



**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE
VICE PRESIDENT FOR INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS/ATHLETIC
DIRECTOR**

WHEREAS, the Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics/Athletic Director is being created to serve as an executive officer and provide comprehensive leadership and vision for Intercollegiate Athletics to provide strategic direction and oversight for all intercollegiate athletic programs and initiatives at Youngstown State University, to work directly with the President, executive leadership team, and community leaders to enhance the mission of the university for the benefit of the students.

WHEREAS, Ron Strollo was appointed on July 17, 2001, as the Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics to provide leadership, plan, direct, and monitor operational and fiscal management of Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and related areas; and

WHEREAS, Ron Strollo was appointed on July 1, 2000, as the Associate Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics to assist in planning, directing, and evaluating operational, fiscal and revenue producing events for the department of Intercollegiate Athletics and related areas; and

WHEREAS, Ron Strollo was appointed on September 9, 1996, as the Business Manager to plan and manage the fiscal activities and revenue producing events of the Intercollegiate Athletics Department and related areas; and

WHEREAS, University Policy 3356-7-56, Selection, Appointment, and Evaluation of Executive Officers, Administrative Officers and Professional Administrative Staff, requires board approval prior to the employment start date; and

WHEREAS, Ron Strollo has uniquely specialized skills, knowledge and experience in intercollegiate athletics to provide overall leadership, vision and strategic direction and oversight of intercollegiate athletic programs and initiatives with a demonstrated commitment to athletic program compliance including all NCAA, conference, and institutional regulations policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, the candidate's credentials have been reviewed by the President, who recommends the appointment of the candidate to the Board of Trustees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Youngstown State University does hereby approve the appointment of Ron Strollo as the Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics/Athletic Director, effective July 1, 2025, attached hereto.



Name:
Effective Date:
Salary Range/Pay Rate: L12 Excl.
POSN: 999075
FTE: 1.0
Reviewed By:
FLSA Review: Exempt

Title: Vice President, Intercollegiate Athletics/Athletic Director

Department: Athletic Administration

Summary of Position: As an executive officer of the university, maintains overall leadership of intercollegiate athletics. As a university official, has the responsibility to represent the university and provide leadership in intercollegiate athletics and related areas. Serves as an executive officer and primary advisor and member of the president's cabinet. Plans, directs, and monitors operational and fiscal management of Intercollegiate Athletics and related areas. Serves as an integral part of the university's leadership team that is responsible for the overall direction of the institution. Serves as a primary leader for the assigned area or department. Vice Presidents are responsible for a major administrative division; develops and articulates a clear vision for the division or assigned area, aligning with the university's overall strategic goals.

Oversees operations and provides leadership in an assigned area or department, including supervision of staff and implementation and administration of all programs and/or services. Serves as the university's Athletic Director. Provides administrative direction and develops guidelines in accordance with policies and procedures for lower-level employees setting the overall direction and strategy of the organization. Creates, develops, and interprets regulations, policies, etc. for the guidance of other employees or the public. May serve as designee of supervisor (president, etc.) as needed and as assigned.

Position Information

Essential Functions and Responsibilities:

Drives collaboration across the organization; identifies needs and develops scalable solutions by working with various teams.

Prioritizes objectives and implements strategies; contributes to achieving university initiatives as part of the leadership team.

Deploys data and research; uses data-driven insights to drive cross-functional prioritization. Forms and leads internal teams.

In conjunction with the executive leadership team: sets the overall direction and strategy of the university, makes major strategic decisions, evaluates the success of the university in reaching its goals.

Oversees the complete operation of intercollegiate athletics, in accordance with the direction established in the strategic plan. Evaluates the work of other administrators within the scope of the assigned unit or set of units.

Maintains awareness of both the external and internal competitive landscape, opportunities for growth, industry developments, and standards.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Page 2 of 4

Provides strategic direction and oversight for all intercollegiate athletic programs and initiatives. Ensures programs align with the organization's strategic goals and objectives. Evaluates program effectiveness and enacts changes for improvement.

Develops and implements the assigned area's long-term strategic goals and objectives. Leads the unit in achieving its mission and vision through strategic planning and execution. Oversees the development and implementation of organizational policies and procedures. Leads initiatives to improve organizational efficiency and effectiveness.

Identifies and pursues opportunities for organizational growth and expansion. Leads efforts to innovate and improve services and programs. Monitors industry trends and adapt strategies accordingly.

