

a report to the faculty of the university of akron



September 1, 2011

19 pages

## **SENATE ACTIONS**

| • | Passed a resolution proposing an interim process by which the  |
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|   | Senate can elect representatives to the University Council for   |
|   | this academic year6  |
| • | Passed a resolution naming the new College   |
|   | of Health Professions and that it include a School of Nursing as<br>well as the extant schools of the College of Health Sciences and |
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| • | Conducted elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, two  |
|   | at-large seats on the Executive Committee and for the  |
|   | representative and alternate to the Ohio Faculty Coucil  |
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## Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of September 1, 2011

he regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, September 1, 2011 in Room 201 of Buckingham. Senate Chair Harvey Sterns called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Of the current roster of sixty Senators, 43 were present for this meeting. Senators McKnight, Osorio, Prichard and Rostedt were absent with notice. Senators Apple, Doutt, Ducharme, Elliott, Swin, Lyndall, C. Miller, Queener, Semilia, Speers, Thomas and Woods were absent without notice.

**I. Approval of the Agenda -** Chair Sterns: I'm going to call the Faculty Senate to order. Thank you all for being here this afternoon. The first thing we need to do is approve the agenda as presented.

Chair Sterns called for a motion to approve the agenda. **The motion was made, seconded, and approved.** 

**II. Approval of the Minutes-** Chair Sterns: We have circulated the February minutes. If people deem it appropriate we can go ahead and approve those minutes.

Chair Sterns called for a motion to approve the February minutes. **The motion was made, seconded, and approved.** 

**III. Chairman's Remarks and Announcements -**Chair Sterns: In terms of my remarks today, we have a lot of business to do and I want to say that this could be a very significant semester. One of the things that you can do is to go on our website and you will find there a list of the accomplishments of the past year. We have a number of successes that I want to remind you about; including our new curriculum review process and both the IT and real world system that goes with that. We also are sitting on the verge of a new era with the launching of the University Council. We'll be discussing that very important accomplishment and I think that all of us will have an important role to play in the expanded governance structure that will be emerging. Also before us today is the task of conducting Senate officer elections and I think it's very important to acknowledge the fine job that your Executive Committee has done all year in terms of problem-solving and working on issues and entering into discussion both with the President and the Provost. I think that the Senate continues to be an important body on this campus. And I know that there are certainly people on this campus who are skeptical about what goes on here, but I think that it is essential that faculty take an active role in decision making and that we continue to play an active role in shaping our university. I think it's also exciting to see how Faculty Senate will interface with the University Council. This will provide a new era of shared leadership on our campus. So let me turn now to obituaries, we have a number today unfortunately.

*Alexander L. Adams Jr.*, former men's basketball head coach, faculty member and student-athlete, died July 22 in Ocala, Fla. He was 76. Adams is the most recent of nine players to have had his jersey, No. 55, honored and hung from the rafters of James A. Rhodes Arena. Along with his wife, Sheila, and other family members, Adams was at the Feb. 26, 2011, ceremony. He earned a B.S.Ed. in 1962 and an M.S.Ed. in

1970, both at The University of Akron. After teaching in the Akron Public Schools, he joined his alma mater in 1970 to teach in the College of Education. In 1975, Adams was named head coach for the Zips after serving five seasons as an assistant under former head coach Wyatt Webb. Adams retired from UA in 1989 as an assistant professor emeritus of physical education. He received the College of Education Distinguished Alumni Award in 2009 for achievements in the education field and significant contributions to the community. A retired veteran of the United States Air Force, Adams was inducted into the Summit County Sports Hall of Fame in 1968 and into UA's Varsity "A" Association Sports Hall of Fame in 1975.

