UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TRUSTEE
INFORMATION PACKET AND APPLICATION

Due: January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm to Bricker Hall

Questions?
Visit our website: trustees.osu.edu
Email us: Halie Vilagi (.4) & Lydia Lancaster (.72)
Tweet us: @OSUTrustedes
DEAR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANT,

I am writing today to encourage you to apply to serve as the next Undergraduate Student Member on The Ohio State University’s Board of Trustees. The opportunity to serve on our university’s chief strategic and fiduciary body has been the greatest gift of my life. It has challenged me to understand the complexity of a $6 billion enterprise, provided me with invaluable mentors, and expanded my world-view. It is my hope that as you read this letter, you feel as inspired as I did two years ago.

Below you will find information that may be helpful in your decision to apply: the eligibility requirements, a brief description of trusteeship in general, the role of a student trustee at The Ohio State University, and the written application.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students that meet the requirements below are encouraged to apply:
• An Ohio Resident (and planning to remain an Ohio resident for at least the next two years)
• Attending The Ohio State University until at least May 2019
• In good academic standing
• Not on disciplinary probation

A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF TRUSTEESHIP

The role of a trustee is most easily understood in comparison to the role of a delegate representative. While a delegate works to understand and express the views of a specific constituency, trustees are responsible for acting in what they believe is in the best long-term interest of an organization. It is for this reason, that I view my role as a trustee who happens to be a student. Meaning that while I have an expertise in student affairs (just as other trustees are experts in business or law), I vote for what I personally believe is in the best interest of The Ohio State University.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education encourages trustees to “make and [be] accountable for many of the important decisions at the college and university level, often including: selecting and appointing their college and university presidents; approving personnel appointments and contracts; setting operating budgets, student tuition and fees; granting degrees; approving rules, regulations, changes in curriculum, programs and new degrees; and providing oversight and advice.” For more information, visit The Ohio Department of Higher Education's website and research The Association of Governing Boards.
SERVICE ON THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY’S BOARD

The Board currently consists of 20 members appointed by the Governor of Ohio: 15 voting residents, 2 voting student trustees, and 3 non-voting charter trustees (non-residents). The Undergraduate Student Trustee and the Graduate/Professional Student Trustee each serve two-year, staggered terms, attend Board executive sessions, and vote at the committee and board level.

The Board of Trustees is the highest level of governance at Ohio State. The Board serves as the chief fiduciary and strategic body of the university, considering both internal and external issues and opportunities before the university. Examples of the former include campus master planning, development, investments, and the fiscal responsibility for all facets of university operations. Examples of the latter include enrollment planning, research and teaching strategies, and advancement. The Board’s decisions on all of the issues facing the university ultimately shape the future of Ohio State and directly impact students, faculty, and staff who make up the university community.

Ohio State’s mission, to advance the well-being of the people of the state of Ohio and the global community through the creation and dissemination of knowledge, is of the utmost importance when making decisions. Given the challenges we face as a nation and across the world, Ohio State will play an increasingly important role in providing innovative ideas and solutions.

It is important to note that the position requires significant investments of time. While the commitment varies from week to week based on Board meetings and other university functions, your obligations on the Board are significant in nature. Additionally, you must also be able to balance your academic and personal commitments.

Serving on the Board of Trustees is a tremendous opportunity to expand your understanding of the university and to develop both personally and professionally. You will be able to interact not only with other students, but also with faculty, administrators, business leaders, and community members. If this service interests you, I highly encourage you to apply.

The application deadline is Monday January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Applications must be delivered to the Board of Trustees Office in 210 Bricker Hall. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about serving as a Student Trustee or if you have any questions throughout the process at vilagi.4@osu.edu.

Sincerely,
Halie M. Vilagi
Undergraduate Student Trustee
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TRUSTEE—THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Name: ________________________________________ E-mail Address: ____________________________________
Degree Sought: _________________________________ Expected Graduation Date: _________________________________
Local Address/Phone: ________________________________________________________________________________
Permanent Address/Phone: _____________________________________________________________________________
Ohio Resident: Yes____ No____ (Must be an Ohio resident to apply)
Current GPA: ___________________________________

I certify that I am in good academic standing, according to the regulations and standards of my enrollment unit, and that I am not on any form of academic or disciplinary probation. I waive my privacy rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and I authorize members of the Student Trustee Selection Committee to verify my GPA, academic rank and standing, and that I am not on academic probation with the University Registrar. If appointed to serve on The Ohio State University Board of Trustees, I will make every reasonable effort to serve for the full duration of my term, and I will conscientiously seek to serve the interests of the taxpayers of the State of Ohio, the University community, and other relevant constituencies.
Signature: ______________________________________ Date: ____________________________________

Please submit one copy of the completed application. The application and all related materials must be received by 2:00 pm on January 9, 2017.

Your application must be complete at the time of submission. A complete application includes:
1. This application form, printed and completed
2. Updated résumé
3. Transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (including a current copy of your OSU Advising Report)
4. A personal statement addressing your interest in the position (maximum of 1 page, single spaced, 1in. margins, and 12pt Times New Roman font):
   Potential, but not required, topics to include in a personal statement:
   a) any work, service, and leadership experiences relevant to your candidacy
   b) a discussion of trusteeship
   c) your preferred definition of leadership and how can you as a trustee fulfill this role
   d) major issues facing the university and the Board of Trustees.
5. Answers to the following questions (250 words or less per answer, double-spaced, 1 in. margins, and 12 pt Times New Roman font).
   a) There has been a series of protests on campus that have been particularly divisive. A local newspaper calls you for comment. What do you do/say?
   b) You strongly disagree with the opinion of a board member during a discussion. How do you address this?
   c) You are sitting in a finance presentation and are presented with unfamiliar and confusing acronyms. What do you do?
6. Two letters of recommendation to support your application. At least one of these must be from an individual affiliated with The Ohio State University. Letters of recommendation must be received by 2:00 pm on January 9, 2017. Do not copy the letters of recommendation as letters of recommendation must remain sealed. Selection Committee personnel will make necessary copies of the letters.

Please submit application materials to:
Student Trustee Selection Committee
210 Bricker Hall, 190 N. Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

*Incomplete applications and applications submitted to the incorrect office or address may not be accepted. Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed. Documents exceeding the maximum page limit for the narrative statement will be removed and not considered in the review.

Please note that selected candidates must be available on the following dates:
Friday, January 27, 2017 Reception with Board of Trustees and Selection Committee
Sunday, January 29, 2017 Interview with the Selection Committee