Utilizes reports and other information/documentation in strategic, and regular, planning of the assigned area; prepares reports, recommendations, and other information/documentation to assist in strategic planning of the assigned area as well as university wide.

Reviews recommendations by lower-level staff regarding the assigned area's policies and procedures as it relates to completion of work and/or provision of services; prepares recommendations to supervisor regarding intercollegiate athletics policies and procedures as it relates to completion of work and/or provision of services.

Demonstrates commitment to athletics program compliance. Complies with all NCAA, conference, and institutional regulations, policies, and procedures.

Demonstrates commitment to programs, services, and processes within department which strengthen and enhance possibility that student-athletes will be successful in their academic pursuits.

Interviews, recommends appointments, supervises, and evaluates senior level athletics administrators and head coaches; delegates appropriate responsibilities to assure efficient and productive operation of department; established priorities and goals; develops staffing plans and approves work plans developed by lower-level managers; facilitates professional development of administrative and coaching staff.

Builds and maintains relationships with partners, stakeholders, and the community. Participates in public relations and community service activities inherent with position, including direct supervision of marketing programs to promote attendance and financial support for department. Represents athletics to external public; generates enthusiasm and develops financial support for athletics programs including annual drives and special fund-raising projects.

Assesses and determines program, facility, and equipment needs of intercollegiate athletics programs; recommends remodeling, repair, expansion, and development.

Reviews and assesses recruitment activities, policies, and practices of coaches for awarding of athletics-related grants-in-aid to attract student athletes who have likelihood of athletic and academic success at Youngstown State University.

Reviews voting position on all national and conference actions; actively participates in planning with NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative.

Certifies reports mandated by federal regulations, auditing, and various associations; has signature authority for departmental actions (i.e., schedules, contracts, financial documents). Assesses, analyzes, and oversees

budget and appropriate restricted and fund-raising accounts; maintains fiscal responsibility.

Demonstrates commitment to and actively participates in NCAA self-study process and NCAA Certification program.

Other Functions and Responsibilities: Participates on various University, conference, and national committees, events, and other special assignments.

Travels with teams as required.

Assists with training new hires.

Performs other duties as assigned and/or required that are within the level of responsibility for this classification at the discretion of the supervisor.

Equipment Operated: Computer and all other standard office equipment.

Work Schedule: Typically, Monday through Friday; available to work evening and weekend hours as needed.

Supervision Exercised: Supervision is exercised over staff and students.

Reports to: President

Qualifications and Competencies

Required Certifications, Training, and/or Licensures: Valid driver's license.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

Knowledge of: strategic planning process; policy administration; process improvement; supervisory techniques; university policies and procedures*; office practices and procedures; department/division goals and objectives*; department/division policies and procedures*; workplace safety practices and procedures*; English grammar and spelling; records management; office management; project management.

Skill in: use of office equipment; typing, computer operation; use of computer software and other programs applicable to the assigned department/division*.

Ability to: deal with problems involving several variables within familiar context; define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions; determine material and equipment needs; calculate fractions, decimals, and percentages; compile and prepare reports; use proper research methods to gather data; understand a variety of written and/or verbal communications; prepare accurate documentation; conduct effective interviews; maintain records according to established procedures; travel to and gain access to work site; effectively interact with personnel and public to answer routine questions; train or instruct others; use independent judgment and discretion; understand, interpret, and apply laws, rules, or regulations to specific situations; work independently and in a team environment; develop and maintain effective working relationships.

(*) Developed after employment.


Minimum Qualifications: At least a bachelor's degree in business, athletic administration, or another directly related field; at least eight years of related experience. At least five years of experience in senior level management. Demonstrated commitment to NCAA regulations. Valid driver's license.

Preferred Qualifications: Master's degree. Demonstrated successful experience in management of a Division I intercollegiate athletics program.

Physical Requirements: In accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor physical demands strength ratings, this position will perform sedentary work.

Sedentary: work involves exerting up to 10 pounds of force occasionally or a negligible amount of force frequently to lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects, including the human body. Sedentary work involves sitting most of the time but may involve walking or standing for brief periods of time. Jobs may be defined as Sedentary when walking and standing are required only occasionally, and all other Sedentary criteria are met.

