

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**September 17, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.  
Morris University Center, Room 215**

**Agenda**

**1.0 Action Items**

**1.1 Resolution ASA04-21, Policy 3.24 Student Medical Leave of Absence**

Ms. Marcie Simms, Dean of Students, will present Resolution ASA04-21 approving Policy 3.24 Student Medical Leave of Absence.

**2.0 Information and Reports**

**2.1 Academic and Student Affairs Executive Report**

Dr. Ahuja, Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, will report on recent activities in Academic and Student Affairs.

**2.2 Advancement and Enrollment Management Executive Report**

Mr. Eric Braun, Vice President for Advancement and Enrollment Management, will report on recent activities in the division.

**2.3 Recruitment and Admissions Report**

Mr. Braun will report on new student recruitment and Admissions activities.

**2.4 Weekend of Welcome (WoW)**

Ms. Tiffany Hartman, Director of Student Life, will report on the activities of Weekend of Welcome.

**2.5 Fall Enrollment Report**

Ms. Tami Sheets, Registrar, will report on fall enrollment and J1 implementation.

**3.0 Education Item**

Dr. Ahuja will present Academic Affairs goals and plans for 2021-2022.

**RESOLUTION ASA04-21**

**APPROVAL OF POLICY 3.24, STUDENT MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

WHEREAS, it is in the University's interests to have procedures in place to permit students to request and obtain approval to take temporary leave from their studies when needed for health or mental health reasons; and

WHEREAS, the University currently does not have specific procedures to address requests for such leave;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Shawnee State University approves Policy No. 3.24, Student Medical Leave of Absence, which authorizes the President to enact procedures to carry out the purposes of the policy.

(September 17, 2021)

# Shawnee State University

POLICY TITLE:	STUDENT MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE
POLICY NO. :	3.24
ADMIN CODE:	3362-3-24
PAGE NO.:	1 OF 1
EFFECTIVE DATE:	09/17/2021
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	09/2024
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER(S):	VPA&SA
APPROVED BY:	BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 1.0 PURPOSE

Shawnee State University recognizes there may be times when students have compelling reasons to interrupt their studies due to medical or mental health reasons. The purpose of this policy is to provide an avenue for students to take a medical leave of absence that includes a plan to return to the University.

## 2.0 DEFINITION

Voluntary Leave of Absence is a temporary interruption in a student's formal education. It may be granted for medical or mental health reasons.

## 3.0 ENACTMENT OF PROCEDURES/ADMINISTRATION OF LEAVE

- 3.1 The President will ensure the establishment of procedures necessary to implement this policy effectively.
- 3.2 The Dean of Students shall be authorized to oversee and administer this policy, unless and until the President designates another position for that role.

### History

Effective: 9/17/2021

**Academic and Student Affairs Report  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
September 17, 2021**

I am pleased to present the following Academic and Student Affairs Report to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees and to the Board.

**Provost Report**

- Dr. Christine Raber has assumed the role of Interim Associate Provost at SSU. I thank her for assuming that leadership and look forward to working with her on program development, online opportunities, student success initiatives, and other projects.
- Mr. Matthew Crawford has assumed the role of Director, Institutional Research, Reporting, and Analytics. I thank him for assuming that leadership and look forward to working with him on enhancing SSU's data operation, data analytics, and uses of data in strategic decision-making.
- School of Business: moving forward with conversations about program development and next steps on accreditation, which can be achieved in short order.
- The highlights of recent activities in Academic and Student Affairs are noted below.

**Associate Provost**

- Appointment of Christina Baker as Director of Teaching and Learning Center, which is also moving to first floor of the Clark Memorial Library this semester.
- With approval of the online MA in Composition and Rhetoric, recruitment for summer 2022 cohort is underway with Dr. Jennifer Scott serving as program director.

**College of Arts and Sciences**

- Dr. Tom Piontek from the Department of English and Humanities has an article on the *Black Panther* movie forthcoming in *The Journal of Popular Culture*.

**College of Professional Studies**

**Engineering Technology**

- The Plastics Program faculty and students hosted the OVRDC and ARC representatives, including Appalachian Regional Commission Co-Chair (Gayle Manchin), for a tour of the Plastics facilities and an overview of the Face shield project. Through funding from ARC and OVRDC, the Plastics program has new lab equipment and capabilities for students, including Blow molding, laser cutting, and more advanced 3D printing capabilities.
- The Plastics Program met with representatives from the Robert C. Byrd Institute to showcase facilities and discuss partnership possibilities as the Robert C. Byrd Institute expands their industry support services to include injection molding. (Note: Visit arranged by Angie Dudit).

