

The Board of
The Ohio State University at Lima
September 12, 2024

Joseph J. Sreenan called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following members present: Robert Simmons, Audray Allen, Heather Rutz, Keith Horner, Agape Anderson, Teri Hirschfeld and Cosmin Roman. Dean Young attended in her official capacity as did Robin Pohl.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Mr. Simmons moved and Mr. Horner seconded the motion that the reading of the May 9, 2024 minutes be waived and approved as previously electronically distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Agape Anderson gave a report highlighting events that took place on campus during August and September to date, giving special mention of the Dean's Convocation, the first day of classes, the Buckeye Kickoff event in Columbus, the student involvement fair, and events promoting undergraduate research, the honors program, and the diversity committee. She closed by inviting all to the upcoming Steam on the Quad event in late September and shared her anticipation of homecoming events in October.

FACULTY ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT REPORT: Cosmin Roman introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his CV. He shared that over the summer faculty have been busy with research activity, grant writing, and authoring books and are incredibly happy to have a new dean. Math faculty organized the biannual Denison conference, and with Lima as the main organizer there are plans to publish the proceedings. He noted that student orientations went well, and all are working to get students involved in learning and on-campus activities. When asked by Dr. Sreenan how the new group of students is faring, Cosmin described them as enthusiastic, with class attendance as exceptionally good. Dean Young relayed that the academic program coordinators shared their classes have 100% attendance.

ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE: Teri Hirschfeld attended the two-day Alumni Advisory Council meeting in April. Opening her discussion, she shared background on the council and their purpose. The topic this spring was student success. Dr. Melissa Shivers and Dr. Norman Jones discussed a vast array of student opportunities designed to point them toward success. Statistics were presented showing students who live on campus have higher retention and graduation rates. Special mention was given to preparing for Gen Alpha students – those who lived and learned during the pandemic and prefer to utilize a digital world. Teri noted the average age of online learners is 32 and that the nursing, social work, and medical education programs are targeting this population.

Following the update, Mr. Horner inquired if there is a program or training in place that guides regional students to learn about the Columbus campus prior to transferring. Ms. Rutz wondered how regional campus graduation rates compare to those of Columbus. Dean Young noted that OSU regional graduation rates are 15% higher than other regional campuses in Ohio.

DEAN AND DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dean Young opened by sharing her excitement that our inaugural cohort of BSET students graduated in the spring and that this autumn we will have our largest incoming cohort thus far. She noted as well that we saw our first graduate of the professional writing minor. Student orientations have been through several iterations, and we are receiving incredibly positive feedback from students and their families.

Dean Young remarked that work by the senior leadership team, begun in the spring, successfully concluded this summer with completed Business Impact Analyses (BIAs) and Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) fully in place. She mentioned that census numbers were coming tomorrow and that they look to be quite similar to this past year. She remarked that she and her regional peers attended a two-day orientation for the new deans in late August.

She continued her report sharing that University partnerships continue to be explored, and we hosted onsite visits from the College of Nursing and the College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. Conversations regarding continuing education certificates are moving forward with hope to have these in place yet this year.

Dean Young informed the advisory board that leadership from the regional campuses and their co-located institutions held a workshop designed to find additional ways to partner. She noted her positive working relationship with our co-located president and added that both met in Columbus to share lunch with President Carter.

She noted recent community partnership activities which included the naming of the Cenovus Rotunda at the EEMC, a drainage installation day on the regenerative farm, and notification of renewed grant support from the AR Hale Foundation.

Dean Young concluded by thanking those who attended the Dean's Convocation and by expressing gratitude to all for the conversations of this past year, sharing that they indeed mattered and positive outcomes and new initiatives have resulted. She asked where advisory board members see unmet needs and what topics are of interest to them that can be explored during future meetings.

Prior to adjourning, OSU Lima's new director of development Kayla Zehery joined the meeting to introduce herself.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm with a motion by Ms. Rutz seconded by Ms. Allen.

Joseph J. Sreenan, Chair
The Board of The Ohio State University at Lima
November 14, 2024

Robin Pohl, Secretary
The Board of The Ohio State University at Lima
November 14, 2024