

## Ohio Senate Advice and Consent

### Trustee Appointment Questionnaire

Name: Larry Macon Jr.

Institution Being Appointed to:

Kent State University

1. Are you a graduate of or do any of your dependents attend the institution to which you are being appointed as trustee? No.

2. What is your position on the First Amendment rights of faculty, staff, and students, and how will you balance this with promoting diversity of thought on campus?

I believe in the First Amendment right of Free Expression on college campuses and in the classroom at Ohio's public universities and colleges.

I believe this is balanced by ensuring intellectual diversity in the classroom and among faculty, and providing free speech protections for students, faculty and staff.

3. In your opinion, what are three current significant issues affecting higher education?

1. Affordability and Access
2. Connections to Jobs
3. Freedom of Speech

4. Do you feel comfortable presenting new or alternative solutions to issues presented to the Board of Trustees ("Board") by the president or other trustees of the institution to which you are being appointed?

Yes.

5. What are some ideas you plan to propose to reduce the overall cost of higher education?

Encouraging plans like the governors Merit Scholarship, or Work ready grants to connect students to jobs in Ohio.

6. What thoughts do you have on faculty tenure, post-tenure review, and annual faculty performance reviews?

There should always be a system in place to ensure that faculty and staff are doing their job and performing at the highest level, and also performing in the best interest of the University and the standards set by the great State of Ohio's public University System.

7. What are your thoughts on ways to increase graduation rates at the institution to which you have been appointed?

One way is to implement a better degree planning process. Proper degree planning and advising is one of the most important student services colleges can offer. The right advising will help the student set realistic goals, develop the best academic plan and will direct the student to the campus services that are most beneficial to them. Hire the right advisors that will give the student the personalized attention and supervision and mentorship they need to be successful.

8. Is higher education in Ohio addressing the current and future workforce needs of our state, and how can the institution you have been appointed to better address these workforce challenges?

One way is to make sure the degrees being offered match the jobs in Ohio, and if they aren't create the degrees and form the partnerships with companies in Ohio to do so.

9. In your view, who are you ultimately responsible to serve as a trustee of the institution you have been appointed to: the president, Board chairperson, or taxpayers of Ohio?

I am ultimately responsible to serve the taxpayers of Ohio as a board member of a public institution of higher education. To ensure the investment into the school is a healthy investment and the school serves the needs of the students who have chosen to attend.