- The Plastics Engineering Technology Program has submitted for ABET accreditation and is preparing for a virtual visit for initial accreditation. If the Plastics Engineering Technology Program receives this accreditation, the Plastics program will be one of 4 accredited Bachelor degree programs in Plastics Engineering Technology in the nation/world. The site visit is expected to take place virtually from September 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> with most activity occurring between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The Gaming Program successfully piloted a summer program for students to take the first-year sequence of gaming courses in a summer session. This is advantageous for retention of students and attraction of transfer students who may be looking to get a head start in the gaming sequence and reduce time to graduation.

### **School of Education**

- SSU Foundation Grant of \$2,432.55 (July 1-December 31, 2021) Broadening Diversity Experiences for Rural Appalachian Pre-Service teachers in an After-School Program with Students-community partnership with 14th Street Community Center; student field placements with diversity workshops full semester.
- SSU School of Education/Miami University Dean's Compact Partnership Campus Mentors-\$10,000 (Autumn 2022) SSU School of Education will partner with 14th Street Community Center to implement "Campus Mentors" model created by Dr. Leah Wasburn-Moses of Miami University. The Campus Mentors model involves:
  - A CTE program operating on a college or university classroom during the school day.
  - Serving youth at risk, identified by their academic and behavioral record.
  - Daily tutoring and one-on-one mentoring provided by teacher candidates.
- The outcomes for our partnership are projected to mirror the eight-year pilot and are as follows:
  - significant growth in grades.
  - credit attainment.
  - behavior among participating youth, as measured by student GPA, credits earned and behavioral record (Wasburn-Moses & Noltemeyer, 2018).
- SSU School of Education Alumni Mentors: This program will utilize alumni from all programs who will be available via a Blackboard platform to all students in the School of Education. Each mentor is available via phone, email, or text and will be giving career advice, helping students navigate their programs, OAE study sessions, etc. The projected outcomes are as follows:
  - Undergraduate students experience less anxiety and stress navigating the teaching program courses, level system, etc.
  - Undergraduate students have a sounding board for issues that arise with peers, professors, etc. that they may not feel comfortable discussing with their advisor, parents, other peers, etc.
  - Undergraduate students will receive helpful advice on studying for the OAE tests, study sessions, materials, etc. from alumni who have successfully navigated the program and are successful in their field.

- All mentors are trained by Dr. Kimberly Cassidy and are aware of professional restrictions, emergency notifications for mental health concerns, etc. Alumni Mentors are also available to speak to groups for recruitment.
- SSU School of Education Ambassadors: This will be the second year for ambassadors. These undergraduate students represent the School of Education and are considered the top of the classes. They range from sophomores to seniors. These students attend Saturday recruitment sessions and are presented as a panel to answer questions about daily life on campus. They also accompany Dr. Cassidy to high schools to do Career Days and recruit high school students. They also are required to complete one community project every semester.

### **Allied Health Sciences**

- **Dental Hygiene**
  - The Office of Development and the Grants Office have successfully acquired two grants to support the Dental Hygiene Program's digital imaging systems and computers throughout the clinic. This equipment will help prepare for current dental settings and is in response to a need cited by members of the program's advisory committee.
  - Assistant Professor Marie Richey was awarded the 2021 Mars Wrigley Foundation's Healthier Smiles Grant. The grant is for \$2,500 that will be used for our students to work with a local school system in the production of mouth guards for athletes.
- **Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences/Behavioral Health Paraprofessional Program**
  - The Behavioral Health Paraprofessional Program has enrolled 39 students for the Fall Semester. This is a federally funded program to prepare individuals to work in chemical dependency counseling and support fields. The majority of these individuals are clients or employees of partner, regional treatment facilities and healthcare facilities.
- **Respiratory Therapy Assistant**
  - The Respiratory Therapy Assistant program is working with the Community Action Organization to seek funding to support individuals interested in becoming a Respiratory Therapy Assistant. Although there has been a slight increase in enrollment, there is still a shortage of respiratory professionals and all programs are encouraged to recruit more students to these programs. CAO funding eligibility for these individuals has been increased to 300% of poverty.

### **Student Affairs**

#### **Housing and Residence Life**

- **Move-in Summary**
  - The Housing and Residence Life team developed a move-in plan in coordination with the SSU Health Team that addressed COVID-19 exposure concerns while

maintaining a fluid check-in process. This included early move-in dates for RAs, fall athletes, and international students.

