

**Minutes**  
**The University of Toledo**  
**144<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**  
**WebEx**  
**9:00a.m.**

The one-hundred forty fourth meeting of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, via WebEx. Chair Alfred A. Baker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Secretary to the Board, Ms. Katie DeBenedictis, recorded the minutes.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

The following Board of Trustees members were in attendance:

Roy V. Armes, National Trustee  
Eleanore Awadalla  
Alfred A. Baker, Chair  
Stephen P. Ciucci, Vice Chair  
Rebekah K. Dangler, Student Trustee  
Anthony Gennings, Student Trustee  
Daniel Guttman  
Birdel F. Jackson, III, National Trustee  
Patrick J. Kenney  
Will Lucas  
Mary Ellen Pisanelli  
Richard Walinski

**ATTENDANCE**

The following Board of Trustees members were absent:

Christine E. Brennan, National Trustee

A quorum of the Board was constituted.

The following individuals were also in attendance:

Christine Billau, Media Relations Specialist  
Justin Billau, News Operations Managers WTVG  
Karen Bjorkman, Provost/EVP Academic Affairs  
Frank Calzonetti, Vice President for Research  
Philip Cockrell, VP for Student Affairs  
Meghan Cunningham, Executive Director of Marketing and Communications  
Katie DeBenedictis, Secretary to the Board of Trustees  
Mike Fairchild, Reporter WNWO  
Charlene Gilbert, Dean, College of Arts and Letters  
Shaun Hegarty, Reporter, 13ABC  
Charles Jake, Deputy General Counsel

Adrienne King, Vice President for Marketing and Communications  
Linda Lewandowski, Dean, College of Nursing  
Willie McKether, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion  
Mark Merrick, Dean, College of Health and Human Services  
Diane Miller, VP Government Relations/ Chief of Staff  
Greg Postel, Interim President  
Michael O'Brien, Vice President and Director of Athletics  
Barry Scheuermann, Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
Jeff Schmucker, Toledo Blade  
Jeremy Schneider, Digital Content Producer 13ABC  
Heather Schramm, Student  
Matthew Schroeder, EVP Finance and Administration/CFO  
Amy Thompson, Vice Provost Faculty Affairs

Chair Baker indicated that there was a need for an executive session to discuss the compensation and employment of a public employee. He asked for a motion to enter executive session. Trustee Pisanelli made the motion and it was seconded by Trustee Walinski. Ms. DeBenedictis took a roll call vote of the board members: Baker, yes; Ciucci, yes; Guttman, yes; Awadalla, yes; Lucas, yes; Kenney, yes; Pisanelli, yes; and Walinski, yes.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Following the discussion, the board excused executive session with no action taken.

Trustee Baker said this is an additional item of business for today's meeting. He stated that during executive session, the Board of Trustees discussed the employment and compensation of a public employee. Specifically, the board reviewed and discussed the provisions of Dr. Postel's employment agreement with The University of Toledo as we consider the future of our beloved institution.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board commends Dr. Postel for his tireless efforts since joining UToledo last July. In just a few short months he has quickly acclimated to our campuses and accomplished a great deal.

- Successfully led the Rocket Restart implementation and reopening of campus during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Temporarily stabilized the finances of our hospital. Under his leadership, we've exceeded projected revenues, have launched an aggressive new

marketing campaign and are actively seeking new opportunities to serve our community;

- Continued to grow our research portfolio, building on the momentum of the past four years. Year-to-date numbers are on track to meet FY20;
- Identified eight key initiatives and appointed campus-wide working groups focused on creating a solid foundation upon which to build future growth. These include:
  - Developing and implementing a systemic approach to eliminate racism on our campuses;
  - Creating a plan for enterprise risk management;
  - Addressing the decade-long enrollment challenges with a focus on student success;
  - Enhancing the College of Medicine and Life Sciences' Academic Affiliation partnership with ProMedica;
  - Increasing the role and services provided for our community by UTMC;
  - Strategically reinvesting in critical operations focused on student success outcomes;
  - Developing and implementing a new RCM budget model to ensure the financial stability of UToledo; and
  - Modernizing our human resources in an effort to recruit and retain talent.

Trustee Baker continued his comments by stating that the board is extremely grateful for Dr. Postel's leadership during this challenging transition and want to commend all members of our campus community who have stepped up to realize these accomplishments. The Board applauds your continued focus on student success during these trying times.

Looking ahead, we know that we must continue this momentum if we are to realize our potential as a national, public research university where students obtain a world-class education and become part of a diverse community of leaders committed to improving the human condition in the region and the world.

We are addressing challenges head-on and believe that stable leadership is critical if we are to be successful. Dr. Postel's leadership has been instrumental in

stabilizing the institution, but perhaps more importantly, he is actively preparing The University of Toledo for the upcoming Higher Learning Commission visit in November 2021. The visit every 5 years is part of the University's continuing accreditation process.

And as the University approaches its 150 year celebration in 2022, his continued support of the University of Toledo Foundation's fundraising efforts have been extremely successful. He was actively involved in securing the institution's second named college – the John B. and Lillian E. Neff College of Business and Innovation, which was announced last December. He has also assisted with a number of other private gifts to support the University.

With this in mind, and after careful deliberation, including consultation with the University's senior leadership team, deans and faculty senate president, the Board will now take action on the proposal to permanently appoint Dr. Gregory Postel as the 18<sup>th</sup> president of The University of Toledo. Trustee Bakers asked for a motion to approve resolution 21-02-05\*: Appointment of Permanent President. Trustee Kenney made the motion and Trustee Pisanelli provided a second to the motion. Trustee Baker asked Ms. DeBenedictis to take a roll call vote of the voting members of the trustees: Baker, yes; Ciucci, yes; Guttman, yes; Awadalla, yes; Lucas, yes; Kenney, yes; Pisanelli, yes; and Walinski, yes.

Congratulations, Dr. Postel! The Board is proud to announce the permanent appointment of Dr. Gregory Postel as the 18<sup>th</sup> president of The University of Toledo. His new contract includes service to UToledo through June 2025, with the option to extend the offer at the Board's discretion.

Today is a great day for UToledo! The future for our beloved institution is bright, and I'm certain that under your leadership, we will indeed be fueling tomorrows for many years to come!

Dr. Postel thanked Trustee Baker and the entire Board for their support. He stated that he is looking forward to continuing to make progress and lead The University of Toledo.

With no further business before the Board, Trustee Baker adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

**RESOLUTION  
21-02-05\***

**ADJOURNMENT**

*\*Resolution 21-02-05 was later changed to Resolution 21-03-05 to reflect the correct month it was voted on and approved. No other text was changed.*