

**Board of Trustees Report – September 27, 2013**

**Greg Mohlke – Purdue University North Central**

Chairman Spurgeon, President Daniels, members of the board, I am both honored and privileged to have the opportunity to speak to you today on behalf of the student body at Purdue University North Central.

First, a brief introduction of myself; my name is Greg Mohlke and I am a senior in the Elementary Education program at PNC. I am a three year Student Government member having twice served as the secretary before being elected President this past spring. I stand before you today excited at the opportunity to speak about my campus and the great things happening there. Highlighting all the things that makes PNC a great place to be would take all afternoon so I will limit myself to a few exceptional points worth mentioning.

The subject causing the most buzz at PNC is the approval of the new Student Services and Activities Complex. I am excited to tell prospective students and their families that in the near future there will be a place on campus that hosts our sporting events, fosters club activity, and promotes the well-being of all our students. By having a building like this on our campus we are finally being competitive with other campuses in our area in terms of extra-curricular activities and events. Offering facilities such as an indoor running track, an expanded fitness center, and community workrooms helps draw in prospective students who may otherwise consider other options for their collegiate experience. Students at PNC right now are looking forward to the new building as well. In a few years, they too will be enjoying what it has to offer and I am already hearing talks about intramural sports and activities that otherwise couldn't be

done on campus. Of course, myself and other upperclassmen are disappointed with not being able to see it but it's a good excuse to visit as an alumni.

This building could not have come at a better time for PNC. Enrollment numbers are again strong with 3,580 core students enrolled in over 42,200 credit hours. Ten years ago in 2003, PNC students were enrolled in only 33,329 credit hours; a 20% increase. 42,200 credit hours averages to about 12 credit hours per student. The significance of this is realized when one considers the diversified students that PNC serves. The average age of a Purdue North Central Student is twenty-five compared with twenty-one here at West Lafayette. At 25, many of PNC's students already have families and full-time jobs. Having a full-time credit hour average is impressive considering the time that both college and personal lives require. At the other end of the spectrum are our dual-credit students. 2,522 students of the 6,102 total students at PNC are enrolled in dual credit high school courses at numerous local high schools. I happen to be one of the many students who took advantage of that program. The students who took dual-credit classes in high school entered PNC this fall with an average of 11.2 credit hours; almost an entire semester of college already under their belts. This encourages graduation in four years which is key to helping students find careers with as little student debt as possible.

Representing such as diverse student body is a challenge and the Student Government Association is up to that challenge. We just finished appointing the 2013-2014 representatives and are pleased to announce that our representatives hail from all four colleges, four graduating years, and diverse leadership backgrounds. With our strong organization I hope to continue our annual High School Leadership Conference, fund new club activities, and act as the

liaison between students and faculty. In the five weeks we have been in session we have already addressed concerns with our First Year Experience class, chartered a new student club, and planned our fundraising and event campaigns. I am looking forward to continuing the work my predecessors have accomplished and increasing our influence at PNC.

I would like to end my brief report by conveying to the board what I say to prospective students during tours of campus. "Do not forget that you not only work for your degree but your degree works for you. The faculty and administration at Purdue has worked hard since 1869 to make this one of the best universities in the world. A degree from Purdue carries a lot of weight. Do not underestimate it."

Again, I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to speak here today. At this time I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.