- **Move-in Calendar**

- July 22-International students arrival
- Aug. 9-Senior RA and Athlete move-in
- Aug. 13-RA move-in
- Aug. 15-Matt Matthews Scholar program student move-in
- Aug. 15-Welcome Ambassador move-in
- Aug. 20-New and Transfer student move-in
- Aug. 21-Returning student move-in

**Housing Fall Numbers:**

- 25 Resident Assistants
- 591 New and Returning students

**Military and Veterans Services**

<b>Students Receiving VA Benefits</b>			
	Spring 21	Summer 21	Fall 21
Active Duty/Reserves	13	2	9
Veterans	23	16	25
Dependents	31	5	36
Total:	67	23	70

<b>Spring and Summer Graduates</b>		
	Spring 21	Summer 21
Active Duty/Reserves	2	0
Veterans	7	3
Dependents	12	2
Total:	21	5

Notes from the Veteran's Coordinator:

1. Awarded a "Best for Vets" college by *Military Times* for 2021.
2. Recognized as a "Military Friendly" institution by Victory Media for the Academic Year 2021-2022.
3. We had a drop in Ohio National Guard enrollments due to local units deployed to the Mexican border.

**Student Life**

- **Weekend of Welcome (WOW) 2021**
  - 285 New and Transfer students participated
  - 87% First Time Freshmen
  - 13% Transfer

- WOW kicked off with "Bear Beginnings" and the official welcome from Dr. Bauer and class photo.
- The year the WOW program added "Your Success Starts Now," a panel discussion led by Heather Cantrell (Student Success Center) and Austin Raines (Student Career Services). Every student in attendance received an SSU t-shirt with the mission statement on the back.
- Weekend of Welcome "WOW" is supported by a SSU Development Foundation Grant, providing meals for commuters and Welcome Ambassadors.
- More than 30 Welcome Ambassadors volunteered for four days to support Housing and Residence Life during Move-In and WOW. Welcome

### **Matt Matthews Scholarship and Early Arrival Program**

- **Program Details:**
  - Eustace P. "Matt" Matthews, Jr. worked as the Director of Student Support Services and the Coordinator of Multicultural Student Affairs at SSU. He retired in July 2012. Matt mentored many young people at SSU and in the Portsmouth community. The Matt Matthews Scholarship is named in memory of his legacy. Minority students and allies to the minority community are eligible to apply by submitting a 750-word essay.
  - Twenty-five students were awarded \$2,000 scholarships.

### **Early Arrival Program:**

- Scholarship recipients attended a week-long early arrival orientation August 15-20.
- The program partnered with 14<sup>th</sup> Street Community Center and the Wings of Hope service organizations.

This program is sponsored by the SSU Development Foundation and Aladdin Dining Services.

### **Clark Memorial Library**

- The library was pleased help welcome new and returning students during the Weekend of Welcome, August 20-22. The library hosted our annual Library Party with activities and door prizes. The event was funded by the Selby Library Fund.
- The event featured music by Drew Carter, a.k.a. DJ Drew. We arranged for The Happy Pot to do a Paint-A-Bear craft that featured glazing bear figurines. The event was very well received and sixty-five bears were painted. We are happy to feature local artists, and businesses, and introduce them to our new students. We anticipate the figures being returned this week to distribute to the participants.
- This year also saw the return of the ever-popular Roulette Table. Students play for chances to win a prize. This year's prize was a Chrome Cast – which was won by Olivia Phillips. We also drew for five, one-hundred-dollar gift cards to the Book Store. We drew every fifteen minutes for the duration of the party, and it was very popular. Winners of the gift cards were Hallie Truesdale, Noah French, Josie Patrick, Chloe Legg, and Paige Atkinson. Our final prize was a camp chair – won by Mike Dibble. We had one hundred and thirty-one students sign up for door prizes.



- The library was represented at the Success Now panel held in the Vern Riffe Theater on Saturday. Students asked great questions and we appreciated the opportunity to tell them about services the library offers. We also participated in the The Walk, which was sponsored by the Women's and Gender Equity Center on the Alumni Green. The Walk is an exercise that helps students understand disparities and inequalities at play in their lives and gives faculty, staff, and administrators a chance to show them that we are here to help them succeed. This was a very powerful event, and impactful.

Respectfully submitted,

Sunil Ahuja, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

**Division of Advancement & Enrollment Management Report  
to the Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
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**Alumni and Community Events**

The **Shawnee State Alumni Association** has continued engagement through newsletters, social media, and email spotlights and will begin in-person events during the Autumn semester. To celebrate the university's 35th year, the Alumni Association has continued its spotlights of "35 Alumni for 35 Years" online at [shawneestatealumni.com/35years](http://shawneestatealumni.com/35years).

Shawnee State is hosting a variety of events in the Autumn semester including a **Virtual Bear Run** beginning September 25, 2021 and running through October 8, 2021 and **Homecoming 2021** on October 1 & 2, 2021. Events during Homecoming Weekend will be held both virtually and on campus and include Dental Hygiene Continuing Alumni Day, Sport Management Summit, 2020 Hall of Fame Induction, 2020 & 2021 Alumni Association Award Brunch and much more. A schedule of events can be seen online at [ssuhomecoming.com](http://ssuhomecoming.com).

The **Golden Bear program** resumed on campus activities in July 2021. The program has over 430 members and is on campus Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings. Their current events include stretching class, water aerobics, bingo, and planetarium shows.

