

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
Official Proceedings of the
Four Hundred and Eighteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees
(A Regular Meeting)
December 16, 2025

The Four Hundred and Eighteenth Session of the Board of Trustees of the University of Cincinnati was opened at 8:35 a.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, in the Digital Futures Building of the University of Cincinnati. Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code. The proceedings of the Board, when not otherwise provided for by its bylaws, are governed by *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Monica Turner, Chair of the Board of Trustees, presided.

Mrs. Turner asked that roll be called.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Monica Turner; Ronald D. Brown; J. Phillip Holloman; Gregory Hartmann; Jill McGruder; Shelly Gillis; Steve Boymel; Kerry Byrne; Larry Sheakley

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Neville G. Pinto, President;
Patrick Kowalski, Senior Vice President for
Administration and Finance;
John Weidner, Interim Provost and Senior Vice
President, Academic Affairs;
Lori Ross, General Counsel;
Greg Postel, Executive Vice President for Health
Affairs
Joseph Lampton, Graduate Trustee;
Riya Patel, Undergraduate Trustee;
Tamika Odum, Faculty Senate Chair;
Gregory Loving, Faculty Senate;
Everrett A. Smith, Faculty Senate;
Tracy Pritchard, University Staff Senate
Joshua Copley, Student Body President

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Nicole Blount, Executive Director of Board
Relations;
and the public

THE BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Proceedings of the Board committee meetings are contained in the respective committee meeting minutes, which are on file in the Office of the Board of Trustees.)

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 8:30 a.m. and, as noted on the first page of these minutes, roll call was taken.

Mrs. Turner:

Good morning, everyone. I am so thankful all of you have arrived safely. I'd like to welcome everyone and call the 418th meeting of the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees to order. Thank you to everyone for being here.

On a personal note, this is a very reflective moment for me as my final official board meeting. I'd like to share my heartfelt thanks for this board, President Pinto, and the many UC leaders and staff that are here. It's been my pleasure to work with all of you for the last seven years. It's incredible how fast the time has gone by. I appreciate all I've learned, how much I've grown, but more importantly, the impact we've been able to make together. Particularly, this last year, I think it's been incredibly enlightening as the Chair. We've had a chance to come together as a collective with the board, the faculty, and the students. It was incredibly important for us to do that so it will continue to grow and deliver the mission we have.

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I feel like we have so much more that we are able to do and I'm very confident we'll be able to continue. I've enjoyed all the relationships that I've been able to form, and I wish everyone the best.

Finally, I'd like to thank and acknowledge my family who are here today and both for them being able to be understanding and gracious for the time that they allow me to spend with each one of you. I'm committed to, now saying Bearcats for sure. I appreciate all of what we'll be able to do together. Thank you, and that brings me, President Pinto, to your report. [Applause]

Dr. Pinto:

Thank you, Madam Chair Turner. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership, and for your membership with the board. Seven years have gone by very quickly, but I hope that you understand that your contributions to this board have a lot to do with our success as a university these last seven years. I was roughly trying to calculate, when you said seven years, how many students would have graduated during this time; the people ready to be citizens in the future. If you think about that, somewhere between 70,000 and 84,000 students graduated while you were on our board. Thank you for bringing all of your experience and all of your wisdom to this board. I personally thank you during this last year for your partnership. Thank you and I know we have a celebration later today to properly mark this occasion.

Good morning, everyone. As we reach the end of the semester, let me commend our dedicated faculty and staff for outstanding efforts to educate our students. I just did a rough calculation in my head for the last seven years, but I can tell you accurately that at the Commencement ceremonies on Friday, December 12, we awarded 2,639 degrees. Of those graduates, 277 of these were associates degrees; 1,211 baccalaureate degrees; 993 master's

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degrees; 153 doctoral degrees; and 5 applied professional degrees which is an impressive number. In fact, over the 2025 calendar year, we graduated over 12,000 students, so we are truly making an impact on our society, and particularly in our region and state.