Theodore Mackiw, colleague, scholar and friend to the many who knew him in the Department of Modern Languages and beyond passed away on August 8th, 2011 at age 93. Theodore Mackiw was born in 1918 in Strutten, Ukraine, a date which put him in the timeframe to become involved in the horrors of World War II. He was able to complete undergraduate studies in Strutten and was then called to serve in the Russian army and was taken prisoner of war by German forces. The end of the war found him serving as head of the search section of documents intelligence, records division of the United Nations relief rehabilitation administration. This meant that he dealt with the death certificates of the victims who died in concentration camps. His graduate work in history and Slavic studies was completed at the University of Frankfurt where he received his PhD Cum Laude in 1950. Dr. Mackiw joined the faculty of The University of Akron in 1962 and rose quickly through the ranks to Associate Professor in 1965 and Professor in 1973, these promotions were the result of rich and diverse published material. Twenty-two book reviews on Russian history and literature, twelve essays, twenty-nine scholarly articles and being the author of four books, two of which were on the subject of his favorite Ukrainian patriot, Yvonne Matsepa. Dr. Mackiw was instrumental in creating the program in Russian in the department as well as the Soviet era studies program, of which he was the Director. He's been honored over the years as speaker and teacher in conferences in Sweden, Austria, Germany, Canada and the United States. He served as advisor to the Student Slavic Studies club which he founded. Dr. Mackiw retired from teaching in 1984, returning to Germany and living in Heidelberg. In 2005 he returned the United States, living in Albuquerque, New Mexico until his death August 8th, 2011. We remember Professor Mackiw as a distinguished scholar in Ukrainian history and modern languages who will be long and warmly remembered by colleagues and students as a courageous human being who's teaching and other university activities expressed his values and his dedication to principle.

*Irving Achorn* was born in Mattapoisett, Mass. on Nov. 17, 1920. His formal art education began at Swain Free School in New Bedford, Mass. He graduated from the Pratt Institute in New York City, majoring in industrial design. After serving in the armed forced during the Second World War, Professor Achorn and his wife Katie moved to Akron in 1946. While teaching at Akron Art Institute (later renamed the Akron Art Museum) he completed a B.A. and M.A. from Kent State University. He later served as Dean of the Akron Art Institute. Professor Achorn joined the University of Akron in 1965 where he founded the photography BFA program in the Department of Art. Irving and his wife Katie were also founding members of the Designer Craftsmen Association in the Akron Art Museum. Professor Achorn retired from the university in 1983. New Harbor, Mass. had been home since 1984. He was a dedicated supporter of the Bristol Area Library where he helped the library transition to computers. On July 13, Professor Achorn died at his home, as he had wished. His life was filled with family and friends, kite flying, photography, computers, sculpture, ceramics and a wonderful dry wit.

Associate Professor *Lorena M. Holshoy*, 80, associate professor of art emeritus, who died July 11 was born in Canton, Ohio on Nov. 1, 1930. Lorena Holshoy graduated with Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art History and a Master of Arts in Sculpture from The Ohio State University in 1965. She began her teaching career at Eastern Washington State College in Cheney, Washington that same year. She returned to Ohio to teach at University of Akron in 1969. Lorena taught sculpture, Drawing and Two Dimensional Design until her retirement in 1989. She spent much of her time in helping the Zoar Historical Society and The Ohio Historical Society in their efforts to restore Zoar, Ohio. She also enjoyed travel to India and Egypt.

If we could, please rise for a moment of silence in memory of these colleagues. (Senate observed a moment of silence)

### **IV. Reports**

Executive Committee - Frank Bove: The Faculty Senate Executive Committee had a very active schedule over the summer months. Members of the EC met with Provost Sherman on June 29th, July 21st, and August 24<sup>th</sup>. Two important issues discussed at these meetings were the progress of the convergences between The College of Arts and Sciences and The College of Creative and Professional Arts; as well as, the College of Nursing and the College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Roberta DePomei was appointed Interim Dean of the soon-to-be-named "health" college. A process was determined and followed with which to officially name the new college. Deans Midha and DePompei will have opportunities to provide regular updates on the convergences to the Senate. Another key issue discussed at these meetings was the university budget. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, David Cummins, will present the budget strategy to the Senate at our October meeting. Other issues discussed at these meetings included the Board of Trustees reconfiguration, the 2010 NOCHE Annual Report, eLearning strategy and implementation, general education reform, student "college readiness" profile, the strategic investment and capacity assurance initiatives, and the University Council implementation. On the last point, the Senate Executive Committee will seek the Senate's permission to put forth a resolution for your approval to propose an interim process by which the Senate can elect representatives to the University Council for this academic year. (appendix A)

The committee also held four regular meetings on May 18<sup>th</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, and August 25<sup>th</sup>. The Senate business conducted at these meetings included the certification of election results, committee appointments, setting the annual schedule of meetings, and identifying ways to increase the efficiency of the Faculty Senate Office. On the last point, we have started to automate some of our paperwork. There have been some bumps and bruises along the way. To your credit, we have had an overwhelming response to committee assignments by replacing the paper request forms with an online form. I apologize for some of the inaccuracies of the committee list distributed through the listserv and we will correct those post haste. The official list of committee assignments will be posted to the Senate website next week with official appointment letters issued soon after. I also apologize for the delay with the minutes from the spring meetings. We are looking into better ways of capturing the proceedings and generating transcripts. From this point on, the *Chronicle* will be back on schedule. It will be made available on or before the week preceding each meeting.

