

President's Report  
**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
Board of Regents Meeting  
June 22, 2018

Mr. Chairman and Distinguished Members of the Board of Regents:

Towering construction cranes and work-zone fencing are visible across campus as we continue to invest in the revitalization of our academic and student-focused buildings. The largest and most exciting project is Strong Hall, where State capital outlay funds provide the primary support for the extensive construction and renovation of the third and final phase of our Science Complex.

Scheduled to open in January 2019, the renovated Strong Hall will feature new classroom and lab space. It represents our continuing growth and investment in STEM programs and facilities that meet the needs of today's students and employers.

Other important projects include upgrades to residence hall dining facilities, preparations for the new health center and our partnership with St. Joseph Mercy and IHA, security and lighting enhancements, the Athletic Sports and Training Facility, and upgrades to the College of Business and Quirk-Sponberg Theatre. As I said, plenty of activity!

In 2019, we will begin significant renovations in Sill Hall, home of our College of Technology, the Rec/IM, and the build-out of the fifth floor in the Mark Jefferson Building for lab and classroom space housing the new and expanding fermentation science and neuroscience programs.

The General Fund Budget approved today supports these efforts, and reflects today's economic realities for Eastern Michigan University. It strongly acknowledges the enrollment trends we see at universities across the country, but – and I want to underscore this point – it is firmly aligned with the priorities and needs of today's students and employers.

The budget illustrates our commitment to increasing revenue through new sources, such as online education, strategically sound outside partnerships, and the recruitment of international students.

One of the elements of the budget, the new TRUEMU Global Rate tuition plan, provides in-state tuition pricing for incoming undergraduate students from anywhere in the world.

As enrollment of international students at universities across the U.S. continues to decline, it is more important than ever for higher education institutions to identify new methods to recruit international students who desire an American college education.

We now offer a simplified single-rate pricing for all incoming undergraduate students, whether from Michigan, another state or from outside the U.S.

In academics, we're proud that 100 percent of our graduates of the McNair Scholars program last year have been accepted to one or more graduate programs. I'd like to congratulate the students and Professor Heather Neff, director of the program. The McNair Scholars Program assists low-income and first-generation or underrepresented students in earning a Ph.D.

Eastern's focus on community engagement is apparent in the selection of two students to participate in the Ford Community Impact Fellowship for Summer 2018. Only eight students from the U.S. and four internationally were invited. Kristen Klochko, an MBA student, and Honoré Washington, a senior marketing and public relations student, were selected. Congratulations to both of these students.

Other accomplishments are listed in the Appendix to this report on the University website. Thank you, Chairman Webb.

James M. Smith, Ph.D.  
President

## Recognition

- A project by Eastern Michigan University students that showed how to extract water from Mars to help enable human habitation on the Red Planet placed second this spring in a national collegiate competition sponsored by NASA. The team included **Larry Borum III, Sam Carano, Andrew Richardson, Rosalie Tezak, Ryan Walker** and **Kyle Wilhelm**. Physics professor Dave Pawlowski served as faculty advisor. The Ohio State University finished first in the challenge.
- EMU research doctoral fellow **Forough Zareanshahraki** and faculty advisor **Vijay Mannari** were awarded the prestigious University Emerging Technology Award at the 2018 Radtech Conference.
- For the first time in the history of the **McNair Scholars Program** at Eastern, every student who graduated in fall 2017 and winter 2018 has been accepted to one or more graduate programs. The McNair graduates included **Sam Carano** (University of Michigan), **Gwendolyn Dean** (Wayne State University), **Alyssia Hence** (University of Michigan), **Demarco Johnson** (EMU), **Kyana Dixie** (University of Michigan), **Ivan LeBron** (St. Louis University), **Deborah Munganga** (George Washington University), **Nyambura Njee** (New York University), **Nayeli Sanchez** (Ohio State University), **Jesse Smith** (Texas A&M University), **Yeliani Valdez** (Ohio State University), **Amanda Wardin** (EMU), **Sina Webster** (University of Illinois), and **Faith Williams** (University of Texas).
- **Lewis Hershey**, department head and professor in the College of Business, and **Annemarie Kelly**, assistant professor in the Department of Health Administration in the College of Health and Human Services, were selected as the first place winners of the **Journal of Financial Service Professionals 2017 Kenneth Black Jr. Journal Author Award**.
- **Jacqueline LaRose**, professor of teacher education, has been chosen as the **Porter Endowed Chair for 2018-19**. The annual award, which carries a \$50,000 budget, is designed to actively expand the University's role in school districts in Michigan, with an emphasis on school-community partnerships. The Porter Chair this year will establish a deep and mutual collaboration between the faculty, principal and staff of Estabrook Elementary School (Estabrook Learning Community) and the College of Education (COE).
- The Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) has selected **Ted Ligibel**, professor of Historic Preservation, as a winner of the **2018 Lifetime Achievement Award** for his efforts and contributions to preserving Michigan's heritage.
- **Yael Rothfeld** has been named one of the **2018 DTE Energy Foundation Educators of the Year** which celebrates excellence in arts education. Rothfeld is a part-time