In-person campus and community events have resumed with over 150 in-person events held in July and August.

**Athletics**

**Men's Basketball**

- Signed five-player recruiting class led by former LSU basketball player Courtese Cooper, JUCO transfer Dre Boyd, and Khalil Donte' Johnson (Jacksonville State)
- Delano Thomas asked to speak at NABC Coaches Clinic in Kansas City Sept. 9-11

**Women's Basketball:**

- DeWayne Burroughs (first season after four years at NCAA D-I Coppin State) hired as new coach
- Landed six players in a 60-day stretch including former Baylor standout Aquira DeCosta, the highest-ranked recruit in school history in any sport
- Also landed: Nina Carpenter (Morgan State transfer), Tyeisha Smith (Seton Hall, New Mexico State transfer)

**Volleyball**

- Signed six players (Wheelersburg natives Kylee Barney, Abbie Kallner and Emily Boggs, McDermott native Haidyn Wamsley, Miami Trace's Olivia Fliehman and Union, Ky. transfer Kayla Haemmerle.
- Macie Rhoads named CoSIDA Academic All-District and named to Vette City Classic All-Tournament Team
- Went 3-1 in Vette City Classic (first 3-1 start to season since 2018)
- Emilee Cochran named MSC Defender of the Week

**Bowling**

- Landed three new players (Trenton Fuller, Jackson Lane, Sam Clay) on men's team, five new players (Olyvia Bittner, Brooklyn Foose, Selena Mingua, Hannah Rearick, Hanna Yoho) on women's team
- Begins season Oct. 2

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Esports

- Will compete in Mid-South Conference for first time ever as sponsored sport. NAIA plans to make Esports a national championship sponsored event in the future.

Swimming

- Landed six new players on men's swimming roster and five on women's swimming roster, including Germany native Jule Thamm, Colombia product Juan Contreras and Mexico native Jose Enrique Rosado.
- Begins season Oct. 2

Golf

- Four new male golfers (Ben Flanders, Bodie Hillwig, Alex Pratt, Jack Yancey) and female golfers (Emilee Carey, Kayla Clinger, Allie Cox, Brooklyn Tolle)
- Begins season Sept. 7

Men's/Women's Tennis

- Landed five players (Duarte Melo, Keenen Lambert, McKenzie Harman, Brooklyn Foose, Lexy Urban)
- Kiersten Hensley named to CoSIDA Academic All-District Team, then CoSIDA Academic All-American team
- Women's tennis program won four conference matches inside the Mid-South Conference for the first time ever (defeated Bethel, Freed-Hardeman, Martin Methodist, Thomas More)
- Men's tennis program took two games from Georgetown
- Kierstin Hensley is undefeated, 13-0, in singles play

Softball

- Hired Sam White as new softball coach
- Landed seven players in less than a month and a half's time (Rylie Hughes, Emily Shoemaker, Jaclyn Burchett, Cameryn Davidson, Ashley Fite, Maddie McElley, Hailey Sneddon) to go along with pre-existing signees in Emma Wargel, Mackenzie Hale, Tori Badgett
- Won three of four against Pikeville and swept both meetings against Ohio Christian

Baseball

- Landed 39 players for incoming season in addition to 32 returnees
- Jacob Kline named to CoSIDA Academic All-District Team, then CoSIDA Academic All-America
- Sit 18-15 overall with a 16-11 start through 27 games which is the best start for any SSU baseball program since 2002
- Defeated then-No. 9 Freed-Hardeman in a game at home, first win over a ranked opponent in seven seasons

Men's Soccer

- Started season 1-1 overall
- Kevin de Lange named CoSIDA Academic All-District, CoSIDA Academic All-America Team Member of the Year for men's soccer
- Kevin de Lange tied career all-time points record for men's soccer (111)
- Landed seven players (Elijah Stevie, Bram Voskuilen, Justin Sidwell, Ryan Paz, Matt Jones, Jimmy Mahlmeister, Guillermo Conejo Martin)

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Women's Soccer

- 1-1 overall
- Landed nine players (Madison Humble, Amber Whenham, Leonie Heck, Carlota Ipina Taylor, Bjarndis Birgisdottir, Daan Louwerse, Jule Kalmer, Aurie Coriell, Tenley McNutt)
- Finished with 8-7 overall record – first winning record since 2017
- 5-6 conference record is best record for team in conference play since 2009 – the year before joining Mid-South
- Shelbi Ritchie named Second-Team All-MSC o Set program record by placing 11 players on Academic All-MSC list. Six of those players hold at least a 3.9 or above with three holding a 4.0

