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Spring Meeting of the University of Dayton Board of Trustees

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DAYTON, Ohio, May 25, 1972 --- The presentation of a balanced budget for the 1972-73 fiscal year and the President's Annual Report were highlights of the spring meeting of the University of Dayton's Board of Trustees in the John F. Kennedy Memorial Union today (May 25).

Reverend Raymond A. Roesch, S.M., University President, in submitting the $25.6 million budget for fiscal '72-'73, noted that the administration, despite declining enrollment, has always been able to submit a balanced budget. Father Roesch noted that a retrenchment program and the use of a part of the Tuition Stabilization Reserve were factors in the developing of a balanced budget for 1972-73.

Father Roesch, in his annual message, also stressed his May 19 report to the Ohio Board of Regents. In that message Father indicated a need for a state subsidy of tuition cost to follow each Ohioan to any accredited college or university in the state and the consideration of a policy of contract services with private institutions. He carefully noted that he was not suggesting direct aid to private schools, just an equal chance for all Ohioans to go to a college of their choice.

He said: "By utilizing available space in private institutions rather than increasing facilities in public institutions, the consequent saving of Capital funds in the state of Ohio would be tremendous. In this manner Ohio will preserve the best of its public and private educational opportunities for which it can be justly proud."

In the Board's Finance Committee presentation of the budget several factors were brought out by Mr. Gerald W. VonderBrink, Comptroller.

"The University has been able to balance the budget by holding the line on salaries and in addition cutting budgets across the board by 4%," he said. "Much of the cut backs thus far have been accomplished by not replacing employees who have left through normal attrition, or by use of contract services."

"A very encouraging point in the budget," he said, "is the stabilization of the $5 million research program at the University. The Research Institute has been able to hold its own in spite of competition from other institutions and reduced levels of government funding."

"In 1971," he continued, "the administration undertook a study to compare its expenditures with those of the state schools in Ohio. The study revealed that the University of Dayton cost of operations was generally less than those of the state schools in Ohio. Where pertinent variances were found in the cost comparisons between the academic and non-academic as compared with the state school formula, action was taken to bring these costs in line with the percentages of cost in each particular area. Of course, the University of Dayton does not receive any state subsidy which accounts for the tuition variance between the state and private universities."

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Important points in Father Roesch's report included a section on the Year in Review and key comments on enrollment and admissions, student aid, development, and finances.

In his Year in Review, the University President touched on educational programs such as interaction between the university and high school students, new methods of instruction, development of new and strengthening of old degree programs, particularly in the areas of social and physical sciences; engineering and technology, and an extensive development of Study Abroad programs for spring and summer months in Europe.

He noted, too, that faculty and students had developed programs involving the social needs through courses in urban studies, environmental control, ecology, systems science, juvenile delinquency and specialized programs for the disadvantaged. Lectures, workshops and seminars covered every academic subject from theology and philosophy to education, business and engineering.

Research also was a part of the educational life in all phases of UD's academic program while concerts and other programs in the arts helped to develop a well-balanced education for the students and at the same time offer a service to the community.

These academic achievements were accomplished through the efforts of individual academic departments, the offices of the deans, the Assistant Provost's Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, Afro-American Affairs, Project Interface, Continuing Education, and University Arts Series.

In this section he also discussed the cooperation between the administration and students for the improvement of residence life on campus and with the surrounding residents for off-campus harmony. He noted the development of a judicial system which involved due process, a Judicial Board, Student Court and the University Appeals Board. He was particularly gratified with Project South, a neighborhood association of students and non-students in the off-campus area which improved relations in the surrounding community by concrete programs designed for mutual understanding.

In his comments on enrollment and admission, he said that nearly all of the total decline in undergraduate enrollment, full time and part time, occurred among Ohio students whereas non-Ohio enrollment remained quite stable. A table indicated that Ohio undergraduate enrollment in 1968-69 was 4,919 and 3,507 in 1971-72. The comparable figures for non-Ohio undergraduates was 4,093 and 4,014. Of the total decline of Ohio students of approximately 1,400 in that period, 80% were Daytonians.

