

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

RESOLUTION 5-1-20

Approval for Consolidation of Academic Units

WHEREAS, The Academic Division of The University of Akron currently includes eleven colleges and schools including: the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, the College of Applied Science and Technology, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Professions, the School of Law, the LeBron James Family Foundation College of Education, the Williams Honors College, Wayne College, and the Graduate School; and

WHEREAS, The large number of colleges and schools diminishes coordination among similar academic disciplines; and

WHEREAS, The large number of colleges and schools increases administrative costs and reduces the ability for collaboration among colleges; and

WHEREAS, The majority of the current undergraduate and graduate degree programs are important components of the University's academic portfolio and should remain, while it is expected a relatively small number of degree programs will be discontinued; and

WHEREAS, The Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences is a key part of the academic portfolio of the University, carries the name of the founder of the institution, powers University programs in the arts, music, humanities, social sciences, basic sciences, and important interdisciplinary programs and, thus, should be retained and nurtured as a separate college; and

WHEREAS, The Williams Honors College is a unique and important residential-based and endowed honors program with close connections to the arts and sciences and should be included as a separate and named administrative unit within the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, The LeBron James Family Foundation College of Education is a unique and important component of the University's academic and community outreach programs with close connections to teaching content areas in the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences and should be included as a separate administrative unit and named the LeBron James Family Foundation School of Education within the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, The College of Engineering is a key part of the University's academic portfolio and should be placed in a position to expand; and

WHEREAS, The program in polymer science and polymer engineering is an important distinguishing characteristic of the University and important for the University's collaboration with the regional, national and global technology economy and should be included as a distinguishable unit within the College of Engineering; and

WHEREAS, The programs of the current College of Applied Science and Technology are an important part of the University's academic portfolio and can be nurtured in other colleges; these programs should be moved to other colleges and the name of the College of Applied Science and Technology discontinued; and

WHEREAS, The College of Business Administration is a key part of the University's academic portfolio and should be retained and placed in a position to expand and possibly accept additional degree programs; and

WHEREAS, The College of Health Professions is a key part of the University's academic portfolio and should be retained and placed in a position to expand and possibly accept additional degree programs; and

WHEREAS, The School of Law is a key part of the University's academic portfolio and should be retained and placed in a position to expand; and

WHEREAS, The programs offered at Wayne College are an important part of the University's academic portfolio, and access and engagement activities can be deployed at the Wayne Campus (and other remote campuses) and administered on the main campus through the Office of Academic Affairs; and

WHEREAS, The Graduate School is an administrative unit serving the entire campus and can be administered in the Office of the Provost; and

WHEREAS, Substantial conversations and discussions have been held with the Faculty Senate, which is the appropriate shared governance body, to consider the original proposal from the deans, and revisions have been made to incorporate many of the suggestions and comments of the Faculty Senate; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Effective July 1, 2020, the administrative structure of the Academic Programs of The University of Akron shall be deployed in the following five Colleges and Schools, the final names of which will be determined through the shared governance process before the effective date: Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, College of Engineering and Polymer Science, College of Business Administration, College of Health Professions, School of Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences shall include the following academic programs organized in an appropriate way to be determined: Anthropology, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Criminal Justice Studies, Dance, Theatre and Arts Administration, English, Geosciences, History, LeBron James Family Foundation School of Education, Mathematics, Modern Languages, Music, Organizational

Supervision/Associate of Tech Studies Corporate Partnerships, Philosophy, Political Science, Public Administration/Urban Studies, Psychology, Physics, Sociology, Statistics, The Williams Honors College; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The College of Engineering shall be renamed the College of Engineering and Polymer Science and shall include the following academic programs organized in an appropriate way to be determined: Aerospace Systems Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Computer Information Systems, Construction, Corrosion Engineering/Corrosion Technology, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology, Manufacturing, Mechanical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering Technology, School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, Surveying; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The College of Business Administration shall include the following academic programs organized in an appropriate way to be determined: Accountancy, Finance, Economics, Management, Sports Studies, Marketing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The College of Health Professions will include the following academic programs organized in an appropriate way to be determined: Allied Health, Audiology, Child and Family Development, Counseling, Disaster Science and Emergency Services (including Digital Forensics), Nursing, Nutrition, Social Work, Speech Language Pathology, Sport Science and Wellness Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The School of Law shall include the programs it currently offers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The University will continue to offer important programs at its Wayne campus and other remote locations administered from the main campus, and a named college at the Wayne location will not continue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Graduate School, though retaining its name, will be operated as an administrative unit in the Office Academic Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The University administration is authorized to take all actions necessary to deploy the organizational structure described herein.



M. Celeste Cook, Secretary
Board of Trustees

May 29, 2020

