

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MIAMI UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the April 25, 2008 Meeting**

The Secretary to the Board reported that as specified in the Regulations of the Board of Trustees of Miami University, and in compliance with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code, due notice had been given prior to the holding of this meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. in Rooms A&B of the Harry T. Wilks Conference Center on the Hamilton regional campus, Hamilton, Ohio, with Mr. Richard Smucker presiding. The Secretary of the Board called the roll and reported eight voting members present. In addition to the Board members, President Hodge, Vice Presidents Allison, Haislar, Herbst, Nault, and Whitehead and members of the faculty, staff, student body and community were present. The Chair declared a quorum present for the purpose of transacting business.

Present:	Donald L. Crain	Kerry McCormack (Student Trustee)
	S. Kay Geiger	Lolita M. McDavid
	Jay P. Henderson (National Trustee)	David M. Shade (National Trustee)
	David F. Herche	Richard K. Smucker
	Heath R. Ingram (Student Trustee)	Fred G. Wall
	Peter Lawson Jones	Harry T. Wilks

Absent: John S. Christie

Upon recommendation of the Chair, Mr. Wall moved, Mr. Crain seconded, and by roll call vote the Board convened to Executive Session for the purpose of considering the acquisition of property, discussing the appointment of public officials, and conferring with General Counsel as provided by the Open Meetings Act, Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22. At 10:25 a.m. the Board adjourned the Executive Session and convened into the Public Business Session.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 8, 2008 Meeting

On a motion made by Mr. Crain and seconded by Mrs. Geiger, the minutes of the February 8, 2008 meeting were approved.

Consent Calendar

Upon recommendation of President Hodge, Mr. Wall moved, Mr. Wilks seconded, and by voice vote the resolution on the Consent Calendar for the April 25, 2008 meeting was approved with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

Designation of Professor Emerita/Emeritus and Librarian Emerita/Emeritus

RESOLUTION R2008-30

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following individual for the rank of Professor Emerita effective with the formal date of her retirement:

Kay P. Phillips
Anthropology

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following individuals for the rank of Professor Emeritus effective with the formal dates of their retirement:

Sheldon W. Davis
Mathematics & Statistics

James Dunlevy
Economics

William J. Gracie
English

Paul M. Mitchell
German, Russian & East Asian Languages

John G. Parks
English

W. Peter Salzarulo
Accountancy

Paul D. Scholten
Physics

David F. Wilson
Zoology

Edwin Yamauchi
History

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following individual for the rank of Librarian Emerita effective with the formal date of her retirement:

Jean Sears
University Libraries

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the following individual for the rank of Librarian Emeritus effective with the formal date of his retirement:

William S. Baker
University Libraries

Comments by the Chair

Chair Richard Smucker's comments are recorded verbatim.

Good morning, and welcome to today's Board meeting. We are especially delighted to be at Miami University Hamilton. The last time that the Board of Trustees met on the Hamilton Campus was ten years ago in this very room in June of 1998, and we'll try not to allow another ten years to pass before we return. At breakfast this morning we met with a group of outstanding Hamilton Campus students and enjoyed an excellent discussion with them. Thanks so much for all your hospitality and hosting us in this wonderful building. Mr. Wilks, I'm sure you're very proud of this fine facility and all that happens here. This could very well be the first time in Miami's history that we've held a Board meeting in a building named for a sitting Trustee.

This morning I'm pleased to welcome our newest Student Trustee to Miami's Board, Heath Ingram. Heath is a first-year student from Maineville, Ohio, majoring in Public Administration. Heath, on behalf of my colleagues, welcome to the Board, and we look forward to working with you the next two years.

On today's meeting agenda we have two especially significant actions to take. We'll vote on a resolution to approve the implementation of a bachelor's degree on our regional campuses. This has been a long-standing dream of numerous individuals over the years, and this new degree program will contribute to the state's higher education goals of producing more college graduates. Provost Herbst will give us more background information during his report, but I did want to congratulate all those involved in bringing this initiative to us.

The second significant agenda item is a resolution approving the building of a new Bicentennial Student Center on the Oxford campus. We had a Study Session at the February meeting about this exciting project, and we have decided to expedite the consideration of the project by voting on a resolution today rather than waiting until the June Board meeting. I'll ask President Hodge to discuss the Student Center during his report.