Men's/Women's Cross Country/Track

- Men ranked 12th in NAIA Preseason Coaches' Poll, Women receiving votes
- Men picked to win MSC Championship, women picked to finish second
- Eric Putnam named new XC/T&F coach
- Shawnee State's men won the Mid-South Conference Championship for the fifth consecutive season and the 10th time in last 11 since joining MSC and Women finished second
- Both teams earned national bids; men finished 12th, women 30th
- Hunter Hoover was named as Mid-South Conference Runner of the Year
- 11 runners, including eight men and three women, were named either First or Second-Team All-MSC
- Hoover and Jonah Phillips named NAIA All-Americans (Phillips finished 38th, Hoover 39th at nationals)
- Both programs have made 12 NAIA National Championship appearances in the last 13 seasons
- Hunter Hoover finished fifth and was named an NAIA All-American in indoor track in the 3,000-meter run
- Hoover, Jessica Price and Owen Reeher have already run NAIA 'A' Standard times in the 5,000-meter run, Price has also run a NAIA 'A' Standard time in the 3,000
- Hoover, Price and Reeher have already combined to win four MSC Outdoor Track Athlete of the Week honors in less than a month's time

Men's/Women's Golf

- Shawnee State men have won Alice Lloyd Spring Invitational, Harry Weinbrecht Invitational
- Men placed second in Earlham Spring Invitational
- SSU men have now won five invitationals between fall and spring (ties the Bears with the 1997-98 squad for the third most in program history in a single season and puts the Bears one back of the 1996-97 and 1998-99 groups for the most invitational wins in a single academic year)
- BJ Knox has finished first or second in all three invitationals this spring; shot a career-low and program-record 18-hole round of 64 and shot a program-record 36-hole record of 132 (Alice Lloyd Spring Invite)
- Austin Barta shot a career-low 69 to match Knox at the Harry Weinbrecht Invitational, in doing so, shot a back nine program record five-under 31
- Holley Hart finished second at Harry Weinbrecht Invitational, shooting an 87
- Golf programs have combined for eight player of the week awards between four different players

ESports

- Overwatch was undefeated (9-0) as of the last update
- League of Legends plays in the Teemo Cup Finals (4/17)
- Hearthstone plays in the NACE Championship Finals 4//25)

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Players of the Week total – 47 Mid-South Conference Players of the Week as of 4/12 – most in school history

**Auxiliary and Business Operations**

Fall semester is well underway and current **housing numbers** are just under 600 (598). This number represents an increase of approximately 10% in new and transfer student applicants and a decrease of about 16% in returning student applications. These numbers are preliminary as the staff is still working through the “no-show” list.

All of the campus **dining** options are now operating. These include, The Bear’s Den, Chilaca, and The Smith (Starbucks) Coffee House. Our Market Place is also open offering a few options later in the evening.

**Development Foundation**

As of August 31, 2021, **Year-End Audit** is underway and should be wrapping up soon.

**FY22 Bear Club Challenge Campaign** has started. As of August 31, 2021, the campaign has brought in \$5,117.

**Major gifts** received include \$25,000 donated to the Digital History Preservation by a private donor; \$10,000 donated to the Dr. William E. Daehler Tennis Fund by a private donor; \$13,750 established to need base scholarships by a private donor; and \$78,000 from outgoing SOPAA Board for endowed and annual scholarships.

The Dental Hygiene Lab received a \$50,000.00 grant from **Delta Dental Foundation** for a digital imaging system.

**Grants & Sponsored Programs**

Awarded a **Campus Safety Grant** through the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) for \$153,998, which allows SSU to invest in new equipment to secure campus and upgrade existing equipment and technology. The focus was new cameras and the associated support equipment. The secondary focus was screening equipment and an on campus tactical vehicle.

**Innovation Grant Revision**

We were able to re-purpose existing **Innovation Grant** funding of approximately \$77,000 to focus on an academic and community need, the SSU campus dental clinic. This funding, coupled with a private gift, represent a template for future public-private partnerships.

SSU received a \$159,000 **RAPIDS V grant** to purchase two Anatomage tables, or something similar per state bidding rules. This award represents the fifth award in the state RAPIDS funding for southeast Appalachia. Ten organizations participated, so an equal split would be \$100,000. In the past five years, SSU has received 25% of all the funding, nearly a million dollars.

Received an **EOC grant** of \$1,786,8932. The EOC will direct allowable services to achieve standardized objectives leading to an increase in the number of participants achieving high school equivalence, completing applications for post-secondary school admission and financial aid, and enrollment in post-

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secondary education. A plan for structured activities includes outreach activities, enhancing knowledge and motivation for higher education, increasing financial literacy, and the provision of assistance in the higher education process from initial applications through enrollment completion.

Dr. Tim Hamilton loves to work on grants and was recently awarded a **SUPERCAL: Unified Reprocessing of the Large HST Cosmology Survey Fields** grant for the Planetarium.