Since our last meeting we began the search for the next Vice President for Academic Affairs and University Provost. I have appointed a Search Committee that is representative of our campus. My thanks to Dr. Greg Postel, Executive Vice-President of Health Affairs and Dean of the College of Medicine for chairing this very important search. The campus will have an opportunity to be involved in meeting the candidates, so stay tuned for those details. Our goal is to have this leader identified by the end of this academic year.

We will also soon launch our search for our next Vice-President for Research, and this will happen during the spring semester. We brought in Dr. Frank Gerner as Interim to take over as Vice-President for Research. My thanks to Dr. Gerner who is in the audience today for his willingness to return to UC following a brief retirement after 37 years at the College of Engineering and Applied Science. The last 17 of those years was as Senior Associate Dean. Frank has served as an outstanding faculty member, department head, and administrator while attracting millions of dollars of research funding in the areas of microelectrode mechanical systems and microscale heat transfer. This scholarship includes publishing more than 150 technical articles, multiple books and volumes, and presenting nearly 100 conferences and meetings. He also holds four U.S. patents.

Last month we celebrated Veterans Day on campus. This is always a wonderful opportunity to thank the men and women who serve and have served our nation. The gathering inside Great Hall brought together students, faculty, staff, and community members in a shared moment of gratitude and reflection.

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Later that same month in November, I had the privilege of meeting a University of Cincinnati delegation to Nuremberg University to strengthen our international partnership with one of India's leading institutions. It was both productive and inspiring, reaffirming our shared commitment to expanding academic collaboration and global learning opportunities for our students and faculty.

Earlier this year, we signed articulation agreements to educate students in computer science, as well as pharmacy. This led to our very first cohort of eight Nuremberg students who studied with us at UC during fall semester. During our recent trip, we expanded our relationship with mechanical engineering, and we have plans to add additional disciplines in the future.

Earlier this month I joined an alumni gathering at Fifth Third Bank downtown. More than 200 UC grads attended. It was truly a joyous gathering. My thanks to CEO Tim Spence who not only attended the meeting, he's sadly not a Bearcat or UC grad, but very appreciative of the talent that he has at Fifth Third. They have over 1,000 UC graduates working at Fifth Third. Tim and his leadership made it possible and we are grateful for that.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Tamika Odum and the Faculty Senate for giving me an opportunity to present during the all-university meeting on December 4. We had a wonderful turnout for faculty and staff. During my presentation I focused on the progress we're making towards our Next Lives Here priorities along with opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for us as a university.

I have submitted to you the President's Report for this meeting. A printed version of it is at your place, and I will just highlight a few accomplishments within this report, but I urge you to read it. I think you will appreciate the quality of the education here and research that goes on here at the university.

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Recent U.S. alumni Taylor Allgood has been named Marshall Scholar, being only the second UC graduate ever, and the first in 60 years to receive this honor. A former student leader of UC's Bearcat Pantry and Resource Center, she holds dual bachelor's degrees in international affairs and political science and a master's in public administration. She plans to pursue graduate study in food anthropology and international planning in the United Kingdom starting next fall.

The James J. and Joan A. Garner Family Foundation has generously donated \$20 million to the UC Gardner Neuroscience Institute, bringing its total support for UC Neuroscience to an astounding \$50 million since 2007. The gift will accelerate the first of its kind learning health system, expand specialized memory-disorder care, and advance UC's bid for the National Institute on Aging Alzheimer's Disease Research Center status, achieved by an elite network of 35 centers nationwide.

The Princeton Review ranked UC number eight among its Top 50 Green Colleges, the highest ranked institution in Ohio. The designation recognizes the superb sustainability practices, strong sustainability education, and healthy quality of life on campus. UC's living-lab approach includes student-led gardens, pollinator projects, Tree Campus USA status, robust food waste reduction programs, and utilities operations that reused more than 25 million gallons of wastewater annually.

The back page of the report includes a sampling of the media exposure UC received over the last six weeks. Thanks to our faculty experts whose research consistently makes national and worldwide headlines.

Chair Turner, that concludes my report.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, President Pinto. We will now proceed with our committee meetings.

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THE BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Proceedings of the Board committee meetings are contained in the respective committee meeting minutes, which are on file in the Office of the Board of Trustees.)