I would now like to ask Chair Sterns to seek permission from this body to present the aforementioned resolution from the Executive Committee, since it was not presented within the required seven days for inclusion on the agenda. It was distributed via email and you should have a print copy in front of you.

Chair Sterns called for a motion to waive the seven-day requirement. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

# The resolution proposing an interim process by which the Senate can elect representatives to the University Council for this academic year passed without opposition.

Remarks of the Provost - Provost Sherman: Thank you Chair Sterns, the President sends his warmest wishes and best regards for a great academic year and with that I'd like to make some comments about this coming year, but first I'd like to congratulate you, the university, on a great start to this academic year. Enrollment is holding steady with last year at about 29,600 students or so; however, the number of first quarter freshmen has increased, the number of transfer students has increased, veterans and adults students have increased. We've had some declines in graduate enrollment by about 1.8% and a small decline in returning students that I will address in a subsequent comment. We had locations for all of the classes at the start of the school year which is a testament to the hard work of the deans, the department chairs, school directors and of course faculty in being responsive to making adjustments to course offerings, locations and numbers of students in courses to provide the courses that the students needed that we have at The University of Akron. During the summer, the Board approved the Fiscal '12 budget. I think we gave some previews going into the end of the last academic year about principles of that budgeting process. I can indicate to you that the Fiscal year '12 budget was decided on the basis of three principles; one being fiscal integrity, including adequate reserves and sound Senate Bill 6 ratio. Another category was capacity and excellence assurance to assure that we have the right number of faculty and staff in areas of critical needs to ensure capacity delivery and excellence assurance, and most importantly, strategic investment initiatives. That includes a 2 million dollar allocation to hire additional faculty; which, as I've mentioned before, we're intending to have as a major part of the budget in each of the next 9 years, essentially making a \$20 million investment in faculty over that period of time. It included additional funds for scholarships; recognizing students who were not initially eligible for scholarship but having proved academic accomplishment became eligible; as well as providing scholarships to students who had ACT scores that other universities had been providing scholarships to that we added scholarship money to that will make us more competitive with our colleague institutions.

As far as University Council goes, thanks for your support and guidance and advice and counsel through various avenues of governance over the past year, but most importantly the exploratory committee made great progress reconciling some final issues. They insisted on developing an implementation strategy which was really wonderful because it set the stage for actually moving the agenda along this semester quite effectively. I wish to thank them very much for that support and guidance and they will, I'm sure, help with the implementation, the successful implementation of the council.

As far as the HOC self study goes, as you know, the site visit is planned for the spring of 2013; however, as you also might know and as Rex reported earlier, the HOC is changing and redesigning the criteria for our reaccreditation. Rex is involved with the HOC in trying to influence the final accreditation standards,

but regardless we're sure that we need to make significant progress in developing and understanding learning outcomes of our students as they move through our curriculum. We will be hiring an individual to help implement an institution-wide learning outcomes assessment continuum. You'll hear more about that at a later meeting. And it looks like on the basis of these changes, we'll have to probably reconsider, possibly reconstitute the committee that has been appointed to help guide the HOC reaccreditation process. But of course we will consult the current committee to get their input on making such adjustments.

You heard reference to discussion of questions with the Executive Committee related to the profile of our student population. We're looking forward to sponsoring, along with the Faculty Senate, a number of university-wide forums at which Vice Provost Ramsier will present the data analysis that we have undertaken regarding both our students from both a cohort perspective, which is as you know represents the federal standards for which or through which graduation rates are reported for six years. But via another methodology, which is looking at our total student population, we believe we can provide and add more value to the consideration of the student body and the profile of the student body that we have on this campus. We've introduced a unique kind of assessment of the potential for student success at The University of Akron that combines not only academic preparation on the basis of ACT scores, but adds to that perspective the actual performance of individuals on the basis of GPA having been here for two semesters or longer. So, I'm sure you'll find that analysis and discussion quite stimulating, and the results will have clear significance for The University of Akron in the years ahead.