Before turning to the President, I would like to pass along some positive news about our University since our last meeting, particularly about our students.

- This year's Joanna Jackson Goldman Memorial Prize, valued at approximately \$32,000 and among the largest undergraduate awards in the nation, has been awarded to Miami senior John Obrycki. The Goldman Prize was established to allow an exceptional Miami senior to realize a dream. Mr. Obrycki will spend a year studying the history and future of the agricultural community in southwest Ohio, with the goal of transferring agricultural knowledge to future generations. Personally, I have more than a passing interest in John's project, since I'm involved in a family business that relies upon the agricultural community to supply the materials for our products.
- I'm pleased to note that Miami has another Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship winner this year, Iordan Ganev. The Goldwater Scholarship is the most prestigious award of its type for undergraduates in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering. Mr. Ganev is a sophomore pursuing two majors - mathematics and statistics and environmental science.
- Last summer senior Craig Beaker volunteered to teach English to elementary students in a village near Santiago, Chile. Frustrated by the lack of literary resources in Chile, upon his return to the United States he started the Cordova Foundation for Children. Through his efforts working with Greek groups at Miami and his elementary school in his hometown, he has collected 4,500 books that will be shipped to the school in Chile. Mr. Beaker has a double major in diplomacy and foreign affairs and Latin American studies and a minor in Spanish.
- Finally, a number of Miami students bypassed the traditional spring break trips to beaches and participated in various volunteer and learning opportunities. Twenty-one students explored sustainable development in Dominica and earned academic credit through the Geography Department. Thirty-five students worked in Lake Charles, Louisiana, helping residents still dealing with the effects of Hurricane Rita. Miami's Ambassadors for Children chapter sent two groups overseas - 18 students with a faculty member to El Salvador and 13 students and a faculty member to Guatemala. The students delivered hygiene supplies, school supplies, and educational materials to children in these countries.

These are examples of the type of engaged students we have at Miami University, working on a daily basis to improve the world around them. They are the reason we Trustees volunteer our time, to help in any way we can to create and support an environment in which our students can thrive. Congratulations to all of them.

Report by the President

President Hodge thanked members of the Hamilton Campus for their hospitality and for hosting the Board of Trustees. He commented that the stories told by the students who met with the Board for breakfast reflect the complexity and the breadth of the impact Miami University has on the community. Dr. Hodge noted that the adoption of the Bachelor of Integrative Studies degree is a historic day for the regional campuses, and the fact that the Hamilton Campus will celebrate its fortieth anniversary in the fall makes the occasion even more noteworthy.

President Hodge welcomed Heath Ingram as a new Student Trustee on the Board and stated that the Student Trustees' service does make an impact on the institution. He noted the contributions made by the students to the discussion concerning the Bicentennial Student Center during the Finance and Audit Committee meeting as an example of the Student Trustees' influence.

President Hodge introduced Dr. Christine Taylor, the newly appointed Associate Vice President for Institutional Diversity. Dr. Taylor received her undergraduate degree from Middle Tennessee State University and spent the early part of her career in public broadcasting. At Ohio University she completed her master's and doctoral degrees and served on staff at Ohio University for a number of years before accepting Miami's offer. Dr. Hodge commented that during the search for the position he looked for someone with the vision, personality and commitment to bring together the vast array of committed individuals on and off the campus to focus on the University's diversity issues, and Dr. Taylor has done that during her short time already at Miami. Dr. Taylor addressed the Board and stated that it is a critical time at Miami University and in higher education as we prepare our students to thrive in a global economy. Her goal is for all students who attend Miami to have a wonderful, diverse experience during their academic career and believe that their education is better for the diversity they encountered.

President Hodge related several stories concerning his interactions with students and their activities occurring on campus. He displayed the Bicentennial celebration logo designed by a student, and reported on the annual undergraduate student research forum. He described his experiences with serving as narrator for the performances of *Peter and the Wolf* by the Miami University Symphony Orchestra and how the student musicians interacted with the faculty conductor in an informed and educated manner. Dr. Hodge also described his experience with the Hockey team following their loss in the NCAA Regional Tournament and complimented the players for the character they displayed in a very difficult loss. He commented that our primary job as educators is to develop students' intellects, but we must also develop character.