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, Audit and Risk Management Committee, and Governance and Internal Affairs Committee began at 8:45 am and concluded at 9:05 am.

Mrs. Turner:

There being no further business, we will now call our regular meeting to order.

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened at 9:05 a.m. and, as noted on the first page of these minutes, roll call was taken.

Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Mrs. Turner:

Are there any additions, corrections, or deletions to the Minutes? Hearing none, may I have a motion and a second to approve October 28, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes?

(Upon a motion moved by Mrs. McGruder, and seconded by Mr. Holloman, a roll call vote was taken)

AYE:	Monica Turner; Ronald D. Brown; J. Phillip Holloman; Gregory Hartmann; Jill McGruder; Shelly Gillis; Steve Boymel; Kerry Byrne; Larry Sheakley
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	None

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Mrs. Turner:

Thank you. The Minutes are approved.

Approval of the Items Recommended by the Board Committees

Mrs. Turner:

It is now time to vote on all the items. The full board has been present at the committee meetings held today and has received the recommendations of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, and Governance and Internal Affairs Committee.

May I now have a motion to approve all the recommended items?

(Upon a motion moved by Mr. Byrne, and a second by Mr. Sheakley, a roll call vote was taken.)

AYE: Monica Turner; Ronald D. Brown; J. Phillip Holloman;
 Gregory Hartmann; Jill McGruder; Shelly Gillis;
 Steve Boymel; Kerry Byrne; Larry Sheakley

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you. These items are approved.

Approval of the Items Recommended by the Board Committees

Listed below are the items recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, and Governance and Internal Affairs Committee, at their respective meetings and non-committee recommendations, today, December 16, 2025:

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A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

25.12.16.01 Approval of Academic Appointments

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the appointments of faculty and academic administrators. These recommendations have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

Emeritus Status

Pamela Childers, EdD, RHIA	Professor Emerita College of Allied Health Sciences Department of Clinical and Health Information Sciences Effective January 1, 2026
Ronald Debry, PhD	Associate Professor Emeritus College of Arts and Sciences Department of Biological Sciences Effective December 31, 2025
Debra Frame, PhD	Professor Emerita UC Blue Ash College Department of Behavioral Science Effective May 15, 2026
Sarai Hedges, PhD	Associate Professor Emerita College of Arts and Sciences Department of Mathematical Sciences Effective January 1, 2026
David Hui, PhD	Professor Emeritus College of Medicine Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Effective January 1, 2026
Arlene Johnson, MLS	Senior Librarian Emerita UC Libraries Effective February 1, 2026
Robert Jonason	Professor – Educator Emeritus College of Arts and Sciences Department of Journalism

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Effective August 15, 2025

Nancy Rogers, PhD

Professor – Educator Emerita
 College of Arts and Sciences
 Department of Psychology
 Effective August 15, 2026

Krista Wood, PhD

Professor Emerita
 UC Blue Ash College
 Department of Math, Physics
 and Computer Science
 Effective January 1, 2026

Endowed Chair / Professorship Appointments

Rachel Johnson, MD

The Drs. Diya F. Mutasim and Hugh M. Gloster,
 Jr, and Harry L. Classen
 Endowed Chair of Dermatology
 College of Medicine Department of Dermatology
 Effective November 1, 2025 – August 31, 2030

Jordan Kharofa, MD

The Bernard S. Aron Research Chair
 College of Medicine
 Department of Radiology Oncology Effective
 January 1, 2026 – August 31, 2031

Holly Pajor, DO

The Professorship of Rehabilitation and
 Comprehensive Medicine Endowed Chair
 College of Medicine
 Department of Neurology and
 Rehabilitation Medicine
 Effective December 1, 2025 – August 31, 2030

Ralph Quillin, III, MD

The James and Caterine Orr Endowed Chair
 of Liver Transplantation
 College of Medicine
 Department of Surgery
 Effective December 1, 2025 – August 31, 2030

Davendra Sohal, MD, MPH

The Alice W. and Mark A. Brown Endowed Chair
 College of Medicine
 Department of Internal Medicine
 Effective January 1, 2026 – August 31, 2031

