



**A RESOLUTION OF THE YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESPONDING TO DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS, A PANDEMIC, AND OTHER
DISRUPTIONS TO
SUSTAIN A VIBRANT FUTURE FOR YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY:
AN ANCHOR INSTITUTION ESSENTIAL TO THE PROSPERITY OF THE REGION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees recognizes that University leadership has:

- taken appropriate and necessary actions considering the safety and security of the faculty, staff, students, and campus community;
- worked with the faculty to rapidly respond to a new educational delivery method in a very short period of time;
- responded expeditiously, led by Information Technology Services, to suddenly respond to urgent needs, new technological capacities and capabilities; and
- adapted student support, advising, and success activities to respond to typical, new, and emerging student needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees acknowledges that:

- faculty and staff are working hard and are dedicated to students completing their coursework, their degree this semester, and continuing in the summer and fall semester;
- faculty and staff are adjusting approaches to matriculating an incoming class that can benefit from a high-quality educational experience, who are both close-to and far-from-home, and are either a new or a transfer student;
- there is ongoing consideration by the Academic Senate for adjusting academic policies and procedures to facilitate access to a high-value educational opportunity;
- students' financial circumstances have been considered through an equitable pro-rated refund of certain fees; and
- the staff is largely working off and on campus to facilitate the day-to-day operations of the university; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees:

- understands that these adjustments will have an impact on the FY20 budget;



- anticipates that adjustments necessary to the FY20 and the FY21 budgets and those that impact future enrollment and expenses will have ongoing, long-term effects on the institution's financial well-being; and
- expects that faculty, staff, and leadership play a role in and has a responsibility to contribute in ways that influence the financial wellbeing of the university, particularly as it relates to attraction, retention and completion of students.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

- The University community should remain focused on students successfully completing their course work, graduating or continuing their program in the summer or fall; and
- The University community should collectively engage in shaping an incoming class including matriculating individuals who have decided to attend Youngstown State University, as well as possibly matriculating those who might be considering or who have had other educational opportunities; and
- The *Plan for Strategic Actions to Take Charge of Our Future* to be presented to the Board of Trustees in June 2020, must consider the profound effects the Pandemic and associated factors will have on the future of Youngstown State University and higher education in general, and provide for appropriate significant actions to be taken, as recommended by the president including respective timeframes, having consulted with campus' constituencies and the leadership team considering shared governance, as previously endorsed by the Board (Resolution December 7, 2017); and
- The recommendations made to the Board in June must in consideration of the proposed mission, vision, and values, provide for a clear institutional purpose that will create a sustainable and prosperous institution that is clearly differentiated in the higher education landscape as an anchor institution for the region, the state, and beyond.