Election of Vice President for Student Affairs

President Hodge commented that the Vice President for Student Affairs position at Miami University is a very attractive job due to Vice President Nault's and other's leadership in past years. Dr. Jones is currently Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and her doctoral degree is from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Hodge stated that he is certain Dr. Jones will carry on the tradition of the division of Student Affairs being full partners in the student development process at Miami.

Upon the recommendation of President Hodge, Dr. McDavid moved, Mrs. Geiger seconded, and by voice vote Resolution 2008-31 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-31

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees, upon the recommendation of the President, hereby elects Barbara C. Jones as Vice President for Student Affairs, effective August 1, 2008.

Report by the Vice President for Student Affairs

Vice President Nault stated that he did not have a report so that the President of the Student Government Association (SGA) of the Hamilton Campus and the President of Associated Student Government (ASG) on the Oxford Campus had adequate time to address the Board. Robert Rusbosin, Associate Dean and Director of Student Services on the Hamilton Campus introduced Tyler Bradshaw, President of SGA. Dr. Rusbosin described Mr. Bradshaw as a campus leader, a visionary for the numerous activities he had initiated on the Hamilton Campus, and a scholar. Mr. Bradshaw reviewed the activities and initiatives of the SGA over the previous three years, including the renovation of the Student Commons area in Schwarm Hall, the implementation of the Campus Pride Initiative, membership and participation in the Lindenwald Civic Association, and participation in leadership development opportunities.

Dr. Nault introduced Jens Suttmoller, President of ASG, and commented that this would be Mr. Suttmoller's final meeting as the leader of Oxford's student government. Dr. Nault stated that Mr. Suttmoller is one of the most effective student leaders he has encountered at Miami, and his character sets him apart from others. Mr. Suttmoller reflected on the recent activities and initiatives of ASG, including procedures to assist student organizations in relieving debt, streamlining services to the student body, improving relations with the Oxford community, and working with the senior administration to improve academic advising. Mr. Suttmoller urged the Trustees to support the construction of a new student center, just as many of his predecessors had done. He asked that students be involved as partners in the planning of the new building, as well as the financing decisions. Mr. Suttmoller also introduced the newly elected ASG President, Michael Scott.

Academic Affairs Committee Report

Dr. McDavid, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, reported that two committee members had met with the President and Provost to discuss various academic affairs topics. Dr. Herbst reported that applications were up six percent over last year at this time, and confirmations were at seventy-seven percent of the target (3,450 students). Approximately thirty-six percent of the confirmations are out-of-state students. Dr. McDavid reviewed the recommendations of the academic advising task force and reported that the University Senate had passed revisions to the Miami Plan that includes a globalization requirement. The course approval process and course evaluation forms are also being reviewed by the Provost's Office. Dr. McDavid stated that the Academic Affairs Committee at its next meeting will review the faculty workload norm report.

Report by the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Provost Herbst addressed the two resolutions on the Academic Affairs agenda. Dr. Herbst stated that the process to promote and grant a continuing contract to librarians is in many ways analogous to the promotion and tenure process for faculty members.

Referring to the resolution to establish the Bachelor of Integrative Studies degree (BIS), Dr. Herbst stated that the creation of the new degree is historic and significant not only for the regional campuses but for the Oxford campus as well. The BIS is the culmination of a multi-year process in which the regional campuses reviewed what their respective communities needed, developed a proposal in conjunction with an outside consultant, and completed the degree approval process involving each of the divisions at Miami, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and the University Senate. Upon approval by the Trustees, the proposal will be forwarded to the Chancellor who has final degree approval authority. Provost Herbst stated that the development of the BIS degree is consistent with the spirit and provisions of the strategic plan released by the Chancellor and Governor concerning the University System of Ohio. The degree is especially designed for individuals who have earned associate degrees either at the regional campuses or with community colleges with whom Miami is working on articulation agreements.

