Ms. Ellis called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm with the following members present: Deborah Ellis, Karen Grothouse, Mark Haushalter, Susan Hubbell, Earl Recker and Eva Yarger. Joel Althauser, Nicole Gray and Doug Reinhart were absent. Appointed members Dr. Mark Kleffner, Chad Metzger and Amanda Williams were present. Dean Gilbert and Ms. Schleeter attended in their official capacity.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Hubbell moved and Ms. Grothouse seconded the motion that the reading of the December 11, 2014, minutes be waived and approved as previously distributed. The motion unanimously carried.

CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL CONDITION: No formal report was presented; however, Mr. Phelps facilitated a brief discussion on the issue of the state subsidy model. Mr. Phelps shared that state subsidy payments account for approximately 35% of Ohio State Lima’s income. He informed the group that all of the regional campuses were still awaiting news of how the subsidy would be distributed amongst them. He noted that the amount that the Lima Campus would receive this year would be at least as much as it received in the last fiscal year. Mr. Phelps noted that the delay in the distribution of the subsidy is complicated by several factors unique to the regional campuses and that Columbus was working on a fair and equitable formula to give credit to the regionals for their contributions to the University as a whole.

STAFF SPEAKER: Heather Koontz, the new coordinator for the undergraduate Social Work program, introduced herself and talked about her work experience and what she hoped to accomplish in the future. Ms. Koontz shared that she was an alumna of the Ohio State University who started on the Lima Campus and finished in Columbus. She elaborated on her work experiences and noted that she has worked with Bluffton University as a field director and also worked with Coleman Behavioral Health Services. She noted that she really enjoyed working with interns and that she hoped to be able to do more of that in the future. She shared that her plans for the Lima program would be to continue to increase the program’s rigor as well as ensure that the program is adhering to the standards set by the College of Social Work in Columbus. She also briefly updated the group on planned efforts to recruit local high school students to the program.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT: External Relations. Dr. Susan Hubbell, Chair of the External Relations Committee, provided board members with a quick update. Dr. Hubbell started by reporting on the creation of a new Advancement Office at Ohio State Lima which integrates Marketing, Communications, Public and Community Relations, Alumni Relations and Development. She noted that Lesley Fry would serve as Interim Director and would also be in charge of marketing while Pam Joseph would be in charge of Community and Public Relations. Dr. Hubbell shared that Amanda Miller, current Director of Development, would be finishing her tenure with the university at the end of January and that a search was currently underway to find her replacement. Dr. Hubbell finished by noting that the Advancement Office was currently working on new marketing strategies to increase enrollments and that new commercials were now available for viewing on the website. She emphasized that short-term goals will focus on increasing media coverage of Ohio State events and our presence in the community.

overall, 89.5% of Lima Campus students had applied for financial aid assistance and that 39% of students were Pell Grant eligible, demonstrating high financial need. Mr. Luke noted that about 25% of students that applied had no expected family contribution on which to depend. He shared that over five hundred scholarships had been awarded, with the average award around $942.00. Mr. Luke continued by explaining the current merit scholarship grid used to determine merit scholarships awards and the Lima Buckeye Distinction Award. He informed the group of the challenges that lay ahead including the possible elimination of the federal Perkins loan program, changes in the political landscape and the need to find more private dollars for scholarships.

Mr. Luke shared some positive news, stating that recent legislation had resulted in increased support for Pell grants and the Federal Work-Study program. He noted this was important for the Lima Campus as we rely heavily on student workers. Mr. Luke closed by highlighting some new initiatives aimed at educating students on the financial aid process including sending more communications to students about responsible loan borrowing and repayment practices and increasing community presence with events that offer free assistance in filling out the FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

FACULTY ASSEMBLY REPORT: Dr. Mark Kleffner offered that he had nothing new to share since the last board meeting on December 11, 2014.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Ms. Williams shared that students were gearing up for the National Championship game and that she knew of some students who were making the trip to Dallas to support their fellow Buckeyes. She noted that there was little else to share as students had been on break since the last board meeting in December.

DEAN AND DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Dean Gilbert provided the following campus update:

- Dean Gilbert reported on several items of interest that impact the Lima Campus. She shared that as of January 15, the Office of the Chief Information Officer would be providing support to the Lima Campus and that a search was currently underway to fill two vacant technology support positions. She briefly mentioned the creation of the new Advancement Office and noted this change would be effective as of January 9. Dean Gilbert briefly talked about the new commercials, billboards and recruitment materials being rolled out in the past couple of weeks and mentioned that we were entering our peak recruiting season. Dean Gilbert continued by mentioning a few capital projects that would be moving forward, including the renovation of the Galvin Hall bathrooms, slated to start this summer, the resurfacing of roadways and parking lots and work on a booster pump project. Dean Gilbert finished her report by talking about the details of the campus’ Forward Plan. She noted that next steps would be to integrate and prioritize strategic plans and review long-term capital planning goals.

OLD BUSINESS: Outreach and Engagement Opportunities: Ms. Ellis led the group in a discussion about recent outreach and engagement activities.

Student Representative Selection Process: Ms. Ellis revisited the issue of whether the board bylaws allowed student representatives to serve more than one term, either concurrently or in an alternating year. Ms. Ellis confirmed that Ms. Schleeter had consulted the bylaws and that a provision had been written to allow this practice.
NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Yarger moved and Mr. Haushalter seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved and Ms. Ellis declared the meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm. The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the Public Service Building, Room 214.

Deborah Ellis, Chair
The Board of The Ohio State University at Lima
January 8, 2015

Lori A. Schleeter, Secretary
The Board of The Ohio State University at Lima
January 8, 2015