The President has asked the deans, and I have concurred, that we should determine the extent to which we have the potential to offer additional professional Masters degrees that might have the potential to meet important needs of the region and of the state. The deans will be interacting with the academic programs appropriately over the coming months with regard to that consideration. As was mentioned we look forward to hearing the updates from the deans on the progress of the convergence of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences and Creative and Professional Arts as well as the steps moving forward related to the health college. Today you'll be asked to consider a recommendation for naming the health college that the Academic Policies Committee deliberated this week and we'd like to thank them and the faculty in those two colleges for coming together and providing the input necessary for that committee to take action. As you know, last year both the President in the State of the University address and in my Future State of Academic Affairs address we asked and suggested that we consider our general education curriculum to assure that it's locally relevant. I asked going into spring semester, for Dean Midha to create a small committee of perspective faculty colleagues in that college to explore and present some preliminary models for general education redesign going forward. They did that and received feedback from the Senate Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees' Education Issues and Student Affairs Committee. The next step, obviously, will be to consult campus colleagues and develop an expanded committee with more campus involvement to absolutely ensure inclusive input from faculty and students across campus as we redesign the general education curriculum. In the Future State of Academic Affairs address last spring, I brought to the attention of the university our intent to develop a strategic strategy for investment in additional faculty through innovation clusters or clusters of innovation. We're anticipating that three of those clusters will be institutionally designed with a fourth one that will emanate through cross-campus dialogue and conversation. Tentatively, those three areas will include broadly construed; one will be urban issues or urban something; the other one will be the human condition with an initial focus on health; the third one will be related to innovation and entrepreneurship primarily focusing on materials and sustainability; and the

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fourth one we're hoping will fall within a framework of economic development. As you might imagine, those general topics closely align with our engagement with vital partners; Akron Public Schools, Summit Education Initiative, City of Akron, the county, Austin Bioinnovation Institute, NEOMED, the health systems, social service agencies in the county and the city, and we believe that through these areas plus the fourth one there will be opportunities for every college and every academic program to be involved. An important component to hiring faculty into the innovation clusters will be, as recommended by the ad hoc committee last year, to assure faculty have the ability to contribute to multiple academic programs either through joint appointments or through a hire, a demonstration of the ability to provide significant contributions to another academic program on campus. I think in closing and before I take any questions, I'd really like to thank you for your dedication and support of The University of Akron. We anticipate the Vision 2020 will receive general endorsement by the Board in September or October. Our strategic doing then is implementing those broad goals. It will be our responsibility. I hope we've demonstrated to you that we're going to work to manage the budget of the institution in such a way that the goals and objectives of Vision 2020 can be secured and can move The University of Akron to another level of reputation and of course it will necessarily and appropriately, significantly involve the faculty as the faculty will be the guiding light to creating what we're thinking of as the new Gold Standard of performance in higher education. So thank you very much.

Senator Lillie: Thank you, just a clarification. You mentioned the ad hoc committee report. I wondered if that was the report that this body created last spring. I think one of the things that we haven't done as well as we might is to make sure that people are aware of some of the things, as for instance the efforts to work on these kind of interdisciplinary issues in a proactive way as well as a reactive way. So, thank you for mentioning it.

Provost Sherman: Absolutely. I think that as we move that agenda forward, that report needs to serve as the basis for the success of that agenda, absolutely.

Chair Sterns: Other questions. If not, Provost Sherman thank you and thank you for your first year of leadership I think it's been very positive for all of us.

Provost Sherman: Thank you very much I'm just pleased to be here, my family is pleased to be here and you're great, this university is great and we're going to do some more great things, thank you.

<u>V. Officer Elections</u> - Chair Sterns: Today's excitement centers around the elections. So it is now time for us to elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, two at-large as well as a representative and alternate to the Ohio Faculty Council. So the floor is open for nominations.

