

December 2, 2019

Dear Prospective Applicant:

I am writing today to encourage you to apply to serve as the next graduate or professional student member of The Ohio State University's Board of Trustees. The opportunity to serve on our university's chief strategic and fiduciary body has been a life-changing experience for me. It has challenged me to understand the complexities of one of the largest universities in the nation, provided me with inspiring mentors and vastly expanded my view of governance and higher education. Being a student trustee has profoundly influenced my professional aspirations, and the leadership development I have experienced during my term has been invaluable.

It is my hope that as you read this letter, you are inspired to participate in this incredible service opportunity. The new student trustee, once appointed by the governor of Ohio, will serve from May 2020 to May 2022. Below you will find the eligibility requirements, the role of a student trustee and, finally, the application itself.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

All graduate or professional students that meet the requirements below are encouraged to apply:

- Be an Ohio resident (and remain an Ohio resident for at least the next two years)
- Attend The Ohio State University until at least May 2022
- Be and remain in good academic standing
- Not be on disciplinary probation

### **Student Trusteeship**

Ohio State's Board of Trustees is the highest level of governance at the university. The board consists of 20 members: 15 voting Ohio residents, two voting student trustees (one undergraduate, one graduate/professional) and three non-voting charter trustees who are not Ohio residents. Student trustees serve two-year terms, attend all board meetings and executive sessions, and vote at the committee and board levels. This position will require a significant investment in time, so it is crucial that you are able to balance your academic and personal commitments with your responsibilities to the board.

### **Important Dates**

The student trustee application deadline is Friday, January 10, 2020 at 12 p.m. (noon). Applications must be submitted to the Student Trustee Selection Committee, c/o Board of Trustees Office, 210 Bricker Hall, 190 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210. If you are selected as a potential candidate, you must be available in the morning on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, for a reception with current trustees, and also on Saturday, February 29, 2020 for an interview with the selection committee.

Please feel free to contact me at [bonsu.8@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:bonsu.8@buckeyemail.osu.edu) with any questions. Good luck!

Sincerely,  
Janice M. Bonsu  
Graduate Student Trustee



**GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL STUDENT TRUSTEE  
APPLICATION FORM**

Name (include middle initial): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell and/or home): \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Sought: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

Please submit one copy of the completed application. The application and all required materials must be received by **12 p.m. (noon) on Friday, January 10, 2020**. Applications will not be accepted if they are late, incomplete, delivered to the wrong address or if the personal statement exceeds the maximum page length.

Application materials should be mailed or hand-delivered to:

Student Trustee Selection Committee  
c/o Board of Trustees Office  
210 Bricker Hall  
190 N. Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210

Your application must be complete at the time of submission. A complete application includes:

1. The basic application form, printed and completed
2. An up-to-date résumé and/or curriculum vitae
3. Transcripts from all colleges and universities you have attended
4. A current copy of your OSU Advising Report
5. Two letters of recommendation to support your application
6. A personal statement addressing your interest in the position
7. Answers to a series of discussion questions

### Letters of Recommendation

You must submit two letters of recommendation. At least one of them must be from an individual who is affiliated with The Ohio State University. Letters must be submitted with your application materials. Each original letter must remain sealed in the envelope provided by your recommender. Do not open them or provide copies. Selection committee personnel will make any necessary copies of the letters.

### Personal Statement

Your personal statement should be no longer than three pages, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and printed in Times New Roman 12 pt font. Topics to cover in your statement:

- a) Any work, service and leadership experiences you believe are relevant to your candidacy
- b) A discussion of your thoughts on trusteeship
- c) Your definition of leadership and how you as a trustee would fulfill this definition

### Discussion Questions

Please provide answers to the questions below. Your responses should be 250 words or less per question, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and printed in Times New Roman 12 pt font.

- a) What do you think is the most important skill or quality required to successfully fulfill the responsibilities of a student trustee? Please elaborate on how you demonstrate this skill/quality.
- b) Describe either the most significant moment of Buckeye Pride you have experienced during your time at Ohio State or what has impacted you the most about attending this university.
- c) Briefly discuss what you believe are the major issues facing Ohio State and the Board of Trustees.

### Important Dates:

Selected candidates must be available on the following dates:

- Wednesday, February 26, 2020: Morning reception with the Board of Trustees and selection committee
- Saturday, February 29, 2020: Interviews with the selection committee