

# *The* News

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

May 31, 2007

## Governor names Harry Meshel to YSU Board of Trustees



▲ Harry Meshel

Harry Meshel of Youngstown, former Ohio State Senator and former chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, has been named to a nine-year term on the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees.

Meshel's appointment was announced Friday by Gov. Ted Strickland. He will replace William Bresnahan, whose term expired in May.

"Harry Meshel has served as one of YSU's finest ambassadors for more than a half century," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "We look forward to Mr. Meshel's continued work on behalf of the university."

Meshel, a graduate of Youngstown College who also taught at YSU, said he is honored to be appointed.

"I have a long love and a great deal of affection for YSU over many, many years, as a student, a teacher and a supporter," he said. "The university is an important asset for Youngstown and the entire region, and I look forward to serving it now in this new role as trustee."

Meshel was born June 13, 1924, in Youngstown and graduated from East High School in 1941. After serving in the Navy from 1943 to 1946, Meshel enrolled at Youngstown College, receiving a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1949. At YSU, he was president of the Student Council and vice president of the senior class. In 1950, he earned a master's degree in urban land economics from Columbia University.

He was executive assistant to the mayor of Youngstown from 1964 to 1968 and served as Youngstown's urban renewal director in 1969. He also taught business administration and social sciences at YSU.

In 1970, Meshel was elected to the Ohio Senate from the 33rd district, serving until 1993. In the Senate, Meshel was Majority Whip (1974–75, 1977–78), Majority Leader (1983–84) and Minority Leader (1981–82, 1984–90). He also chaired the Rules Committee and the Finance Committee. From 1993 to 1995, he was the chair of the Ohio Democratic Party.

Meshel is a member of the YSU President's Council and has endowed five scholarships as well as an endowed award in Greek language at the YSU Foundation. In 1977, he received an honorary doctor of humane letters from YSU and spoke at summer commencement. He also has received honorary doctorates from Ohio University and the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine. In 1986, in recognition of Meshel's efforts to secure funds for the construction of YSU's new technology center on Wick Avenue, YSU named the new building Meshel Hall. In 1994, he received the YSU Distinguished Alumni Award. He is a life member of the YSU Alumni Association and a member of the YSU Foundation.

Meshel also was instrumental in the establishment of the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine in Rootstown and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. He also has been credited with providing much of the impetus to create the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Ohio University and the

Graduate School of Professional Psychology at Wright State University. Buildings at NEOUCOM, OU and Wright State bear his name.

He is a member of nearly three dozen organizations, including the William Holmes McGuffey Society, Mahoning Valley Historical Society, The Stambaugh Pillars and the Trustee's Circle of the Butler Institute of American Art. He also has received awards from dozens of organizations, including the Ohio Education Association, Ohio School Boards Association, Buckeye Association of School Administrators and Ohio Association of Public School Employees.

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