Senator Hajjafar nominated Senator Sterns for Chair. With no other nominations, Senator Friberg motioned that nominations be closed and that Senator Sterns be elected Chair by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

Senator Miller nominated Senator Rich for Vice-Chair. With no other nominations, Senator Hajjafar motioned that nominations be closed and that Senator Rich be elected Vice-Chair by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

Senator Huff nominated Senator Bove for Secretary. With no other nominations, Senator Friberg motioned that nominations be closed and that Senator Bove be elected Secretary by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

Senator Lillie nominated Senator Erickson for At-Large Member. Senator Erickson nominated Senator Lillie for At-Large Member. With no other nominations for the two At-Large seats, Senator Wesdemiotis motioned that nominations be closed and that Senators Lillie and Erickson be elected At-Large Members by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

Senator Lillie nominated Rudy Fenwick for Ohio Faculty Council Representative. With no other nominations, Senator Lillie motioned that nominations be closed and that Rudy Fenwick be elected Ohio Faculty Council Representative by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

Senator Shanks nominated Senator DiMarco for Alternative Ohio Faculty Council Representative. With no other nominations, Senator Rich motioned that nominations be closed and that Senator DiMarco be elected Alternate Ohio Faculty Council Representative by acclamation. **The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.** 

<u>VI. Committee Reports</u> - Academic Policies Committee - Associate Provost Ramsier: Thank you Chair Sterns. On behalf of Academic Policies Committee I'd like to present a resolution although we missed the seven day requirement on this.

Chair Sterns called for a motion to waive the seven-day requirement. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

Associate Provost Ramsier: Thank you. The Academic Policies Committee unanimously recommends that the name of the new health college be *The College of Health Professions* and in addition that it includes the School of Nursing. (*appendix B*)

Senator Lillie: Are we being asked to make a decision on two separate things or on the name of the college itself?

Associate Provost Ramsier: The name of the college including the college which shall include a School of Nursing.

Senator Lillie: Okay, and that's what we're being asked to consider. But then you're also saying as part of the resolution the APC is recommending the Senate go on the record saying this will include a school of Nursing as well? Or is "School of Nursing" part of the name? That is what I'm confused about.

Associate Provost Ramsier: I'm sorry. The college is proposed to be The College of Health Professions. The college itself we're proposing should also include the School of Nursing.

Senator Lillie: So will there be a resolution coming later when the reorganization occurs for us to act on regarding the school of Nursing?

Associate Provost Ramsier: No, this is the resolution. It's a resolution of the whole. We're recommending the name with the suggestion for its structure.

Senator Mancke: It had not occurred to me until Senator Lillie asked the question. Will the entire faculty be in the School of Nursing or will there be other schools? There is an institutional structure question imbedded in the resolution and so I think that Senator Lillie is asking what that institutional structure would be, what the implications are for approving one component of it at this point without understanding the rest of the components.

Associate Provost Ramsier: I would be happy to explain what I know of the history up to this point, if that's okay? Both colleges engaged in a multi-year process through which they talked about the convergence and discussed the naming of the new college. That process that took at least a year and half, if not longer, resulted in 17 proposed names. Over the month of August in order to try and enable this process to happen in a timely manner, we asked the faculty and the full-time contract professionals and staff within the colleges to rank their top 5 names from the 17. And we also would accept write-in names as well. So that process was done via e-mail and the paperwork was collected. We reduced the 17 to 5 but added another 12 write-in names that were different from the other 17. So now in essence we had 29 different possible names ranging from something like College of Health to College of Interprofessional Lifespan Ecology and Wellness. That's the expanse by length. This Monday we held a town hall meeting where the top 5 that were chosen by the people in these colleges were discussed. It was an open forum and we asked people to speak for names, why they thought one name was better than another. We did the same thing with the Council of Deans. Now, I should mention that the open forum, the town hall meeting on Monday, included people from outside the college including people from the community. Nurses in particular from the community had been invited or found out about the meeting and came to give their opinion and everyone listened to them as they did everyone else. So that process took the 5 down to 3. Academic Policies Committee met yesterday to discuss the process and the three. APC have arrived at this name; College of Health Professions, and is our recommendation. What's been apparent over the years and at the Monday town hall meeting is that the identity of the Nursing programs and the nursing faculty is a very important issue. And therefore, the name of the college, The College of Health Professions, does not draw from the name College of Nursing or from the name College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Thereby, not selecting one of the two converging colleges over another. College of Health Sciences and Human Services currently is composed of schools; School of Social Work, School of Speech, Language and Pathology, School of Family and Consumer Sciences. And so our proposal is to name the college with a short, relatively inclusive, name - College of Health Professions. And in addition, we expect that the current College of Nursing, programs, faculty, staff, and students become members of the School of Nursing under the new college name. So programs and everything remain intact. It recognizes the school on an equal footing with the other schools that currently exist. And hopefully that will help the discussions that they need to do internally this year to come up with a more uniform, cooperative, collaborative way of doing business. That's the rationale behind our recommendation.