He expressed hope that the increased recruiting programs, which involves all of the University Community rather than just the Admissions Office, would be productive in the future. He felt the opening of a full time New York office and part time offices in Cleveland and Chicago plus the creation of the on-campus Admissions Advisory Committee would have a positive effect in the near future. The program has developed a willingness on the part of the UD academic community to become involved in the recruiting process and has increased the effort for students from junior and community colleges, where some progress was made this year.

Father Roesch revealed that financial assistance to students during the past academic year was most gratifying. He said that the University's Office of Scholarships and Student Aid had administered more than 70 different programs totalling
nearly $7,000,000. The programs are grouped as scholarships, grants, tuition reductions, loans, employment including on and off-campus and work-study, and special assistance.

"I feel this indicates," he said, "that the University is making tremendous efforts to assure that academically qualified students shall not be denied an educational opportunity because of a lack of financial resources."

He did indicate a continuing concern for the lack of adequate assistance to the middle income student at a private university. He noted that the University had begun a financial aid program for this middle-income group in the Montgomery County area through the generous $50,000 gift of the Kettering Fund. He said that 97 local students have been attracted to the University through this aid, and the annual Dayton Area Scholarships.

"A reason for optimism over the Kettering Grant," he said, "is that the decline in local students over the past few years seems now to be reversed. The paid acceptances, 1969-71 (as of May 14), were 336, 257, and 197. If the past trend had continued we would expect about 137 at this date in 1972; however, I am happy to report that this year the figure is now 185."

Turning to fund-raising, he said that the Office of Development had reported a total of $1,315,452 of money and gifts-in-kind over the first nine months of the 1971-72 fiscal year. This compares very favorably to the 12-month period, 1970-71, when gifts totalled $1,748,029. This latter figure included the final year of the $1,000,000 three-year Kettering Challenge Program to the alumni and a major portion of the three-year $3,300,000 New Horizons Fund. The latter program concludes in December.

In his financial report for the fiscal year concluding on June 30, Father Roesch noted that even though there has been an excess of expenditures over revenue since fiscal 1971, a deficit was avoided because of the reserves in the Tuition Stabilization Fund.

In other business the Board:

(1) Recommended to the Members of The Corporation a policy pertaining to the appointment of Honorary Trustees. Policy would include: (a) Nominations should be made from the entire list of living Trustees, and from any persons who have contributed significantly to the success of the University of Dayton; (b) A retiring Trustee becomes eligible for nomination one year following retirement; (c) The number of nominees each year should be held within reasonable limits. However, no fixed yearly quota was set because of variable circumstances.

(2) Reelected Dr. Walter Reiling as Vice Chairman of the Board. His term expired this year but he was reelected to Board and then reelected to his officer's post. H. Talbott Mead and Father Roesch remain as chairman and secretary respectively.

(3) Officially elected Stanley Greenberg as Chairman of the Academic Policies and Programs Committee and reelected Dr. Reiling as Chairman of the Student Affairs Committee, Reverend William Ferree, Objectives & Purposes; Robert J. Barth, Finance; Norman Gebhart, Facilities & Development; and Louis Wozar, Committee on Trustees.

(4) Approved the creation of two Master's degree programs as Master of Computer Science, a special program for experienced technicians in the computer field who
need to increase their formal education; and Master of Science for Teachers, a special teachers program under the School of Education but in cooperation with mathematics and other academic disciplines.

(5) Recommended amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to reverse the procedure of nominating and electing new Trustees so that in the future the Members of the Corporation will nominate and the Board of Trustees will elect.

(6) Approved in principle the "Statement on University Rights, Responsibilities and Freedoms for Members of the University Community." This statement, developed by a committee of university administration, faculty, staff and students, is the umbrella document for all procedures concerning rights, responsibilities and freedoms for all members of the university community. At the present time only the Student Bill of Rights and the Judicial System have been formulated. The re-issuance of faculty and student handbooks is being guided by this document.

Next meeting of the Board will be in November.