

University Council

MINUTES

JANUARY 9, 2024

3:01-3:50 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Alia Baig, Alexis Currie, Grace DeWitt, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Blair Everett, Tammy Ewin, Ed Evans, Cam Feezel, Tonia Ferrell, Dan Friesner, Dallas Grundy, John Huss, Kris Kraft, Gary Miller, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Stephen L. Myers, Deb Owens, Linda Saliga, Eli Strohecker, Eric Veigel, Sonya Wagner, Heather Walter, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: Stacia Biddle, John Corby, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Absent without notice: Kim Cole, Sarah Kelly, Brant Lee, Tausif Utchhash, Wan Yu Other attendees: Matt Akers, Michelle Banis, Suzanne Bausch, Jill Bautista, Kelly Bialik, Christine Boyd, Nicholas Campana, Celeste Cook, Aimee DeChambeau, Megan Delong, Kim Gentile, Becky Handley, Anne Hanson Hilaire, Kathleen Hauenstein, Emily Janoski-Haehlen, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Wendy Lampner, Paul Levy, Steve McKellips, Benjamin Michael, Kendall Martis, Laura Miller-Francis, Paula Neugebauer, Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval, Michele Novachek, Gwen Price, John Reilly, Morgan Wagers, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill
Agenda topics:	
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. 2. The agenda was approved as distributed. 3. The minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The Executive Committee met in December and discussed the following: • Topic Submission – Service Awards – Provost will respond to submitter. • Reviewed guest speakers will be sending invites to spring speakers. • Discussion of UC participation. • UA will be doing a campus safety assessment this spring through NASPA. UC has been asked to convene an ad hoc committee to help, they will work on convening committee and get self-study done. There will be a presentation to UC following study.
PRESIDENT’S REMARKS	

	Miller - hope you all had a great holiday. Welcome to Tom Waltermire and Nick Campana. Great commencement ceremonies before holiday, recognize John Messina for great work. Want to acknowledge departure of Dallas Grundy, we're sad he's leaving but happy he's going home to family. Here through March BOT meeting and we'll start discussions with BOT and shared governance on next steps. Important position so we'll be consulting with folks on it. There were no questions for the president.
PROVOST'S REMARKS	
	Wiencek – welcome back and we are rolling through the year. Enrollment is holding steady, with good increases in applications and admits. Confirmations are lagging but that is due to FAFSA changes. We think that will take care of itself in time. Same for all universities. Encourage faculty/staff to get engaged with students, make them feel that they are already part of campus. Contact Steve McKellips about training in SLATE and get into it. Now is the time to start closing the deals. Donor based scholarships – we're making some changes, want to get scholarships into students' hands before they get here, it helps us release some general fund dollars. Intent is to make sure dollars are in student's hands and honor donors' intent. Keep all traditions in place as well. More coming to colleges going forward. Outline Provost Fellows looking at data in key drivers of retention of students. Led by Fedearia, complete College America – complimentary and Mark Stasitis will be working on initiative with his guidance. About getting students registered in 15 credits each semester, see retention rates go above norms. Completing College America will help us with that. Those are the key things I wanted to share with you today. Questions: Nick Campana – will the FAFSA simplifications hurt or help us? Provost – marketplace for universities sharing a log of information, that is to our advantage this year in being more agile in responding to this. Every university will respond eventually and learn. Looking for it to be an advantage this year. John Huss - donor-based scholarships – agree with the idea of getting money into students who were trying to recruit early – but if an award was need-based that they find out about later, does that get offset by the donor-based scholarship or add to it? Will they get less later because of that? Find out if there is some way to award donor-based aid as a bonus to what they expected to get based on need. Provost - need based aid is set by entities outside of campus and we don't touch that. Donor based comes from UA, the idea is to meet the needs of as many students as we can across the base. The more we can get aid in the more we can spread it out to deserving students. Coordinate our process to make sure we are as efficient as possible. More money means we can recruit more students. Need based aid shows up as real money for us. Huss – think the amount of aid we'll need to convince them to come is a combination of need based and donor-based income. Provost – general fund scholarships will also be available. President – disconnected with consultant for cost cutting measures. Provost – lost some ground during that and are trying to get that back.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
	The chair shared an update - the final formatted version of documents shared at December meeting, also have a progress report from prior plan. Collected successes and will have those as well. Website being updated and documents will go out to campus soon. UC will get documents in the next day or so, before it goes campus-wide.
GUEST SPEAKER – DAN FRIESNER – COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES	
	Dean Friesner shared his presentation on CHHS. There were no questions for Dean Friesner.
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• Awards – Kraft – encourage everyone to contact Kris if interested in the selection committee, nominate fellow colleagues for awards, in Digest on Tuesday and look for link. • Budget and Finance – no report. • Campus Wellness – Roofit coming up, register by 1/29. Kickoff on 1/18 at Rec Center 12-2, different this year because we in competition with Kent State University – winner announced at upcoming Kent/UA basketball game. • Communications – met and looked at focus group results and student perceptions of UA. Looking at market materials, social media and what is getting interaction. Goal is to figure out how to better position UA with competition. Look at what we can do in community engagement. Ideas for Akron Magazine – looked at what makes Akron home. • Information Technology – no report. • Institutional Advancement – no report. • Physical Environment – no report. • Student Engagement and Success – no report. • Talent Development and Human Resources – no report. • Ad hoc Social Engagement – meeting later this week.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• GSG – active in last week planning for upcoming year – meeting with Grad School and general programming and different events for members. • USG – working on meetings for next week.