lecturer of music education at Eastern and a full-time elementary school vocal music teacher at Thurston Elementary School in Ann Arbor.

- The **Simulation, Animation and Gaming program** has been ranked number 23 in the nation by Animation Career Review.
- **Rhonda Fowler** has been selected as the new University Librarian, effective May 1.
- **Dr. Dana Heller** has been selected as the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. She will join Eastern on July 16.
- **Dr. Kenneth Lord** has been selected as the new dean of the College of Business. He will join Eastern on July 1.
- Three Eastern alumnae and one former student have been recognized as **Notable Women in Finance** according to **Crain's Detroit Business** magazine. The four honorees – Angela Barbash, Nicolette Bateson '12; Mary Templeton '93 and Donna Zuk '85 – are among the state's top executives and innovators in their respective fields.

## Events

- **TRUEMU Night at the Toledo Mudhens** was held on June 16, and **TRUEMU Night at Comerica Park** will be held on July 21.
- **Quirk Theatre's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration** was held on June 9.
- Elementary students from fifteen area charter schools competed in the fifth annual **Math Facts Challenge**, sponsored by the **EMU Charter Schools**, held on May 30 in the Student Center.
- The 57<sup>th</sup> annual **Alumni Awards** ceremony was held on May 19. Among those honored were **Eric Brown, Nicole Ashlee Brown, Jose Galinato, P.T. Muldoon, Craig Voll Jr., and Sally Young**.
- More than 100 students from Plymouth Canton High School visited the **College of Health and Human Services** on May 18 for a day of career exploration in the healthcare field. The visit was part of the first annual "**Healthcare Next Generation**" event presented by Beaumont Hospital and hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

- The 10th annual “**Gamers for Giving**” event was held at the Convocation Center on April 28-29 and raised \$772,598 this year. Alumnus **Zach Wigal** founded the event and the non-profit organization Gamers Outreach in 2008. Last year, Wigal was named by Forbes Magazine in its "30 Under 30" list in the “Games” category.
- More than 130 registered schools and school districts from across the country recruited graduating education students at the **2018 Teacher Job Fair**, held on April 20 at Bowen Field House.

## Of Note

- Eastern Michigan University, together with Temple University, leader of the **#YouAreWelcomeHere** social media campaign to encourage international students to study in the United States, and seven other U.S. college and university partners, is launching a **national scholarship program** for incoming international students for fall 2019.