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Unit Head Appointments

Christine O’Dea, MD

Chair
 College of Medicine
 Department of Family and Community Medicine
 Extension of Current Appointment through
 August 31, 2029

Heather Vilvens, PhD

Unit Head
 UC Blue Ash College Department of Allied Health
 Effective August 15, 2026 – August 14, 2029

25.12.16.02 Approval of Revisions to Faculty Workload Policy

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve revisions to University Policy 16.27, Faculty Workload. The proposed revisions have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

25.12.16.03 Approval of Revision to Tenure Policy for Non-Represented Clinical Faculty in College of Medicine

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve revisions to the College of Medicine Policy COM-05-003, Tenure Policy for Non-Represented Clinical Faculty in the College of Medicine. The policy has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

25.12.16.04 Approval of Revisions to American Civic Literacy Implementation Plan

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution on Presidential authority to take necessary steps to implement revisions to the American Civic Literacy Implementation Plan

25.12.16.05 Approval of New Graduate Degree – Master of Science in Substance Abuse Counseling – College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Master of Science in Substance Abuse Counseling in the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services. The proposal has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

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25.12.16.06 Approval of Combined Degree Program - Bachelor of Science to Master of Engineering in Industrial and Systems Engineering - College of Engineering and Applied Science

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the combined degree program, Bachelor of Science to Master of Engineering in Industrial and Systems Engineering. The proposal has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

25.12.16.07 Approval of Degree Name Modification - From Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies to Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies – College of Cooperative Education and Professional Studies

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the name modification from Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies to Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Professional Studies: Accelerated, in the College of Cooperative Education and Professional Studies. The proposal has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

25.12.16.08 Approval of the Discontinuation of Graduate Degrees

- Interdisciplinary Master of Business Administration – Lindner College of Business
- Master of Early Childhood Education – College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services
- Master of Secondary Education – College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the discontinuation of three (3) Graduate Degrees: Interdisciplinary Master of Business Administration in the Lindner College of Business, Master of Education in Early Childhood Education and Master of Education in Secondary Education, both in the College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services. The proposals have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authorities.

25.12.16.09 Approval of the Cost of Remediation Report

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Remediation Report in response to the mandate by the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Section 3345.062 of the Ohio Revised Code requires that the Boards of Trustees of each state institution of higher education issue a

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report regarding the remediation of students.

B. Finance and Administration Committee

25.12.16.10 Approval of Block Lease Agreements to Support FY26 Housing Demand

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the execution of the Block Lease Agreement for 491 beds and 265 parking spots from The Verge, located at 165 W. McMillan, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219. The term of the Agreement is for one (1) year, with an option for an additional one (1) year term, commencing August 1, 2026, with a two (2) year cost of \$13,141,440.

25.12.16.11 Approval of 2025 Efficiency Plan

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the 2025 Efficiency Plan in accordance with House Bill 64 (Section 369.550), which requires each public institution to complete an efficiency review and submit their implementation plan to the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

25.12.16.12 Approval of Naming Recommendation: Sally Loft Spring Memorial Office – College of Medicine

Synopsis: It is recommended that the UC Board of Trustees approve the name *Sally Loftspring Memorial Office*.

25.12.16.13 Approval of Naming Recommendation: Michael D. Sifri, M.D. Micro-Surgery Classroom - College of Medicine

Synopsis: It is recommended that the UC Board of Trustees approve the name *Michael D. Sifri, MD Microsurgery Classroom*.

25.12.16.14 Approval of Naming Recommendation: Harvey D. & Janet G. Cohen Leadership and Clinical Medicine Program - College of Medicine

Synopsis: It is recommended that the UC Board of Trustees approve the name *Harvey D. and Janet G. Cohen Leadership in Clinical Medicine Program*.

25.12.16.15 Approval of Naming Recommendation: Dr. Mohammad H. Qayoumi Electronics teaching lab – College of Engineering

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Synopsis: It is recommended that the UC Board of Trustees approve the name *Dr. Mohammad H. Qayoumi Electronics Teaching Lab*.