Senator Scotto: It might help people to understand why especially amid all the talk of inclusion it seems as though they're setting aside the School of Nursing and what about the other schools; don't they want to be a school too? During our discussions over the many, many months that we were talking about the conver-

gence, it was sort of assumed that we were going to converge. Then several months ago back in the last spring semester we had a meeting and we discussed it and the faculty of the College of Nursing, half of them voted to not converge. They did not want to do this. At the meeting where we discussed the names, all but two of them were faculty, said they wanted the college of nursing to be part of the name and that includes four or five members of the nursing community that are not in the area. It's obvious that the College of Nursing has a lot of concerns. Historically, about where we've come from and how we've come to be considered a profession, presently about the issues we have now. And because of that concern I think that's why this issue was brought to light and to say yea, we're going to have a School of Nursing as opposed to saying here's all the other schools were going to have.

Senator Rich: Based on what's been said it's my understanding that what's really meant by this resolution is that the College of Health Professions will include a School of Nursing as well as the extant schools of the existing College of Health Sciences and Human Services. Is that correct?

Associate Provost Ramsier: Yes, that is correct. It would include a School of Nursing as well as the existing schools from the College of Health Science and Human Services.

Senator Rich moved to amend the resolution to insert, "as well as the extant schools of the College of Health Sciences and Human Services." **The resolution amendment was seconded and passed with-out opposition.** 

Senator Lillie: I just wanted to say that I know that there's been a lot of work and a lot of effort and a lot of concern has been expressed in this body and elsewhere in the past few months regarding this issue. I just wanted to make sure that we made sure to note that there have been a lot of people who have worked very hard to create the most positive convergence possible and I want to make sure that we recognize them as we're at this point.

With no further discussion, Chair Sterns called for the vote on the main motion. **The motion passed** without opposition.

Athletics Committee - Senator Lillie: As soon as the new people who were appointed to the Athletics Committee are known, as outgoing Chair, I plan to hold a meeting to elect a new chair.

**Ohio Faculty Council -** Rudy Fenwick: Thank you Harvey. In talking about statewide issues there are three very important issues that we've talked about, that I presented before. Senate Bill 5 or Issue 2, the legislation that would eliminate the right of state employees to collectively bargain for particular issues and would as far as we can tell prohibit university faculty from forming unions in general with the Yeshiva language. Also, would increase or mandate an increase in our healthcare contributions. I think enough is going to be said in the next few weeks leading up to November election, I'm certain everyone in this room has heard of the bill, probably more than you'd like to have heard of the bill and the resolution.

The second issue affects some of us more than others, I know some of us are older faculty members with proposed changes to STRS and other state pension funds and again we've brought this to the Faculty Senate before it is still in limbo for now. There is a new commission looking at the proposed changes in the

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system and as far as I can tell there will be a report due out in the fall. So the outcome is unclear although it's likely that in the end the changes that will be made will be the changes that were proposed by the pension systems themselves. Which will include increases in our contributions, increases in the years we have to serve in the system, elimination of what's called the thirty-five year window and averaging our pension over five years instead of three years. And there are some caveats such as who gets grandfathered into the system and who doesn't and my best suggestion is to go to their website and pay attention to the literature. If you're close to retirement, set up an individual meeting with the counselors down in Columbus. You can talk about your own situation. And again I will update this body when I hear more. We have the opportunity and really the privilege of talking to the people who are doing this including Michael Neff, he's the Executive Director of STRS. So that's the good news, you get to see these people in person and you get to ask some questions.