## Athletics

- Eastern Michigan University was awarded with the **Reese Trophy** as the **top men's athletic program** in the Mid-American Conference for 2017-18.
- Baseball (Men): **Zachary Owings** has been named All-MAC First Team, and **Luke DeVenney** and **Max Schuemann** were named All-MAC Second Team.
- Baseball (Men): **Luke DeVenney, Caleb Hester, Nick Jones, Zach Owings, John Rensel Jr.,** and **Max Schuemann** have earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Football (Men): **Jaylen Picket** has been selected by the NCAA as one of 200 student-athletes to attend the 2018 NCAA Career in Sports Forum.
- Football (Men): **Maxx Crosby, Jeremiah Harris, Brody Hoying,** and **Jimmy Leatiota** were named Preseason All-MAC First Team by Athlon Sports.
- Football (Men): **Dakota Tallman** was named a preseason candidate for the Rimington Trophy, which is presented annually to the nation's top college center.
- Football (Men): The football team participated in building homes with **Habitat for Humanity** at two sites in Ypsilanti on May 15-18.
- Football (MEN): The fifth annual **EMU Victory Day** was held on May 25. The Eagles hosted more than 150 cognitively and physically impaired children who took part in football related activities at Rynearson Stadium.

- Golf (Women): **Thelma Beck** and **Penelope Guilleux** earned top-15 finishes in the MAC tournament.
- Golf (Women): **Thelma Beck, Maria Connelly, Penelope Guilleux** and **Julia Stevenson** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Golf (Men): **Beau Breault, Tyler Lewis,** and **Nic Ross** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Gymnastics (Women): **Kendall Valentin** was selected as a recipient of one of 29 winter NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships. Valentin plans to pursue a career in medicine.
- Rowing (Women): Assistant Coach **Julie Quoss** has been selected as an assistant coach for the U.S. Rowing women's team at the World University Championships in Shanghai, China, Aug. 10-12. The U.S. team will utilize Eastern's boathouse and Ford Lake for its training camp starting in May, and up until they leave for China.
- Softball (Women): **Lauren Holdsworth** was named the Nan Harvey award winner, the first Eagle to receive the award and the first underclassmen to receive it in its history. **Amanda Akles** was named to the All-MAC Second Team.
- Softball (Women): **Amanda Akles, Arielle Anderson, Ariana Chretien, Haley Hostetler, Sam Isaly, Olivia Logan, Nicolle Miranda, Brandice Olmos, Alex Peters, Angel Schilke,** and **Trisha Trujillo** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Swimming: Head Swimming Coach **Peter Linn** was awarded the National Collegiate and Scholastic Trophy from the College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA), the highest honor they bestow.
- Tennis (Women): **Ani Gogvadze** earned First Team All-MAC honors.
- Tennis (Women): **Alejandro Barcelo Almoyna, Andrea Martinovska,** and **Marie Mayerova** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova** won the 3,000m and 5,000m, **Dace Dreimane** placed second in the High Jump, **Jasmine Jones** placed second in the 400m Dash, **Sydney Meyers** placed second in the 5,000m at the MAC Outdoor Championships. The 4x100 Relay team of **Jessica Harris, Micah Johnston, Jones and Meyers** placed first in their event.

- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova** was named Most Valuable Performer at the MAC Outdoor Championships. The EMU team took second place overall.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova, Natalie Cizmas, Dace Dreimane, Jasmine Jones, Jordann McDermitt, Sydney Meyers,** and **Janina Pollatz** qualified for the NCAA East Regional.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova** placed second in the 3000m Steeplechase, broke the program record, and qualified for the NCAA Championships.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova** competed at the NCAA Championships, and earned Second Team All-American honors.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova, Jessica Harris, Micah Johnston, Jasmine Jones,** and **Brittini Mason** were named All-MAC First Team. **Dace Dreimane** and **Sydney Meyers** earned All-MAC Second Team honors.
- Track & Field (Women): **Alsu Bogdanova, Rebekah Carr, Natalie Cizmas, Dace Dreimane, Allyson Goff, Micah Johnston, Brittini Mason, Jordann McDermitt, Claire Mesa, Sydney Meyers, Catherine Mittiga, Janina Pollatz,** and **Gianna Salzbrunn** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- Track & Field (Men): EMU won its 24<sup>th</sup> championship at the **MAC Outdoor Championships**, and also completed the **Triple Crown** with their earlier championships in Cross Country and Indoor, for the fourth time in its history.
- Track & Field (Men): Head Coach **John Goodridge** was named Coach of the Year, **Hlynur Andresson** was named Most Valuable Performer, and **Tyler Johnson** was named Freshman of the Year.
- Track & Field (Men): **Hlynur Andresson** won the 3,000m and 10,000m events, and **Zach Harkey** placed second in the hammer throw at the MAC Outdoor Championships.
- Track & Field (Men): **Hlynur Andresson, Tyler Brown, Colin Etchen, Devonte Findlay, Zach Harkey, Tyler Johnson, Nick Raymond, Owen Richardson, Tyler Underwood,** and **Derek Ziegenfuss** qualified for the NCAA East Regional.
- Track & Field (Men): **Hlynur Andresson** placed fourth in the 3000m Steeplechase, set a personal record and a new Icelandic record, and qualified for the NCAA Championships.