**Kricker Innovation Hub & Entrepreneurship**

The Kricker Innovation Hub completed the first annual **Ignite Portsmouth Entrepreneurship Bootcamp and Pitch Competition**. Nine aspiring entrepreneurs completed all six weeks of the program and pitched their business in front of a panel of judges. Kristy Cartee won \$5,000 for her pitch of Counting Star's Book Lounge. A total of \$8,500 was given out as prize money thanks to the generosity of sponsors. The Tri-State Angel Investment Group was the presenting sponsor for this event.

Dane Simpkins started on July 19th as an **AmeriCorps VISTA for Digital Skilling initiatives**, thanks to a partnership with the Center on Rural Innovation. AmeriCorps VISTAs serve for a year in capacity building roles. The Center on Rural Innovation awarded AmeriCorps VISTAs to five other communities.

The **Scioto Foundation** awarded the Kricker Innovation Hub a grant of \$10,000 to fund the release of a public Innovation Strategy document and technical assistance from the Center on Rural Innovation.

**Marketing and Communications**

The Office of Marketing & Communications launched **Return to Campus** messaging for new and returning students for the start of Fall Semester, with information about health and safety guidelines, vaccinations, move-in procedures and Weekend of Welcome.

The team continues to support the **SSU Health Team** with ongoing communications, the SSU Health Pass and upgrades to the system to reflect vaccination status, and new texting platform.

Marketing & Communications has launched **recruitment campaigns for Fall 2022** with targeted email marketing, paid search strategies, social media advertising, and direct mail pieces with a focus on visit days and the application process.

**Professional and Continuing Studies**

The Children's Learning Center successfully concluded the **summer program** on August 13<sup>th</sup>. During the summer, the Children's Learning Center served 87 children, ranging from six weeks to 12 years old. Summer programming included a K-Readiness curriculum for our preschool classrooms, preparing our children transitioning to kindergarten this fall. The preschool and school age classrooms enjoyed numerous field trips to the Nature Center at Shawnee State Forest and the Earl Thomas Conley Park and Splash Pad. The school age class also enjoyed visiting various spots on and around campus such as the Clark Planetarium, the Portsmouth Public Library, the Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center, the Daehler Tennis Center, the Portsmouth Murals, and pool. The school age class curriculum included planning and budgeting for a luau, where they hosted both preschool classrooms as an end of summer celebration. During the last week of summer, we congratulated and celebrated Miss Amanda on her new position here on campus as Director of Professional and Continuing Studies. Miss Ashley, our former Infant/Toddler teacher has assumed the new role as Interim Director of the CLC.

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The Children's Learning Center is starting our second year within the **Ohio Comprehensive Literacy State Development Subgrant**. We are developing the Children's Learning Center to become a model literacy site for the state of Ohio. Our teachers will be receiving a variety of professional development opportunities to provide best practices and practical engagements in the classroom to facilitate the foundation for early language and literacy skills. Sheila Bobst, our literacy specialist and Jordan Hileman, our literacy coach, will be collaborating and supporting the classroom teachers as we embark on the new school year. For the Ohio Department of Education Early Childhood Education Grant, we have all 16 spots filled within our two preschool classrooms.

The Children's Learning Center began a week before the official start date to complete onboarding with new staff. These trainings included First Aid/CPR, Communicable Disease Recognition, Child Abuse Prevention, and Teacher Assistant Orientation. Six new teaching assistants have joined of the CLC teaching team and majors include Education, Nursing, Exercise Science, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy.

The Children's Learning Center hosted an **open house** for the upcoming school year on August 20<sup>th</sup>. We currently have 80 families enrolled. We have welcome aboard new teachers for the 2021-2022 school year: Dakota Wrenn and Jessica Gibson in our infant/toddler classrooms and Rebecca Hess and Heather Payne in our preschool classrooms. All families were invited to meet their new teacher, teaching assistants, and encouraged to scout out their new classrooms and playgrounds! Every child received a new book (or two) donated from Easter Seals and received a Welcome Packet including reading at home tips, encouraging families to read with them during the school year. We are excited and ready for a fantastic school year!

The AmeriCorps Program **Project BEAR: Building Emerging and Achieving Readers** closed and submitted the 2020-2021 program year. Highlights included:

- 111% program enrollment rate surpassing the AmeriCorps goal of 80%
- 37 slots filled surpassing the goal of 23
- 3 days of service hosted with 165 volunteers completing 249 hours of service, surpassing the goal of 1 day, 125 volunteers, and 160 hours
- Surpassed our goal of 50% of qualifying participating students demonstrating above average gains with 81% demonstrating above average gains
- Hosted our first Summer Literacy Kindergarten Readiness Camp at the Children's Learning Center. Of the students who attended 60% or more of the 8-week program, 90% showed gains in their alphabet knowledge, a leading predictor of later reading success

Project BEAR hosted information and recruitment tables at 3 local events for recruitment for the 2021-22 program which begins on September 8 and three new partners are joining the Project BEAR program: Candyland Children's Museum, New Boston Local Schools, and Western Pike Elementary School.