RONALD A. STROLLO



EDUCATION:

- B.S. in B.A. in Accounting from Youngstown State University
- Certified Public Account (CPA) - 1996 – License is currently inactive

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Youngstown State University
 - * July 2001 to Present
 - * Executive Director of Athletics
- Youngstown State University
 - * July 2000 to July 2001
 - * Associate Executive Director of Athletics
- Youngstown State University
 - * September 1996 to June 2000
 - * Athletic Business Manager
- Hill, Barth & King, Inc., Youngstown, Ohio
 - * October 1993 to September 1996
 - * Staff Accountant
- University Hospitals of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio
 - * June 1993 to October 1993
 - * Assistant Financial Analyst
- Western Reserve Care System, Youngstown, Ohio
 - * March 1992 to June 1993
 - * Fiscal Service Department Intern
- Anness, Gerlach & Williams, CPA's, Youngstown, Ohio
 - * Summer of 1991
 - * Intern

ACADEMIC/ATHLETIC ACHIVEMENTS:

- Inducted into the Austintown Fitch Athletic Hall of Fame – Baseball, Basketball, and Football in 2017
- Inducted into the Curbstone Coaches Hall of Fame – Contribution to Sports in 2024
- 1992 Joseph F. Malmisur Male Student-Athlete of the Year
- YSU Foundation Scholarship recipient
- Co-captain of the 1991 National Football Championship Team
- 1991 Offensive Player-of-the-Year
- Four-year letter winner (1988-1991)
- 1990 Ilka Fitness Award winner
- 1991 YSU Homecoming King
- Stambaugh Stadium expansion project volunteer

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- Current Board Member of the Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County
- Former member of the American Red Cross Board of Directors
- Former member of the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army
- Former member of the Western Reserve Health Foundation Board of directors
- Former member of the Austintown Growth Foundation

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Currently serving as the Executive Director of the Penguin Club
- Served in various capacities with the Horizon League, including chair of the strategic planning committee, chair of the executive council, chair of the finance committee and resource cabinet, chair of the television committee, and liaison for men's basketball
- Served on the NCAA Division I Football Championship Selection Committee
- Served on the NCAA Division I Football Issues Committee
- Served as the Central Region Chair of the NCAA Regional Advisory Committee
- Served as the president of the FCS Athletic Directors Association
- Served on the NCAA Championship and Competition Cabinet
- Served on the NCAA Football Competition Committee

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 56 Horizon League championships during just the last 11 academic years
- 10 straight top five finishes in the McCafferty Trophy standings
- 71 Horizon League titles
- Consecutive Gateway Football Conference (now the Missouri Valley Football Conference) championships in 2005 and 2006
- Lacrosse program won the school's first Mid-American Conference championship in 2022.
- Bowling team has been to the final four three and won the National Championship in 2025.
- Oversee the second largest Division I athletic department in the State of Ohio with 21 sports and more than 500 student-athletes.
- Added 6 new athletic programs (women's golf, women's soccer, women's swimming and diving, women's bowling, men's swimming and diving and women's lacrosse)
- Beeghly Center renovations, including new chair-back seating, sound system, videoboards, locker room renovations and a VIP lounge
- Construction of the Korandovich Family Sports Medicine Center in Beeghly Center
- Construction of the Jim & Melissa DiBacco Family Leadership Center, which includes a 150-seat theater style classroom, the Team Development Center, and a Digital Media Studio in Stambaugh Stadium
- Construction of the Indoor tennis facility
- Construction of the Don Constantini Multimedia Center at Stambaugh Stadium
- Construction of the Outdoor complex (Cafaro Field) including turf field and lights and a new parking and tailgate lot serving Beeghly Center, Stambaugh Stadium and the WATTS
- Beeghly Natatorium renovations, which featured a new scoreboard, deck, starting blocks and timing pads.
- Stambaugh Stadium scoreboard including a high-definition videoboard and scoreboards, and Musco Lighting.
- Construction of the Covelli Sports Complex located West of Fifth Avenue that included Farmers National Bank Field (Lacrosse, Soccer, and Track and Field) and the YSU Softball Field
- Construction of the Watson and Tressel Training Site (WATTS) indoor facility
- Youngstown State's student-athletes combined to post a 3.48 cumulative GPA after the 2024 spring semester
- 396 had a semester GPA above 3.00 (82 percent)

- 404 have a cumulative grade-point average above 3.00 (84 percent)
- The number of endowed scholarships has risen from 19 to nearly 200, and the value of all endowed scholarships increased from \$1 million to nearly \$12 million.