Provost Herbst introduced Daniel Hall, Dean of Miami University Hamilton, and Kelly Cowan, Dean of Miami University Middletown, to address the Board about the BIS degree. Dr. Hall thanked the Board for coming to the Hamilton Campus and emphasized the symbolism involved in Miami's governing board visiting a regional campus. Dr. Hall commented that even though the regional campuses for years had wanted such an integrated degree, there had not been support from the state of Ohio and Miami's administration to move forward until one year ago. He thanked President Hodge and Provost Herbst for their support. Dean Cowan also thanked the President and the Provost, and also thanked the Board of Trustees for its support of the initiative. Dean Cowan thanked the members of the task force who developed the proposal over the course of the academic year: Lee Sanders (Mathematics), Jeff Sommers (English), Ellenmarie Wahlrab (English), Michael Hieber (Art), Gary Bowyer (Kinesiology), Diane DeLisio (Computer and Information Technology), Edward Montgomery (Art), Beverly Taylor (Physics), Kelli Johnson (English), Michael Carafiello (History), Ryan Barilleaux (Political Science), Cathy Bishop-Clark (Computer and Information Technology), June Fenig (Student Services), and Peter Haverkos (Learning Assistance). Dean Cowan stated that besides the founding of the Hamilton and Middletown campuses forty years ago, the creation of the BIS degree is the most significant event that has occurred on the campuses.

Recommendation for Promotion and a Continuing Contract for a Librarian

Upon recommendation of Provost Herbst, Dr. McDavid moved, Mr. Herche seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-32 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-32

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the recommendation for promotion and the awarding of continuing contract, effective July 1, 2008:

Promotion to Associate Librarian
Jenny Presnell

Continuing Contract
Jenny Presnell

Approval of the Bachelor of Integrative Studies Degree Program

Upon recommendation of Provost Herbst, Mrs. Geiger moved, Mr. Crain seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-33 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-33

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of a new undergraduate degree program, the Bachelor of Integrative Studies (BIS), through the regional campuses at Miami University Hamilton and Miami University Middletown, effective with the 2008-2009 academic year.

Finance and Audit Committee Report

Jay Henderson, Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, reported that the Committee met on April 11, 2008 and spent much of its time reviewing the long-range plans for renovation of residence halls and an in-depth discussion concerning the Bicentennial Student Center. Mr. Henderson commented that in order to think strategically about a student housing renovation plan, two questions should be asked: What's the average age of a residence hall on the Miami campus, and what should be the targeted average age over the long-run? The University Architect's Office has compiled data about the average residence hall age, which is fifty years. The targeted average age has not been identified, nor has the financing plan. The Committee members decided that David Creamer, the newly appointed Vice President for Finance and Business Services, should have the opportunity to review and revise as necessary the work that has been completed to date, and the student housing plan will be considered at the September Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the final report of the feasibility study for the Bicentennial Student Center and complimented the thoroughness of the report. He commented that the Committee reviewed operating budget projections for the new center and the impact on the overall University budget, and discussed various fund-raising strategies for financing the building construction. Mr.

Henderson stated that the Committee decided to accelerate the decision-making process, endorse the Student Center project, and asked that the appropriate resolutions appear on the Board's agenda at this meeting to approve proceeding with construction of the Bicentennial Student Center.

Mr. Henderson reported that the Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the year-to-date operating results, and a \$3 million operating loss is projected. The loss will be covered by a transfer of funds from reserve accounts. A discussion was held concerning assumptions for the development of the fiscal year 2009 budget, and the Committee met with representatives of the external auditors, Deloitte & Touche. Three facilities resolutions were reviewed by the Committee, and the members recommended approval of the resolutions to the Board. The Committee also conducted its annual review of the Committee charter and concluded that no revisions were necessary.

Mr. Henderson complimented the Finance staff, especially Adolph Haislar, Beverly Thomas, Peter Miller, Jim Haley, and Robert Keller, for their work on developing the long-range student housing plan and the financial projections for the housing plan and the Bicentennial Student Center. He thanked the Finance and Audit Committee members for their diligence and work on the project analyses. In concluding his report, Mr. Henderson noted that Jim Haley has announced his retirement from Miami University effective May 9, and Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Haley for his dedicated service to the institution.

Mr. Henderson asked Mrs. Geiger to report on behalf of the Investment Subcommittee, and her report is recorded verbatim.