C. Governance and Internal Affairs Committee

25.12.16.16 Approval of Board Rule 10-17-05: Conduct and Ethics: Policy for Investigation of Research Misconduct

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the replacement of Board Rule 10-17-05 with new Board Rule 10-17-05. Replacing the rule will bring the rule into alignment with revisions to federal regulations that must be completed by the university by January 1, 2026.

25.12.16.17 Approval of Board Rule 30-5-02: University Staff Senate: Bylaws

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorize the amendment of Board Rule 3361:30-5-02. Amendments reflect changes voted on and approved by the Staff Senate to better reflect committee responsibilities and to comply with the Advance Ohio Higher Education Act.

25.12.16.18 Approval of Special Board Resolution Regarding Foreign Interest

Synopsis: It is recommended the Board of Trustees approves a resolution to provide updated information regarding foreign bondholders and explicit exclusion of any foreign entities with financial ties to the University of Cincinnati.

25.12.16.19 Approval of UCRI Board Appointment

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of a replacement Director to serve as President on the University of Cincinnati Research Institute (“UCRI”) Board of Directors. Approval is requested to appoint the following individual to replace Patrick Limbach as Director and President of the Board of UCRI:

Frank M Gerner, Interim Vice President for Research, to serve as President of the UCRI Board of Directors.

25.12.16.20 Approval of UC Health LLC and UC Healthcare Systems Board Appointments

Synopsis: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the reappointment

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and appointment of the following individuals to UC Health LLC and UC Healthcare Systems Board:

Individual Reappointed as Voting Directors of UC Health, LLC Board:
 Gregory P. Hartmann – Second term of six: one-year term appointments ending 2026

David A. Gerber, M.D. – Full three-year initial term ending in 2029

Individual Appointed to Replace Phil Collins on the UC Health, LLC Board:
 Kerry Byrne – Fulfilling partial term ending December 2026

Individuals Reappointed as Voting Directors to UC Healthcare System Board:
 Gregory C. Postel, M.D., as Chair for a full three-year initial term ending in 2029

The appointment of Dr. Postel as Chairperson of the UC Healthcare System Board of Directors will concurrently make him Chair of the UC Health, LLC Board of Directors, term ending in 2029

Thomas Cassady – Full three-year initial term ending in 2029

25.12.16.21 Approval of Election of Officers

Synopsis: It is recommended the Board of Trustees approve the Election of the Slate of Officers for the 2026 Board of Trustees. The Term of Office is one year Commencing January 1, 2026.

Chairperson – Greg Hartmann
 Vice Chairperson – Jill McGruder
 Secretary – Michelle “Shelly” Gillis

Unfinished Business and New Business

Mrs. Turner:

I now have the pleasure of congratulating trustees Hartman, McGruder, and Gillis. I'd also like to pass the gavel to you, trustee Hartmann, as the new Chair. [Applause]

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Mr. Hartmann:

Thank you. I will pass it back to you.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Greg. Is there any unfinished business? Hearing none, we will move on to our new business and reports from the board of representatives. We'll start first with the graduate student trustee report by Joseph Lampton.

Graduate Student Report

Mr. Lampton:

Thank you and good morning, Chair Turner, President Pinto, board members, representatives, and all our guests. I'd like to begin by thanking Chair Turner for your years of service to UC and the board. I appreciated getting to know you and working with you this year. I appreciate your efforts to know me as a person and your thoughtful approach to leading our university.

I'd also like to thank our faculty representative Dr. Everett Smith for inviting Riya and me to connect with his organization and administration in higher education class back in November. Riya and I were able to share our experiences as students holding leadership positions, our thoughts on the current state of higher education, and more. I really admired how Dr. Smith and the students were with one another and how together they cultivated a strong learning environment that led to neat conversations I was happy to be a part of, so thank you.

I'm also pleased to share the collaborative project Dr. Tamika Odum and I are working on, "What's Your Why" is on track to launch this coming spring semester. This initiative is designed to highlight positive relationships existing at UC by sharing personal motivations that drive faculty, staff, and students to invest in one another's success. By celebrating mentorship and

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making these relationships visible, we hope to help continue to set a cultural standard at UC for supportive human-centered connections are recognized as an expected standard.

