Higher Learning Commission Report:

- Thank you to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the University Council Steering Committee for working together to develop the draft report
- The draft report will be distributed to campus for feedback and we look forward to your insight as we enhance the report through the shared governance process
- The Board of Trustees will also have the opportunity to comment on the draft report
- All of the input will result in the document that will be submitted to the Higher Learning Commission prior to their visit in February 2015

University of Akron Completion Plan

- The Board of Trustees endorsed the University of Akron Completion Plan and it is posted on the Board of Regent’s website
- Thank you to Chair Rich for his guidance and advise on the document
- Thank you to University Council for their feedback and endorsement of the document

General Education Curriculum

- General education reform is an exciting opportunity for this institution to reimagine the learning outcomes expected of our students
- Assessment of general education is very important and Faculty Senate will do a great job reforming and revising the general education curriculum
- I hope the revised general education curriculum will:
  - Easily guide students to a collective of courses that meet the general education categories
  - Create an assessment process that demonstrates continuous improvement in the quality of learning

College Strategic Planning Visits

- The third visits for each college will be completed by the end of November
- The fourth and possibly fifth visits will be scheduled soon thereafter
- The outcomes of this process will inform the budget process for fiscal year 2016

Achieving Distinction Initiative

- The Achieving Distinction Initiative will move back under the Office of Academic Affairs
- OAA will assess the progress on the initiatives and readjust as appropriate to ensure that our investment in those areas of focus provides the appropriate return on investment
Communicable Disease Updates
- Thank you to Health Services and University Communications for keeping the campus community updated on issues related to communicable diseases, in particular Ebola

Dean Reviews
- The faculty have recommended individuals for the committees that will inform the review of Dean Haritos, Dean Krovi and Dean Midha
- We are pleased that the following deans have joined our campus community:
  - Eric Amis, College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering
  - Matt Wilson, School of Law
  - David Gordon, College of Health Professions

I am honored to serve as your provost and to help support, stimulate and enable our collective academic excellence agenda.