The Investment Subcommittee of the Finance and Audit Committee met on April 11, 2008. We received an update on the recent investment market volatility. We have made many changes in the past year with the intention of reducing the portfolio's volatility. Our actions, such as broadening the mandates for our managers, becoming more global, and using more alternative investments, have helped provide stability to the portfolio. We did not yet have complete performance data for the March quarter. We were on track for a negative quarter, though we expect our results to compare favorably to the severe downturns experienced by the broad equity market indices year-to-date.

The subcommittee approved an updated asset allocation policy. The modifications reflect the evolutionary changes I just mentioned, categorization changes, and slight adjustments to the strategic allocation ranges. The policy also incorporates new guidelines for geographic exposure and liquidity, as the portfolio becomes more global in scope.

The subcommittee discussed and approved a revision to the annual administrative fee plan assessed to the endowment fund to reimburse the University for endowment-related expenses. This plan will be on the next Finance and Audit Committee agenda, and a resolution is expected to be presented to the full board in June.

We also reviewed an in-depth analysis of the annual endowment studies sponsored by the National Association of College & University Business Officers and The Commonfund. For the period ending with our last fiscal year on June 30, 2007, Miami compared favorably to the other Ohio public schools, to the other MAC schools, to our size peer group (\$100 – 500 million), and to the entire universe.

Report by the Interim Vice President for Finance and Business Services

Vice President Haislar recognized and complimented Beverly Thomas and her financial staff for the work performed in creating new tools to analyze financial data and do financial modeling. He recognized Peter Miller and the Housing, Dining, and Guest Services Department for the excellent satisfaction ratings received from students for food service and residence hall operations. Mr. Haislar recognized and complimented Miami Police Chief John McCandless and the Miami Police Department for their professionalism and their role in educating Miami students. Mr. Haislar also recognized Jim Haley for his service to Miami University and wished him well in his retirement.

Psychology Building Vivarium Remediation Project

Upon recommendation of Vice President Haislar, Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Wilks seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-34 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-34

WHEREAS, the new Psychology Building was occupied in August 2006; and

WHEREAS, the wall system in the vivarium is not performing as intended and requires remediation; and

WHEREAS, the \$2.8 million budget established for the purpose of remediating the wall system includes a cost of construction of approximately \$2.5 million; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio allows the award of contracts up to 110% of the estimate necessitating a contract variation contingency of \$250,000 in addition to the \$2.5 million construction budget; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires to award contracts for the remediation of the Psychology Building Vivarium wall system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Finance and Business Services and Treasurer, to proceed with the award of contracts for the Psychology Building Vivarium Remediation Project with a construction budget not to exceed \$2.5 million.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that should the cost of contracts exceed the estimate but remain within the 110% allowance, the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Finance and Business Services and Treasurer, with the concurrence of the Board Chair and Chair of the Finance Committee, in accordance with all State guidelines, to proceed with the award of contracts for the Psychology Building Vivarium Remediation Project with a construction budget not to exceed \$2.75 million.

Designated Increase in Construction Project Change Order Authorization

Upon recommendation of Vice President Haislar, Mr. Wilks moved, Dr. McDavid seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-35 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-35

WHEREAS, the Regulations of the Miami University Board of Trustees, Article XI, Section 2 requires the Board of Trustees to approve all capital construction projects of \$1,000,000.00 and more and all individual change orders with a total cost of \$100,000.00 and more; and

WHEREAS, on occasion it becomes advantageous to enable the University to execute change orders between Board meetings;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: During the period April 26, 2008, through June 19, 2008, for all change orders which exceed the previously authorized amount of \$100,000.00, the Board hereby delegates authority to the Vice President for Finance and Business Services to execute change orders up to \$500,000.00 with the approval of the Chair of the Board of Trustees and the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

Bicentennial Student Center Approval Resolution

President Hodge thanked the Finance and Audit Committee for its work in analyzing the financial planning for the Bicentennial Student Center, the former student body presidents who had the vision to speak before the Board of Trustees and ask for a new student center, and the feasibility study committee for its work in completing the final report. Dr. Hodge commented that the new student center is not just a building, but a focal point for the Miami student experience. He said the curricular and co-curricular experiences at Miami are combined in a way that yields astonishing student success. The committee's recommendation for a building site in the middle of campus is a significant symbol of the centrality of Miami's philosophy. Dr. Hodge stated that the Bicentennial Student Center will be administratively housed in the Division of Student Affairs and not operated as an auxiliary facility, and this is also symbolic of the importance of having a true student center. Dr. Hodge commented that the Shriver Center will continue to be a university center and serve the campus well into the future, as it has done in the past. In concluding his remarks, Dr. Hodge especially thanked Dr. Susan Mosley-Howard for chairing the feasibility study committee.