- Track & Field (Men): **Hlynur Andresson** set a personal record in the 5000m in April. It was the first time an Icelander has broken the 14:00 barrier and also breaks his own national record.
- Track & Field (Men): **Hlynur Andresson, Tyler Brown, Zach Harkey, Tyler Johnson, Owen Richardson and Tyler Underwood** were named All-MAC First Team. **Zach Harkey**, and **Devonte Findlay** earned All-MAC Second Team honors.
- Track & Field (Men): **Sean Beckom, Austin Hazek, Caleb Hess, Mike Hierholzer, Tom Jozwiak, Drew Lament, Csaba Matko, Travis McCuaig, Zach Purcilly, Nick Raymond**, and **Tyler Underwood** earned Academic All-MAC honors.
- **Luke DeVenney** and **Kendall Valentin** received the **MAC Medal of Excellence**, an award that recognizes academic success, athletics excellence, leadership, and service.
- **Luke DeVenney, Delaney Duncan, Jordann McDermitt, Zachary Owings, Janina Pollatz**, and **Kendall Valentin** were named to the 2018 Google Cloud Academic All-District Team by the College Sports Information Directors of America.
- The National Strength and Conditioning Association named **Jasmine Jones** (track and field), **Danielle Minott** (basketball), **Zachary Owens** (baseball), and **James Thompson IV** (basketball) as 2018 NSCA All-American Athlete Award recipients.
- 28 EMU student-athletes were recognized as **Distinguished Scholar Athletes**: **Alsu Bogdanova, Logan Burton, Zac Carson, Natalie Cizmas, Emili Dobronics, Delaney Duncan, Casey Gavigan, Tom Gillis, Caleb Hess, Paul Jackson, Connor Johnson, Brielle Johnston, Tom Jozwiak, Mitch Lenneman, Kayne MacCallum, Csaba Matko, Sydney Meyers, Zach Purcilly, Lacey Rubin, Peter Rusenas, Parker Saladin, Matan Segal, Jannik Schmitt, Nicole Swartz, Kendall Valentin, Jenna Wyns**, and **Claire Young**.
- The men's **cross country** and women's **volleyball teams** received **NCAA Public Recognition Awards** for their exceptional work in the classroom. This is the sixth straight year that volleyball has been honored, while it marks the first time for men's cross country since 2004-05. The awards are given annually to teams scoring in the top 10 percent in each sport with their Academic Progress Rates (APR).
- EMU student-athletes had another outstanding semester in the classroom this winter, finishing with the **second-highest cumulative GPA in school history** at 3.259 GPA and the sixth-highest of any semester. Overall, it was the 17th term in a row EMU student-athletes have earned over a 3.0 GPA.



- Infielder **Max Schuemann** was selected by the Oakland Athletics in the 2018 Major League Baseball First-Year Draft.
- Former EMU quarterback **Brogan Roback** has signed a free agent contract with the Cleveland Browns.
- Former EMU quarterback **Charlie Batch** was inducted into the MAC Hall of Fame on May 30.

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