And then the third issue is what was formally known as charter universities; the proposal is now Enterprise or Entrepreneurial universities. With regard to that, we've had two meetings with Chancellor Petro, one in May when he came and introduced himself and the new Chancellor at Ohio Faculty Council and the second one was in July where he met with the officers from Ohio Faculty Council in response to request from several faculty groups around the state to have input into what he was to propose to legislature in August. And so I think we had a very fruitful discussion with him. We made clear some of our important points; whatever these proposals would be, the kind of underlying values that they had to maintain a high quality of higher education for the citizens of Ohio. They had to provide flexible skills that would meet the very rapidly changing needs of the labor market today. These flexible skills would include critical thinking and communication as well as community, national, and global engagement. And in principle he agreed that this was the way to go and that his proposal would meet these goals. Again the best thing to do is to look on the OBR and the Chancellor's website to see what he actually proposed to the legislature. Just to kind of get some highlights of that, one concern that we have is the potential loss of oversight over the actions especially the actions of boards and trustees. One thing that struck me is that the board of trustees can now determine the length of their appointment which could be appointment for life and again this may not be what the legislature turns out in the process. Chancellor Petro pointed out that the legislature is very unlikely to give up its ability to set tuition caps. So if any universities were going into this to be free to raise tuition to whatever; they're not going to be able to do this. There is some uncertainty we have because it appears to be easier for the board of trustees to go into executive sessions but Chancellor Petro told us that he wants to keep existing open laws and open record laws. The plan is to be phased in and universities must apply to be one of these entrepreneurial universities and would meet some criteria including that they must have a first and second year retention rate of 85% or higher and, I believe I have it right, they must have \$250 million dollars of external funding. And again, there is more to it obviously but go to the website and look.

I think in both of our meetings with Chancellor Petro one thing that's very important to him is the problem of remediation and the cost of remediation to students in the schools. That forty percent or more of students in various categories need some kind of remediation and that is costly. So he's looking at ways including having private sector firms come in and help evaluate and test for remediation. Thank you.

Senator Lazar: Thank you. The Enterprise University proposal, is that an actual bill that goes to the state legislature?

Rudy Fenwick: The legislature mandated that the Chancellor present a proposal to meet or move or allow for charter or now entrepreneurial universities and that the proposal be presented to the state legislature no later than the middle of August this year. So again, on the website is what he proposed, sixty-two pages. In looking at it, what he proposed doesn't necessarily translate into legislative action. So, legislatures tend to turn this thing out and change and add on. So we don't know what the final outcome will be. What we're hearing from around the state is that universities are losing their interest in doing this. There's one study that was sponsored at the University of Cincinnati by the Faculty Senate there along with the administration and it really came to the conclusion that there was no advantage for the University of Cincinnati. As for enterprise states, whether they will in the end, I don't know, but clearly given some of the benchmarks they and Ohio State would be the most likely candidates for this, especially with the research funding that Ohio and Miami have the high second year retention rates. And if there's any input from Provost Sherman...

Provost Sherman: The original Enterprise University of Ohio from the Chancellor included two tiers of enterprise universities, each very specifically prescribing the criteria to be so designated. Well, first off they said everybody will be an enterprise university and be free from certain restrictions. Then they'll be two additional levels both with prescriptors for achieving that status for which the university would give up at the first level ten percent of the state share of instruction at the second level up to twenty-five percent of the state share of instruction. That was the essence of a proposal that was discussed by the presidents of the state universities with the Chancellor at a meeting before the Chancellor met with the Boards of Trustees of the Ohio universities. That meeting in our opinion resulted in some very positive changes to what was actually presented to the Trustees by the Chancellor. Those changes were number one, for the first level of enterprise university the prescripted criteria were removed and in fact it would become a contract so that a university based upon its mission and agreement with the Chancellor for such designation and then of course that designation would come with some lifting of some restrictions. So that was good because the original criteria did not directly address the nature of The University of Akron so that was a very positive adjustment. The other one was the Chancellor seemed very positively responsive to the notion that the percentage give back on the state share of instruction might be calculated as the amount equal to the value of the lifted restrictions. So in other words, one might imagine that Ohio State by virtue of its size might derive more value from the lifting of restrictions than perhaps The University of Akron. So he was very responsive to perhaps scaling that. The other perspective was that it started with all of those funds coming back to the state going into an endowment for which the endowment would be distributed back to the students in the state on the basis of high merit. What resulted from the conversation by the presidents and the Chancellor was adjustment that included the possibility that the money that would go back into this endowment by a particular university would be so designated as going back to that university. And the possibility that as opposed to the scholarships being directed specifically based on merit there would be combination of tiered system that included merit and need. So that's what was presented to the Trustees. That is the report that was presented then to the legislature at an August hearing and now the devil's in the details. So the IUC with the presidents will engage as much as possible with the legislature to influence the language of the legislation that actually is considered for adoption by the legislature. We're anticipating that it will not be until after the first of the year, post election for sure, before a final bill is passed. It's during that period of time we anticipate trying to influence to the greatest extent possible, to the benefit of all universities, including The University of Akron, that legislative language.

Rudy Fenwick: Is there a placeholder bill now?

Provost Sherman: There is not a placeholder bill now. That's kind of what they're anticipating would be the first step.