Mr. Wall commented that he is the longest-serving Trustee on the Board, and he has witnessed each of the previous eight student body presidents before the Board asking for a new student center. He stated that each time the students were told it was not possible. Mr. Wall credited President Hodge for saying it is possible, and something

Miami can and should do, and it will now become an actuality. Mr. Wall thanked President Hodge for his vision.

Upon recommendation of President Hodge, Mr. Wilks moved, Mr. Crain seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-36 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-36

WHEREAS, the defining hallmark of a Miami experience is an intense engagement of both the intellectual and personal development of the undergraduate grounded in a liberal arts education; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that student success depends in large measure on the synergy between academic and student life; and

WHEREAS, a vibrant student center is critical to our continued efforts to provide a community environment with a diverse and stimulating range of activities and opportunities for intellectual and personal development beyond the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the Shriver Center can no longer adequately accommodate the full range of student life and university business needs; and

WHEREAS, the new sophomore residency requirement will increase the need for on campus opportunities for socialization and learning; and

WHEREAS, every president of the Associated Student Government for the past eight years has urged the University to construct a new student center; and

WHEREAS, the University's Bicentennial provides a unique opportunity for launching the fundraising efforts to construct a new student center; and

WHEREAS, the Miami University Bicentennial Student Center Study Final Report was presented to the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the report was enthusiastically received by the Board of Trustees and University community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby accepts the Miami University Bicentennial Student Center Study Final Report and authorizes the President to proceed with planning for the construction of the Bicentennial Student Center.

Award of Architectural and Engineering Contracts for the Bicentennial Student Center Project, the Kreger Hall Renovation Project and the Central Quad Utility Upgrade Projects

Upon recommendation of Vice President Haislar, Mr. Wall moved, Mr. Jones seconded, and by voice vote Resolution R2008-37 was unanimously adopted with eight Trustees voting in favor and none opposed.

RESOLUTION R2008-37

WHEREAS, the university's long-range capital plan has been presented to and duly considered by the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, there is a need from time-to-time to commit funding for various capital projects to enable the projects to proceed within the planned timeframe; and

WHEREAS, funding for the projects in the long-range capital plan is expected to be provided through a variety of sources including, in part, the issuance of tax-exempt bonds; and

WHEREAS, developing the project plans, receiving construction bids, and arranging project funding requires a commitment of University resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Vice President for Finance and Business Services and Treasurer, in accordance with all State guidelines, to proceed with the award of architectural and engineering contracts for the design of the Bicentennial Student Center project with a design budget not to exceed \$8.0 million, the Kreger Hall Renovation project with a design budget not to exceed \$1.5 million, and the design of the various Central Quad Utility Upgrade projects with an aggregate design budget not to exceed \$750,000.

Report by the Vice President for University Advancement

Vice President Whitehead reviewed the status of the For Love and Honor capital campaign, and her report is included as Attachment A. She reported that progress has been made on implementing the recommendations from the divisional program review conducted last year, including the hiring of William Shockley, Senior Director of Development for Principal Gifts. Plans are in process to hire the remaining new positions as recommended by the program review.

Vice President Whitehead reported on several alumni activities, including a Miami University Day at a recent Cincinnati Reds baseball game with over 2,000 Miamians in attendance, and a triathlon sponsored by the Miami University Student Foundation (MUSF). Over 600 athletes participated in the event the previous weekend, and the triathlon has taken the place of the 20/20 bike race. MUSF has provided at least

one \$10,000 scholarship for the past twenty years and currently has an endowment balance of \$400,000. Ms. Whitehead reported on activities for Senior Week occurring the last week of classes, and the symbolism involved in preparing the students for becoming alumni. She also reminded the Board that Alumni Weekend is scheduled for June 12 – 15 and preparations are well underway.