	• PSAC – two overlapping meetings – first with provost to discuss state of university, second with HR to discuss the upcoming and current employee evaluations. Meeting with president soon. • SEAC – elected officers, on our way back. • Faculty Senate – no report. • Chairs – no report. • Deans- no report.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	• Ed Evans asked if the administrative offices were forming teams for RooFit? President Miller – no. Provost Wiencek – OAA might. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 13, 2024

3:01-3:50 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Alia Baig, Stacia Biddle, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Ed Evans, Blair Everett, Tammy Ewin, Tonia Ferrell, Cam Feezel, Dan Friesner, John Huss, Sarah Kelly, Kris Kraft, Brant Lee, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Stephen L. Myers, Deb Owens, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Eric Veigel, Sonya Wagner, Heather Walter, Nick Weber, John Wiencek, Julia Wood Absent with notice: John Corby, Alexis Currie, Linda Saliga Absent without notice: Kim Cole, Grace DeWitt, Dallas Grundy, Gary Miller, Catherine Strain, Eli Strohecker, Other attendees: Matt Akers, Michelle Banis, Suzanne Bausch, Jill Bautista, Kelly Bialik, Christine Boyd, Nicholas Campana, Celeste Cook, Aimee DeChambeau, Megan Delong, Kim Gentile, Becky Handley, Anne Hanson Hilaire, Kathleen Hauenstein, Emily Janoski-Haehlen, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Wendy Lampner, Paul Levy, Steve McKellips, Benjamin Michael, Kendall Martis, Laura Miller-Francis, Paula Neugebauer, Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval, Michele Novachek, Gwen Price, John Reilly, Morgan Wagers, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The Executive Committee met in December and discussed the following: • Topic Submission – Service Awards – Provost will respond to submitter. • Reviewed guest speakers will be sending invites to spring speakers. • Discussion of UC participation. • UA will be doing a campus safety assessment this spring through NASPA. UC has been asked to convene an ad hoc committee to help, they will work on convening committee and get self-study done. There will be a presentation to UC following study.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Miller - hope you all had a great holiday. Welcome to Tom Waltermire and Nick Campana. Great commencement ceremonies before holiday, recognize John Messina for great work. Want to acknowledge departure of Dallas Grundy, we're sad he's leaving but happy he's going home to family. Here through March BOT meeting and we'll start discussions with BOT and shared governance on next steps. Important position so we'll be consulting with folks on it.

There were no questions for the president.

PROVOST'S REMARKS

Wiencek – welcome back and we are rolling through the year. Enrollment is holding steady, with good increases in applications and admits. Confirmations are lagging but that is due to FAFSA changes. We think that will take care of itself in time. Same for all universities. Encourage faculty/staff to get engaged with students, make them feel that they are already part of campus. Contact Steve McKellips about training in SLATE and get into it. Now is the time to start closing the deals. Donor based scholarships – we're making some changes, want to get scholarships into students' hands before they get here, it helps us release some general fund dollars. Intent is to make sure dollars are in student's hands and honor donors' intent. Keep all traditions in place as well. More coming to colleges going forward. Outline Provost Fellows looking at data in key drivers of retention of students. Led by Fedearia, complete College America – complimentary and Mark Stasitis will be working on initiative with his guidance. About getting students registered in 15 credits each semester, see retention rates go above norms. Completing College America will help us with that. Those are the key things I wanted to share with you today.

Questions:

Nick Campana – will the FAFSA simplifications hurt or help us?

Provost – marketplace for universities sharing a log of information, that is to our advantage this year in being more agile in responding to this. Every university will respond eventually and learn. Looking for it to be an advantage this year.

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Huss – think the amount of aid we'll need to convince them to come is a combination of need based and donor-based income.

Provost – general fund scholarships will also be available.

President – disconnected with consultant for cost cutting measures.