Rudy Fenwick: Do they have any timetable for that?

Provost Sherman: I think after the election, but before the first of the year is what they're suggesting.

Provost Sherman: Effective date June or July of 2012 for the legislation, next fiscal year.

Rudy Fenwick: Well, thank you very much.

**ad hoc Student Judicial Policy Committee** - Senator Rich: Chairman the committee has met and has some more work to do to finish some not very extensive revisions to the Code of Student Conduct. I expect that the committee will present a report with recommended changes in the October Faculty Senate meeting.

Chair Sterns: If I remember correctly, the Vice President for Student Services actually requested some of these changes. Is that correct?

Senator Rich: That's correct.

**ad hoc Committee on Accessibility** - Senator Lillie: I'd like to say just one thing. As you may know about two and a half years ago we formulated the ad hoc Committee on Accessibility because the perception of a lack of communication between the office of Accessibility and some of the faculty. We met several times with those folks; I think we made a lot of progress. There's always something new that we need to continue to work on. But one of the things that came out of those meetings was the recommendation that we move forward and see if it might be a wise idea to establish a regular standing committee of the Faculty Senate that would deal with this important issue of accessibility and disability kind of issues. We had hoped to be able to do that last semester; other things got in the way. I am hoping that the committee will take that seriously this semester and perhaps have something for you. If you have anything for the ad hoc Committee on Accessibility please let me know and I'll see that it gets to the folks that are on it. Thank you.

Chair Sterns: I think all of us as faculty have had some interactions with the Office of Accessibility; many of us have been presented with letters and instructions regarding that where considerations need to be given under certain circumstances. Why I think this committee is important is that sometimes it is necessary to clarify what is meant in certain circumstances.

VII. New Business - Chair Sterns called for items of new business; there were none.

**<u>VIII. Good of the Order</u>** - Chair Sterns called for items for the good of the order; there were none.

**<u>IX. Adjournment</u>** - Chair Sterns called for a motion to adjourn. **The motion was made, seconded, and approved.** 

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm

# **APPENDICES TO MINUTES**

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

## **APPENDIX**A

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate recommends that the Senate adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, After substantial effort over a long period of time, on the part of constituencies represented in the University Council Exploratory Committee, a University Committee reporting to the Faculty Senate, that Committee proposed the creation of a University Council, by proposing a rule with bylaws for such a body, which rule was then reviewed and approved unanimously by the Faculty Senate, which then sent the rule to the President of the University of Akron for his review; and

Whereas, The rules committee of the Board of Trustees reviewed the Faculty Senate legislation referred to that body by the President and, after consideration, proposed in turn certain changes in the legislation; and

Whereas, The Board of Trustees, in January 2011 passed a resolution regarding the creation of the proposed University Council, asking the university leadership to implement a version of the University Council that would remain consistent with the legislation approved through the Faculty Senate and which would be embodied into a University Rule for Board action, scheduled according to the resolution to be presented to the board in November 2012; and

Whereas, An interim document outlining the University Council's role and procedures will be used, after September 1, 2011 as a general guide for creating and implementing procedures that will govern how members of the several constituencies become

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members of the University Council as directly elected members and as members of the standing committees; and

Whereas, The interim document provides that each constituency shall create a procedure for determining its representatives; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That, for the 2011-12 academic year, the Faculty Senate shall elect three representatives to the University Council, all of whom shall be members of the Faculty, two of whom shall be members of the Faculty Senate, and one of whom shall not be a member of the Faculty Senate; and

*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee shall solicit the membership of the Faculty to express to their representatives in the Senate their interest in serving as a representative of the Faculty on the University Council; and

*Resolved*, That the Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall solicit expressions of interest and shall appoint representatives of the Faculty at large, and of the Faculty Senate, to the nine University Council committees; and

*Resolved*, That the Senate shall initiate the process of nomination and election and appointment specified in this resolution as soon as possible; and

Resolved, That the Reference Committee of the Faculty Senate shall propose, not later than the April meeting of the Faculty Senate, an amendment to the Senate bylaws that will specify the procedure for the election and appointment of the members of the University Council in future years.

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September 1, 2011

## APPENDIX B

## Resolution 09-01-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Academic Policies Committee on August 31, 2011, unanimously recommended that the name of the new health college be the College of Health Professions and that it include a School of Nursing as well as the extant schools of the College of Health Sciences and Human Services.