Report by the Interim Vice President for Information Technology

Vice President Allison's report is recorded verbatim.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Board, as the academic year comes to a close, I appreciate this opportunity to relate a few examples of the work that Information Technology (IT) Services staff members have been engaged in this year. Hopefully the wide variety of projects I cite will demonstrate that while technology is the tool we use, our emphasis on discovering creative solutions to support faculty, staff and students.

In support of faculty and students, we've been assisting with the University's Top 25 course redesign initiative. For example, as part of a communication course redesign, Britt Carr developed a formal evaluation tool in which faculty use pull-down menus to select a topic, then evaluate the student in that particular area. This tool, used in conjunction with new specialized filming and recording capabilities designed to capture student's presentations, greatly reduces the amount of time it takes for faculty to provide qualitative feedback against their grading standards and gives students more specific feedback on their performance. The faculty actually cheered when we demonstrated this.

We're also developing a Virtual Audience for music and communication courses. The student can practice a speech or performance in front of a virtual audience, complete with applause, coughing, cell phones ringing, and people getting up to leave during the speech.

Professor Joseph Johnson in Psychology has been working with Greg Reese to develop software that assists in studying how people make judgments and decisions. Dr. Johnson stated that this new software allows him to collect data more efficiently, collect data that could not be captured before, and provides students with a new opportunity for learning research skills. We are delighted to assist faculty with their course redesign initiatives on the Oxford and Regional Campuses.

The upcoming academic year will be Miami's third year with a student technology fee for the Oxford Campus. In cooperation with the Provost, IT Strategic Advisory Council and the Student Technology Advisory Committee, we developed a new process for awarding a portion of the revenue to proposals advanced by students, faculty and staff. A total of 58 proposals were received this spring requesting a combined total of \$1.64 million. The proposals were reviewed by a committee of faculty and students chosen to represent each of the academic divisions. The group recommended funding 30 proposals, ranging from \$700 to \$80,000. We were delighted at the creativity and the number of proposals received this first year, including 10 proposals from students as well as 2 from student groups teaming with Student Affairs. This program not only extends the University's ability to meet the needs of our students; it also actively engages our

students in real-world discovery, development and implementation of technology solutions to their own needs.

Examples of some of the most intriguing proposals include projects that will directly support active, inquiry-based learning such as major upgrades to first year Chemistry and Biochemistry lab courses and state of the art interactive lab capabilities for Zoology. Some proposals support student's life outside of the classroom, such as Associated Student Government's student organization web sites, and a personal fitness tracking activity in the Recreational Sports Center.

The third year of the Miami Notebook Program is in full swing, this year offering Apple and HP laptops. Our RFP for a Windows vendor resulted in significant savings for students and for University departments. We are also pleased to report that we have negotiated for 75 computers (50 donated by Apple and 25 donated by HP) to be awarded by Student Financial Assistance to Miami Access Initiative students. This is an increase of 30 computers over last year's donations of 45 laptops.

In our on-going efforts to use our staff and funding resources most effectively and respond in a nimble fashion to the technology needs of the University community, attention has been focused on improving our project management skills. I am pleased to report a 119% improvement in the timely completion of projects when compared with last year. We have also completed 9% more projects in the first ten months of this fiscal year compared with all of FY07 – 186 projects completed to date vs. 170 for the last fiscal year. These projects include the Email and Calendaring Upgrade, On-line Student Photo Rosters, and the Emergency Contact Notification System.

This brief selection of accomplishments is just a sampling of the many ways IT Services has supported Miami by leveraging its information technology assets.

Report by Student Trustees

Student Trustee McCormack welcomed his colleague Heath Ingram to the Board. Mr. McCormack stated that there are very positive feelings among students in general regarding the building of a Bicentennial Student Center, and are excited about planning for Bicentennial celebration activities. Mr. McCormack thanked Dr. Susan Mosley-Howard for chairing the feasibility study committee, and thanked President Hodge and the Board for supporting the effort. He congratulated Michael Scott for his election as President of Associated Student Government and thanked Jens Suttmoller for his service as the student body president. Student Trustee Ingram stated that he was elated to serve on the Board, and he echoed Mr. McCormack's comments regarding the Bicentennial Student Center.

With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Stephen D. Snyder
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