I'm appreciative of Dr. Odum and her commitment to this project with me. It's been a rewarding experience of my term supporting fellow Bearcats that the initiative aims to highlight. I would also like to thank Provost John Weidner and his office for support in helping me realize the project, as well.

Finally, a meeting with graduate students these past weeks as we conclude a demanding and challenging year, many communities feel challenged and stretched from 2025. Looking ahead, I feel both opportunity and responsibility to help rebuild connections, and progress forward with unity while centering on experiences of our most vulnerable student populations. Though this year has been challenging, it has also shown the importance of intentional connection and care. I feel hopeful that by working together, we can continue to build a campus community that is defined by support, empathy, and shared purpose while turning these challenges and opportunities for meaningful growth in 2026.

This concludes my report.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Joseph, and thank you for your service. I wish you continued success. We will now have the undergraduate student report by Riya Patel.

Undergraduate Student Report

Ms. Patel:

Good morning, members of the board, President Pinto, cabinet members, and guests. UC students have been actively involved in discussions about the construction of the new Y alongside the design team. Most students appreciate this co-design approach because it gives them agency

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in shaping a space that meets their needs. They emphasized wanting the Y to feel distinct from other spaces on campus: less rigid, more comfortable, and more community centered. They also expressed interest in showcasing student excellence like artwork and projects throughout the building. Another priority is honoring the building's history by preserving its beautiful architectural features. Overall, students envision the Y as a welcoming third space, separate from home and academic responsibilities, where they can enjoy themselves. Their ideas are already shaping the project in meaningful ways, and it's exciting to see this vision coming to life.

As the fall semester came to a close, UC celebrated more than 2,600 graduates in two consecutive ceremonies held at Fifth Third Arena this past Friday. Doctoral, undergraduate, and master's degree recipients were recognized, honoring their hard work and marking an exciting new chapter for them.

Speaking of new chapters, I wanted to take this time to recognize UC's first Marshall Scholar in 60 years, Taylor Allgood. What began as volunteering at the Bearcat Pantry grew into a meaningful project. This UC grad realized that volunteering means more than simply distributing food; it is connection, empathy, and care. She embodies the spirit of UC students by driving meaningful change and innovation. The prestigious scholarship is awarded to high-achieving students who demonstrate excellence and a strong commitment to leadership. Her achievement is a proud moment for the UC community and reflects the growing impact our students are making locally and beyond.

Finally, in the spirit of leadership, I want to express my gratitude to Chair Turner, who has used her expertise to help guide the university alongside our faculty and cabinet members. I still remember her welcoming me not too long ago, and now I'm grateful to be able to wish her well as she steps into her next chapter. Her strong leadership has brought tremendous benefit to the

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University of Cincinnati and to all who attend, laying a strong foundation for the exciting progress and opportunities ahead.

Thank you, Chairwoman Turner. This concludes my report.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Riya. Again, I wish you much success in all your journey, as well. We will now have the Faculty Senate Report by Tamika Odum.

Faculty Senate Report

Dr. Odum:

Thank you, Chair Turner, President Pinto, board members, and guests for this opportunity to give the report on behalf of the university faculty and Faculty Senate. Before I begin my report, I want to thank Chair Turner for her service at the University of Cincinnati. Your leadership has been an inspiration to me. Your commitment to shared governance and thoughtful decision making during a time of rapid change and uncertainty was exactly what this university needed. On a personal note, I have appreciated watching you lead. Thank you for modeling what it means to lead with integrity and care.

Since my last update, Faculty Senate has been working diligently to address faculty needs and ensure shared governance remains central to the fabric of the university. On October 15, 2025, ODHE released detailed guidelines on standards for faculty workload prompting us to review and revise our policy. The Policy Planning Group, a collaboration between the Provost Office and faculty representatives, met to consider the guidance and draft revisions that aligned with the mandates. In a special meeting on November 19, faculty voted on the proposed changes and 90 percent of Faculty Senate supported the revised workload policy. While the policy passed, it's

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important to clarify what that support reflects. Faculty have significant concerns about the mandates outlined in the ODHE guidance. The vote reflected our commitment to exercising shared governance and responding in good faith to the state requirements. While we recognize the importance of aligning with state priorities, the current guidance risks creating expectations that are not consistent with national R-1 standards and could challenge our ability to recruit and retain top faculty. We encourage senior leadership to work collaboratively with peer R-1 institutions across Ohio including Ohio State, Kent State, and Ohio University to communicate shared concerns and advocate for improvements to state guidance.