Shawnee State University hosted the **Verizon Innovative Learning program** on campus July 26-August 13. The Verizon Innovative Learning Rural Young Women program provides girls from under-resourced middle schools a supportive STEM-enrichment educational experience. Additionally, the program is aligned with project-based learning opportunities connected to real world challenges and invites STEM learning, career exploration, and personal development in addition to the summer experience.

Although targeted to young women, the program is inclusive and welcomes all genders and non-binary youth. As the 3-week summer program concluded, students will meet once monthly on Saturdays for

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continued engagement in-person. Eighty-nine girls participated in this enrichment experience working with artificial intelligence and robotics, coding, 3-D printing, and immersive media including AR/VR.

Shawnee State University hosted 150 students for **Cub Camp** held June 28-July 1. Courses included Science Fun, All Fun and Games, Cheerleading Champs, Action Art, Soccer, Come Kick It Karate, Esports: Level Up Your Game, Making Music Jam, Cub Camp Comic Con, Archery, Puzzles, Problems and Paradoxes: Exploring the Fun Side of Logic, Dinner Around the World, Tea Time, Dance, Dance, Dance, Ooey Goey Science, Get Moving, Get Grooving, Get Healthy, Process Art, and American Sign Language Speaks. Instructors included Jordan Hileman, Kelsey Cox, Miranda Estep, Dawn Lemon, Ellen Lemon, Jenny Kinker Cole, Deanna Roberts, Natasha Ademakinwa, Victoria Williams-Book, Travis Lynn, Sonja Jarrells, Sarah Hall, David Shoupe, Rohit Kataria, Amy Smalley, and Melissa Iery. Afternoon programming included Reptile Adventures Farms, Bingo, the Clark Planetarium, and Shawn E. Bear Double Dare. Next year's camp will be held June 27-30, 2022.

**Vern Riffe Center for the Arts**

Live and In Person! That is our theme as we start the **2021-2022 season**. We have a wonderful yet conservative lineup of events scheduled from September 2021 to May 2022. Our first concert is Rockapella, who performed during the opening season of the VRCFA 26 years ago. Other events include our traditional Oak Ridge Boys concert, We Banjo 3, Helen Welch: A Carpenter's Christmas, A Charlie Brown Christmas, and Celtic Angels just to name a few. If you have purchased tickets in the last few years, look for the new VRCFA brochure coming in the mail soon. As we cautiously reopen, we decided to forgo season subscriptions this year because of the pandemic. Therefore, we are selling events individually to keep accounting clean in the event of cancellations. As is the campus policy, we require masks at all times in the VRCFA (except for the performers on stage). We continue to adapt to new protocol and the changing landscape of live entertainment.

**Workforce Development**

We are working through the **Ohio Manufacturing Workforce Partnership** to increase earn and learn opportunities in our region. This aligns with our goal to create a sector partnership that would focus on both short and long-term workforce issues, COVID impacts, incumbent and onboarding training, skills gaps, and curriculum innovation.

Identifying and applying for funding opportunities to build the infrastructure and resources needed to support workforce training programs.

Shawnee State's **Handshake career platform** is now connected to approximately 4,700 employers with new ones joining every day. Handshake allows employers to communicate their job and internship postings, stay updated on all SSU career events, and network with our students and alumni.

We now have a data share agreement in place with **Ohio Job & Family Services** to determine outcome data for SSU graduates. This program provides employment and wage data for alumni working in the state of Ohio.

Working with Career Services to host and coordinate seven **career fairs** during the 2021-22 academic year:

- Fall Manufacturing & Technology (in-person and virtual) – October 26
- Graduate & Professional (virtual) – October 28
- Gamecon Virtual Fair – October 29
- Internship Fair (virtual) – November 9



**Division of Advancement & Enrollment Management Report  
to the Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
September 17, 2021**

- Education (in-person and virtual) – February 17
- Spring Manufacturing & Technology (in-person and virtual) – March 15
- Business, Professional, & Healthcare (in-person and virtual) – March 22

Other upcoming events include Open job interviews on campus with The Counseling Center on September 9 and Ohio Export Internship Program information session on September 14.

**Vice President’s Report**

Significant efforts have been made by the entire campus community to bring a full college experience to students this fall semester. I appreciate the efforts of so many constituent groups – faculty, administrators, staff, alumni, students and parents – all of whom have taken on additional burdens imposed by the continuing pandemic while carrying out their daily jobs to develop and deliver programming, raise funds, and work together with state agencies, employers, grant-makers, and partner institutions to push SSU forward. Staying above the weeds is difficult in times like this and I appreciate the efforts of the advancement team to keep identifying opportunities that support the growth of Shawnee State and its student body.

