Admissions Criteria
- The Academic Policies Committee has been reviewing our admissions criteria in the context of our pathways for student academic success.
- The pathways for student academic success provides accountability for the success of our students given their level of preparation.
- There is always a path to the University of Akron, but for some students we may not be their first step.

Recognitions
- There is a large number of recognition activities for faculty, staff and students during the Spring semester; it’s a great time to celebrate the successes of the institution.
- We recently learned that one of our engineering students was named the Goldwater Scholar, the first such designation for one of our students since 2008.
- We look forward to faculty success in stimulating additional student success, because I know there are faculty groups that work closely with students that submit nominations for prestigious recognitions.

Veterans
- I want to thank the faculty and staff that work to support the academic success of our veterans.
- We are known as a “veteran friendly campus”.
- The faculty have done a lot of work to evaluate and recognize the educational opportunities that our veterans have while they serve in the armed forces.
- Several deans will be working with faculty to evaluate some very specific categories of rank and training to better align the education our veterans receive with course credit designations that might be appropriate, while assuring academic integrity.

Academic Program Curriculum Guides
- The academic program curriculum guides have been updated, revised and synchronized appropriately with the actions of the Faculty Senate as reflected in the DARS system.
- I want to thank the individuals who have been involved in the project.
- We will be able to more accurately and with a greater degree of strategy know what courses we need to offer and when (at what stage of the degree program).
- This will improve the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of degree completion and will help with earlier scheduling of classes for student registration.

Council of Deans Update
- As suggested by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, we will continue to distribute the Council of Deans briefing document to the faculty as well as the deans, department chairs and school directors.
- Part-time faculty:
  - We will be working with departments to manage part-time activity so as not to unnecessarily burden the institution with unplanned health care coverage.
Aspects of this topic will change over time as the IRS regulations become clearer

We will be working with General Counsel and Human Resources to respond to the Affordable Care Act

- **Budget:**
  - We provided the deans a framework around which to consider reductions based upon the budget deficit or the gap as we have discussed in our budget forums
  - As in the past, we will undertake differential reductions between academic and academic support units
  - Within the academic units, we might use formulas to predict or calculate what adjustments for colleges should be and inform the decisions about the reduction targets by considering the strategic direction of the institution with regard to Vision 2020
  - The budget deficit discussion occurred today with the vice presidents and they were provided their target numbers
  - The CFO and a small committee will meet with the vice presidents and deans to discuss strategies to reach the targeted reductions

**In closing...**

- Our opportunities remain ahead of us
- Our effectiveness, efficiency and productivity initiatives to reduce costs where appropriate and gain efficiencies and productivity where necessary will only go so far; the opportunities come because of faculty
- The strong presence of faculty at orientation sessions will have a positive effect on the students attending orientation
- We all have a responsibility to the whole continuum of the Akron Experience from attraction to matriculation to retention to persistence to completion to job placement
- That Akron Experience will support the cycle of excellence because our alumni will interact with individuals about the excellent experience they had at the University of Akron and we will benefit by their significant involvement because of their Akron experience; the Akron experience you provided them