including expansion of Living Learning Communities, recruitment initiatives, faculty development funds, support for accreditation activities, development of "sandbox" classroom, and student aid.

**Tuition, Room and Board for 13-14**

Per the recommendation of the Finance Committee, fees were set for the 2013-14 academic year:

- ☐ 2.5% increase in tuition
- ☐ 5.5% increase in room fees
- ☐ 2.5% increase in board fees
- ☐ J-term fee of \$400 to be effective 2013/14 academic year

**Strategic Indicators Take New Shape**

President Krendl introduced a new tool used by Cabinet members to track key strategic indicators. Items on the report include retention, 4-year graduation rates, overall enrollment, graduate programs, undergraduate enrollment, US News Ranking, academic information, NSSE results, advancement, grants and sponsored programs, and financial information. You will see this report at future University Summit Updates.

### **Emeritus Status Approved for Seven Retirees Who Served a Combined 160 Years at Otterbein**

The Board approved Emeritus status for the following:

#### ***Emeritus Status (Faculty)***

Ms. Ann Biancamano, Senior Instructor, Academic Support Center (18 years)  
Ms. Gretchen Cochran, Associate Professor, Department of Art (18 years)  
Dr. Marlene Deringer, Associate Professor, Department of Education (25 years)  
Ms. Ellen Kasulis, Senior Instructor and Director, Academic Support Center (22 years)  
Dr. Joan Pryor-McCann, Professor, Department of Nursing (22 years)  
Dr. Patricia Ryan, Professor, Department of Education (25 years)

#### ***Emeritus Status (Staff)***

Rev. Monty Bradley, Chaplain (30 years)

### **Mission and Vision Document Approved**

After many conversations and lots of feedback, the University presented an overview of the Vision, Mission, Core Values, Guiding Principles and Institutional Priorities. By its approval, the Board of Trustees confirmed the strategic direction for Otterbein University. This strategic direction developed over the past two years through the engagement of all members of the campus community in divisional and departmental discussions, informal coffees and focus groups, alumni meetings, as well as review by the various Senate committees.

#### **Our Vision**

Otterbein University will be nationally recognized as a model community of educators, leaders, and learners who set the pace for higher education and contribute to the common good.

#### **Our Mission**

Otterbein is an inclusive community dedicated to educating the whole person in the context of humane values. Our mission is to prepare graduates to think deeply and broadly, to engage locally and globally, and to advance their professions and communities. An Otterbein education is distinguished by the intentional blending of the liberal arts and professional studies, combined with a unique approach to integrating direct experience into all learning.

In the coming year, the University will continue to engage the community in further discussion of practical initiatives to reflect our vision, mission, core values, and guiding principles to become nationally recognized as a model community of educators, leaders and learners who set the pace for higher education and contribute to the common good!

**Please mark Monday, August 19 at 8:30 a.m. on your calendar for a special Welcome Back Breakfast and Convocation for all faculty and staff.** More details including the venue will be announced in the summer. In the meantime, any questions about the Strategic Plan Overview may be directed to Kristi Robbins, Chief of Staff, at ext. 1232.

Thank you for your good work over the past year. I look forward to continuing our conversations together as we define what it means to be a model community at Otterbein. Enjoy the summer months!

Sincerely,  
President Krendl