Declines in fall semester enrollment reflect our inability to physically engage high school students over the past year. While live events on campus and in the K-12 community began to open in late spring, most of the window for recruiting students in our region had already passed. Despite recent gains in online programs and graduate programs, most of our students remain first generation students and students from challenging socio-economic backgrounds. These students demand significant time and attention to develop adequate college awareness, to understand the logistics of applying to and attending college, and to coordinate finances. While many online and digital tools have been developed in our recruiting processes, our primary strategy still requires live and in-person relationship development. We do it well, but it requires the ability to visit prospects, present at schools, and invite groups to campus.

Recruiting for the class entering fall 2022 is already underway and, while it doesn’t quite feel normal yet, we do have significantly more access to in-person interactions and events than during the last recruiting season. We have already seen an uptick in transfer applications and spring starts for students who seem to have taken a semester or year off due to COVID-19. The number of high school seniors in our primary service region is up for the first time in several years and we are investing in college awareness programs in the high schools to strengthen pipelines in areas where students have become disengaged due to the pandemic. A special note of thanks to all of the front-line team members who meet daily with students, prospective students and families, school groups and administrators. Their daily work continues to be very challenging, but is essential to providing college access and opportunity for the underserved students who need it most, in service to our region and the Shawnee State University mission.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Eric Andrew Braun, JD  
VP for Advancement & Enrollment Management*

## Fall 15th Day Comparison

	Fall 2019 15th Day	Fall 2020 15th Day	Fall 2021 15th Day	
<b>New Undergraduate Enrollment</b>				
First-time Freshmen	808	646	552	
Transfer	194	138	138	
<b>Total New</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>690</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-218</b>	<b>-94</b>	<b>-11.99%</b>
<b>Continuing Undergraduate Enrollment</b>				
Freshmen	179	206	134	
Sophomore	501	531	492	
Junior	551	481	434	
Senior	747	804	740	
<b>Total Continuing</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>1800</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>-222</b>	<b>-10.98%</b>
<b>Total Degree Seeking Undergraduate</b>	<b>2980</b>	<b>2806</b>	<b>2490</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-174</b>	<b>-316</b>	<b>-11.26%</b>
<b>New Graduate Enrollment</b>				
Graduate - New	54	35	22	
<b>Total New</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-19</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>-37.14%</b>
<b>Continuing Graduate Enrollment</b>				
Graduate - 1	54	85	98	
Graduate - 2	35	57	30	
Graduate - 3	33	4	24	
Doctorial			10	
<b>Total Continuing</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>162</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10.96%</b>
<b>Total Graduate</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>184</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.66%</b>
<b>Total Degree-Seeking Enrollment</b>	<b>3156</b>	<b>2987</b>	<b>2674</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-169</b>	<b>-313</b>	<b>-10.48%</b>
<b>Non-Degree Enrollment</b>				
NT - Visiting	0	0	1	
NR - Non-degree	10	34	12	
NH - Highschool not CCP	1	1	0	
NP - College Credit Plus	291	218	461	
ND - Returner CCP and non-CCP	176	182	0	
NC - Non-degree Certificate		4	54	
NS - Senior Citizen	7	4	14	
<b>Total Non-Degree</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>542</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-42</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>22.35%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3641</b>	<b>3430</b>	<b>3216</b>	
<b>Difference from prior year</b>		<b>-211</b>	<b>-214</b>	<b>-6.24%</b>

# SSU Board of Trustees Meeting

Sunil Ahuja, Ph.D.

Provost

September 17, 2021

# Academic Affairs Goals/Plans for 2021-2022

- Continue review of academic portfolio and expansion of program offerings or conversion to online offerings
- Establish plan and undertake financial review and sustainability of existing academic programs
- Enhance data operations, including academic dashboards, programs' vital statistics, KPIs for retention and completion, etc.

# Program Developments (since 2020)

Name	Type	New/Revised	Status
Composition and Rhetoric	M.A.	New	Approved
Information Security	B.S.	New	Approved
Geology	B.S.	Revised	Approved
Behavioral Health Paraprofessional	Certificate	New	Approved
Criminal Justice	B.A.	New	In progress
Counseling and Chemical Dependency	B.A.	New	In progress
Concept Art and Illustration	B.A.	New	In progress
Education	M.Ed., Licensures	New	In progress
Business	Various	New	In discussion
Communication	Various	New	In discussion
Nursing	MSN	New	In development
Public Health	MPH	New	In development

# School of Business

- Accreditation efforts underway since 2003
- Pursuing IACBE (International Accreditation Council for Business Education) accreditation
- Accreditation for management, marketing, and accounting
- Outcomes Assessment Plan
- Application for Candidacy by end of Fall 2021

Questions?