November was an especially active month. We had our regular meeting on November 13 followed by a special meeting on November 19 devoted to policy discussions. Faculty continue to be eager to engage in shared governance, but many feel their voices are not always included in decisions that directly affect their work. While we have made substantial progress developing a collaborative process, there is more work to be done. Recent decisions including the revised travel policy and changes to reporting lines for business administrators left many feelings overlooked and uncertainty about faculty involvement in major institutional decisions. We remain committed to building a system that is efficient, collaborative, transparent, intentional, legitimate, and transparent. Our strategic visioning sessions with the President and Interim Provost have played an integral role in building this system. Our meetings have been productive and generated tangible outcomes and real progress. We meet again in early January to continue our work on communication, shared governance, and faculty morale.

We are also excited to launch the “What’s Your Why” initiative led by Graduate Student Trustee Joseph Lampton in collaboration with Graduate and Undergraduate Student Government, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Provost Office, Alumni Association, and the UC Foundation. This

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effort is designed to strengthen faculty morale by encouraging our community to reflect on purpose and passion guiding their work. By highlighting stories and positive relationships across campus, we hope to deepen belonging and shared pertinence. This initiative is an example of the strength that comes with working together.

Finally, we hosted the fall all-university meeting on December 4. President Pinto provided a campus update and answered questions on the minds of faculty, staff, and students. The discussion was informative and constructive, and I look forward to deeper opportunities for the university community to go come together.

Senate continues to advocate on behalf of faculty, staff, and students. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge what many faculty are feeling, and that it has been a difficult year. But our call to action is clear. We must help build the UC we want, the UC our students deserve, and the UC that will thrive in decades to come.

Thank you. That concludes my report.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Dr. Odum. You are equally an inspiration to me. I want to make sure I acknowledge and appreciate your leadership enabling us to come together and lead together for the success of this university. I'm very confident we will continue to be able to do that so, thank you for your leadership.

We will now have the Staff Senate Report by Tracy Pritchard.

Staff Senate Report

Dr. Pritchard:

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Thank you, Chair Turner. I'd also like to acknowledge your service and support of the university.

I am pleased to present the report on behalf of the Staff Senate. Since the last Board of Trustees meeting, Staff Senate has held two regular meetings. At its November meeting, the committee chairs spent time reviewing key senate priorities for this year. The Budget and HR Committee is working closely with HR colleagues, the Policy Review Committee, and Parking Services to examine the costs for parking, the bereavement policy, and time off policies as it relates to university closures. This committee is also actively providing feedback to the Staff Success Center team pertaining to staff onboarding. The Membership and Elections committee is updating the technical logistics of the nominations process to streamline workflows for the committee to process data as well as provide a more seamless experience for employees eliminating redundancies for individuals accepting nominations. Similarly, the Governance Committee is focusing attention on the membership guidelines and apportionment process to improve clarity and maximize representation across VP areas with updates anticipated ahead of this nominations and election seasons. The IT Committee is focusing on the university's AI initiatives and providing recommendations for staff-centered engagement and resources. The Staff Experience, Engagement and Connection committee is gathering a listing of staff advisory councils across the university as well as partnering with UC Be Well, UC Serves, and the Staff Success Center on staff engagement opportunities. The Communications and Recognitions Committee also recently announced that nominations are open for the 7th Annual Staff Excellence Awards with nominations running through January 30. The Staff Excellence Awards and Ceremony is a major event of staff recognition at the university held during Staff Enrichment Month in March.

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At the December meeting, Dr. Bleuzette Marshall and Dr. Alecia Trammer provided an introduction and overview to the Office of Ethics, Compliance, & Community Engagement. Importantly, there were a myriad of ways provided that staff could engage with the Office of Ethics, Compliance, & Community Impact from becoming a Green Dot Facilitator, a hearing panelist, volunteering for the Ethics Bowls, and other programming and workshops the office offers. Heidi Pettyjohn, the Executive Director of Accessibility, also presented to provide an overview of the Title II digital accessibility requirements from websites, intranet content, academic content, 3rd party resources, and social media and webcasts. Importantly, resources at UC available to support digital accessibility compliance from a broad scope that largely impact staff were shared.

Lastly, the Collaborative Governance Commission jointly hosted a campus-wide food drive for the Bearcat Pantry in advance of the All University Meeting held December 4. We are continuing to plan for a joint event on February 17. Staff Senate looks forward to continuing the momentum and efforts towards staff engagement to the new year ahead.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Dr. Pritchard. I'd like to thank you for your leadership and service to the university. We have one more report, which is the Student Government Report by Joshua Copley.

Student Government Report

Mr. Copley:

Good morning, Chairwoman Turner, board members, President Pinto, and guests. I want to thank Chairwoman Turner for your energy and leadership you invested in this board and would like to congratulate Gregory Hartmann on your appointment.

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This fall semester has been a meaningful one for Student Government. Our team has worked hard to stay connected with students and respond to what we're hearing across campus while also working towards creating opportunities for students to feel supported and involved. A lot of this work happens quietly, in committee meetings, conversations with partners, and day-to-day problem solving, but together, it has made a real difference in the student experience this semester.

One of the clearest examples of our impact has been our support for student organizations. So far this fall, we have distributed over \$21,000 to help organizations host programs that build community and celebrate student leadership. This includes funding for the Clifton Heights Music Festival, which brought together students, artists, and neighbors for a night of creativity and connection, as well as early funding for Kuamka, a major cultural tradition happening in the spring. These events are great reminders of how much students can accomplish when they have the resources to bring their ideas to life.

Our committees have also been active throughout the semester, organizing events and outreach efforts rooted in the needs students have shared with us. This includes a campus Food Drive, a Meet Your Directors event to help students learn who represents them, a Queer Picnic focused on building inclusive community, Women's Advocacy outreach, and a full Gender-Based Violence Prevention Week offering education and resources. Additionally, one of our senators organized a Textbook Drive to help ease costs for students who struggle to access class materials, an issue we continue to hear about often.

As the semester comes to a close, I've been thinking a lot about the pressure so many students are under. A lot of us are trying to balance school, work, personal responsibilities, and everything else life throws at us, often without showing how heavy it can really feel. When I've

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talked with students this semester, the themes of burnout and just trying to keep up have come up continuously. These aren't small challenges. They shape how students experience UC every single day, and they remind me how important it is that we continue building a campus environment that supports people not just academically, but as whole human beings.

I've also been reminded this semester that everyone on this campus, both students, staff, and faculty, is carrying something. We all have moments where we're stretched thin or balancing more than we admit. If UC is going to be a place where people can truly thrive, then we have to take that reality seriously. That means continuing to build a culture where well-being is supported, not assumed, and where compassion is built into the way we learn, teach, and work together. When we recognize each other's humanity and create space for people to be honest about what they need, we move closer to the kind of community everyone deserves.

Thank you, and this concludes my report.

Mrs. Turner:

Thank you, Joshua, for your report, and thank you also for your leadership and service to the university.

Adjournment of Regular Meeting

Mrs. Turner:

The next regular board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026. There being no further business before the board, may I have a motion and a second to adjourn?

(Upon a motion moved by Mr. Boymel, and a second by Mr. Byrne, a roll call vote was taken.)

AYE: Monica Turner; Ronald D. Brown; J. Phillip Holloman; Gregory Hartmann; Jill McGruder; Shelly Gillis; Steve Boymel; Kerry Byrne; Larry Sheakley

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NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Mrs. Turner:

Motion carries. Thank you. The meeting is adjourned.

MONICA TURNER

CHAIRPERSON

JILL MCGRUDER

SECRETARY