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CONTACT: Mark D. Weinstein
Executive Director of Public Relations
[937-766-8800](tel:937-766-8800) (o)
[937-532-6885](tel:937-532-6885) (m)
Mweinstein@cedarville.edu
@cedarvillenews

Trustees Approve Vice President, 2016-17 Budget

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – The appointment of a new vice president and approval of the 2016-17 budget were two of key actions taken by Cedarville University's Board of Trustees at its January 28 meeting.

The Trustees approved the appointment of Lt. General Loren Reno (Ret.) as vice president for academics, effective immediately. Reno brings a decorated military career and a successful tenure as the founding dean of Cedarville's School of Business Administration (SBA) to his new role. Under Reno's leadership, student enrollment in the School of Business Administration increased 36 percent.

Reno served for 38 years in the United States Air Force in leadership positions, including being a three-star general. He has led organizations in peace and combat doing maintenance repair, the overhaul of jet engines and large aircraft, supply chain management, and jet fuel acquisition and distribution. He concluded his Air Force career as its senior logistician with policy oversight and budget advocacy for its maintenance, logistics, civil engineering, explosive ordinance disposal, and security forces.

Approved Budget

Cedarville's operating budget for 2016-17 will rise to \$118.1 million (2.9% increase). The new budget includes a 3.35 percent tuition increase to \$27,910 and a 2 percent cost-of-living raise for faculty and staff. During the past five years, Cedarville's average tuition increase is 1.9 percent, while the university's commitment to financial aid has increased on average 6.9 percent annually. Cedarville will allocate \$30.3 million for student financial aid in the coming year.

"In a time where college affordability is a national talking point, we've worked diligently to create a budget that helps to make a Cedarville education more affordable," said Thomas White, president of Cedarville University. "With an increase in financial aid, we believe we are making college more manageable for those who want an excellent education from a distinctly biblical worldview."

New Trustee

The university named Gina Headrick to the board of trustees. Headrick and her husband, Richard, own a multi-million dollar sign/billboard business that operates throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, and the Republic of Panama.

Honorary Doctorate

Rev. James Parker, the first African-American to enroll at Cedarville University, will be granted an honorary doctorate at the May commencement ceremony.

In addition, the following faculty were granted tenure and promotions:

Tenure:

- Melody Hartzler, R.Ph., Pharm.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice

- Jeffrey Haymond, Ph.D., professor of economics, dean of the School of Business Administration
- Nathan Hnatiuk, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry
- Robert Vaughn, J.D., assistant professor of criminal justice

Faculty Promotions

- Nicholas Carrington, M.A., to assistant professor of technical communication
- Melody Hartzler, R.Ph., Pharm. D., to associate professor of pharmacy practice
- Jay Kinsinger, M.S., to associate professor of mechanical and biomedical engineering
- Ruth Markham, Ph.D., to associate professor of psychology
- Angelia Mickle, RN, D.N.P., associate professor of nursing and dean of the School of Nursing
- Janet Neal, RN, D.N.P., to associate professor of nursing
- Robert Vaughn, J.D., to associate professor of criminal justice
- Michael Weller, M.S., to associate professor of athletic training
- Jeffrey Haymond, Ph.D., to professor of economics
- Matthew Moore, M.F.A., to professor of theatre
- Annis Shaver, Ph.D., to professor of German
- Robert Parr, Ph.D., to senior professor of sociology

Emeritus Status for Retiring Faculty

- Milton Becknell, professor of psychology at Cedarville since 2004
- Michael DiCuirci, senior professor of music at Cedarville since 1979

Finally, the trustees affirmed the university's launch of a new undergraduate retention initiative that will launch this month. Cedarville's freshman-to-sophomore retention rate of 85.5 percent surpasses the 74 percent national average. Still, through the cross-divisional taskforce, Cedarville aspires to improve its percentage to 90 percent.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,711 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings.