

3359-1-05 President of the university.

- (A) The board shall elect a president of the university to hold office at its discretion, in accord with its authority set forth in section 3359.03 of the Revised Code. The following procedures shall serve to guide the selection process, unless revised as provided herein.
- (1) In recognition of the legitimate concerns and interests of faculty, staff, academic and senior administration, students, alumni and community leaders, the search committee will involve such appropriate constituencies in the search process as follows:
    - (a) Prior to the invitation for nominations or applications of candidates, the presidential advisory and screening committee shall offer university constituency groups the opportunity to provide input concerning the proposed criteria, process and scheduling for the search process. The representative constituency and advisory groups may include, but are not limited to a representative from: the council of department chairs; faculty senate; senior administration; central professional advisory committee (CPAC); staff employee advisory committee (SEAC); university council; the Akron chapter of the American association of university professors (Akron AAUP); students, and community leaders.
    - (b) The board will consider the recommendations from all constituency groups, but retains the final authority to determine the criteria, process and schedule for the search.
  - (2) Pursuant to the bylaws of the board of trustees, the chairperson of the board shall name four voting trustees as a presidential advisory and screening committee with the following responsibilities:
    - (a) To make initial and ongoing recommendations to the committee regarding the criteria, process, and scheduling for the search for the president;
    - (b) To recommend executive search firms for consideration by the full committee; and
    - (c) To conduct those activities related to the search as may be assigned by the chairperson of the search committee.
  - (3) The presidential search committee shall consist of:
    - (a) The entire board of trustees, including student trustees and advisory trustees, convened as a committee of the whole; and
    - (b) The elected leader (i.e. presidential chair) of the following constituency groups:
      - (i) University council;
      - (ii) Faculty senate;

- (iii) CPAC;
  - (iv) SEAC;
  - (v) Undergraduate student government; and
  - (vi) Akron AAUP.
- (c) Members of the search committee who are not members of the board of trustees shall be required to execute a confidentiality agreement as a condition of participating on the search committee.
- (d) Members of the search committee shall participate in all discussions and meetings of the presidential search committee and shall have access to all presidential search materials.
- (4) The search committee shall recommend by consensus those individual(s) to be considered for employment as president by the board of trustees.
- (5) The foregoing procedures for the selection of the president by the board of trustees shall not be construed to limit, reduce, modify or relinquish any authority, responsibility, or discretion of the board to employ the president and govern the university consistent with the powers conferred upon the board by law. The board has the final authority to select and employ the president. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, these procedures shall not be deemed to be mandatory, but shall be considered directory in nature and, may be revised, in whole or in part, upon a majority vote of the board of trustees at any regular or special meeting, without the necessity of prior notice thereof.
- (B) The president is the executive head of all university colleges, branches, schools, and departments and thus, responsible for general supervision of all its interests. Within general policies of the board, the president shall lead in fostering and promoting education, instruction, research and scholarly activity, and public service as its primary aims. Each year the president shall submit to the board a report on the institution's activities, plans, current and future needs and other relevant data. The president shall attend all meetings of the trustees and address to them matters of institutional importance. The president is the official medium of communication between the university, the board and its committees, possessing the exclusive right to transmit proposals from the faculty and staff--either as a group or individuals--to the board. This exclusive right of the president shall not abridge the right of trustees to communicate directly with faculty, staff, other employees of the university; and, no employee shall incur any penalty or sanction whatsoever in connection with such communications.
- (C) By virtue of administrative assignment, the president is a member of the faculty senate and of each college faculty and thus, may preside at every meeting thereof, if the president so wishes. The president shall appoint all committees of the faculty senate unless their memberships are designated by rule. The president shall see that measures of the faculty senate, which have been properly submitted to and approved by the board,

are implemented and shall ensure that directives of the board relative to internal administration are carried out.

- (D) The president has authority in all matters of student discipline in accordance with the rules and regulations of the board. The president shall oversee preparation of the annual budget and advise the board on all financial matters; shall preside at commencement and all other public academic occasions; and shall confer such appropriate degrees and honors of all colleges and schools as are granted by the institution. The president shall have authority and responsibility to oversee intercollegiate athletics and ensure compliance with NCAA and conference rules. The president shall oversee and foster relationships with legislative representatives, community, and municipal leaders, state and national higher education officials, professional associations, other educational institutions, business leaders, and other individuals of the university and higher education. The president shall assume a primary role in fund raising on behalf of the university.
- (E) The board delegates authority to the president or the president's designee(s) to employ, set compensation for and remove all full-time administrative officers, faculty, contract professionals and unclassified staff members other than those individuals whose employment is pursuant to a personal multi-year employment agreement, and all part-time employees and classified staff. Any authority or responsibility of the president may be delegated by the president to any other full-time administrative officers, members of the faculty or contract professionals of the university, subject to any limitations set forth by action of the board of trustees. Delegation of appointing authority or responsibility shall be in writing and shall be reported to the board of trustees by the president.
- (F) The president is authorized and empowered to compromise, adjust, and settle any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, suits, expenses, and any and all other damages in connection with any lawsuit filed or against the university in an amount not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars, upon such terms and conditions as the president shall deem reasonable and best. All such settlements shall be made in privileged consultation with the chair of the board of trustees, the chair of the finance and administration committee of the board of trustees, and the general counsel. All such settlements shall be subject to any necessary approval of the attorney general and the court in which the action is pending, and such other requirement

- (H) Subject to the authority of government vested by law in the board of trustees, the authority and responsibility for the internal administration of the university is delegated to the president of the university of Akron and shall in fact be exercised by the president. The president may consult extensively with

Effective: 12/17/2022

Certification: \_\_\_\_\_  
M. Celeste Cook  
Secretary  
Board of Trustees

Promulgated Under: 111.15

Statutory Authority: 3359.01

Rule Amplifies: 3359.01

Prior Effective Dates: Prior to 07/20/1990, 09/21/1995, 08/09/1996,  
01/31/2015, 09/11/2016, 12/15/2018