Provost – lost some ground during that and are trying to get that back.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
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CONSTITUENCY REPORTS	TONIA FERRELL
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	• Ed Evans asked if the administrative offices were forming teams for RooFit? President Miller – no. Provost Wiencek – OAA might. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

MARCH 12, 2024

3:02-3:20 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Alia Baig, Stacia Biddle, Alexis Currie, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Ed Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Dan Friesner, Kris Kraft, Nate Meeker, Stephen L. Myers, Linda Saliga, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Sonya Wagner, Heather Walter, Nick Weber, Julia Wood Absent with notice: John Corby, Gary Miller, John Wiencek Absent without notice: Kim Cole, Grace DeWitt, Blair Everett, Tammy Ewin, Cam Feezel, Dallas Grundy, John Huss, Sarah Kelly, Brant Lee, John Messina, Deb Owens, Catherine Strain, Eli Strohecker, Eric Veigel, Other attendees: Aimee DeChambeau, Emily Janoski-Haehlen, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Meredith Merry, Scott Roberts, Jessica Whitehill
Agenda topics:	
	CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL
	7. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. 8. The agenda was approved as distributed. 9. The minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting were approved as distributed.
	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL
	The Executive Committee met February 27 and discussed the following: • Topic Submission – Parking Lot Closure Safety – referred to Physical Environment, -Marketing Support – referred to Communications. • Reviewed guest speakers – moved BF presentation to April due to BOT meeting conflicts. April will also have Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval presenting on Complete College America and First Year Experience. • Changes to language for Student Engagement and Success committee description – to include “review and approval of scholarship policies” to include portion of description from FS Student Affairs committee which is being sunsetted by FS. Steve McKellips joined the meeting to discuss scholarship review policies and use of SES moving forward. • Reviewed Drug Free Workplace policy, no comments at that time. • Discussion of need for volunteers for Awards committee to do reviews and also need nominations for awards.

	Esports team in finals.
STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
	The chair shared an update – Save the date, April 17, 2-4 pm for strategic planning kickoff event, all UC members are invited. Invitations coming via email.
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	- Awards – in process of evaluating and will have winners in a few weeks; will be announced at May 7 banquet. - Budget and Finance – met Feb. 27 – Misty Villers joined committee, discussed budget updates and mid-year review. Said farewells to Dallas and thanked him for his service. - Campus Wellness – Roofit completed; had 152 participants, 40,000 points submitted. KSU won the step challenge. - Communications – no report. - Information Technology – meeting with IT group to review feedback from semesters to create a more streamlined job aide for the Workday implementation for students and faculty. April enrollment will be the launch. - Institutional Advancement – no report. - Physical Environment – reviewing space requests and two members are participating in a nationwide campus safety survey. - Student Engagement and Success – filling several vacancies on the committee, submitting Digest items. Goals for next year were discussed and events to pull together students, faculty and staff. - Talent Development and Human Resources – discussed update on performance review, drug free workplace and Workday help and learning, compliance training, RX plans and topic submission response. - Ad hoc Social Engagement – Food Truck event coming April 1, 11 am – 2 pm; Eddie’s Cheesesteaks and Farmhand Coffee will be here. Announcement coming in Digest.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	GSG –very busy past month – applications ending for pres, vp and treasurer, new body elected by spring break. Also working on selecting student life award recipients. Applicants for all 4 awards. Working in collaboration with student bar association for student trustee positions. Feb some members volunteered at Foodbank. Programming for grad student appreciation in April. Looking to do a drop in event during that week.

	• USG –passed First Day Textbook. USG elections are taking place now. Should know next president next Friday. Student trustees applicants were discussed. USG filming intro videos on Workday. • PSAC – met February 26, and did feedback from social events; talk about grievance rules, UCEC to discuss. The committee voted to rescind some of the rules on grievances, processes are not clear. • SEAC – committee met February 15 – discussed UC vacancies. • Faculty Senate – no report. • Chairs – met last week and invited Steve McKellips to speak on scholarships, discussion on adapting to new process and using Slate. • Deans – we have the same issue with scholarships, also working on reallocation process - that is ongoing.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	• Sonya Wagner shared information on the UA on Display event which will be held on Tuesday, March 19th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Multipurpose Room at Wayne College. Students will be able to meet with representatives from all of the Baccalaureate Colleges from The University of Akron including the College of Business Administration, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Education, College of Engineering, College of Health Professions, Wayne College, and many more UA departments and services. • Chair Ferrell expressed her thanks to Dallas Grundy for his work at UA; he became transparent as the CFO to us and was always willing to answer questions about the budget and was essential during his time here. The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2024

3:04-3:57 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Alia Baig, Kim Cole, Alexis Currie, Grace DeWitt, Blair Everett, Tammy Ewin, Tonia Ferrell, Cam Feezel, Sarah Kelly, Kris Kraft, Brant Lee, John Messina, Stephen L. Myers, Linda Saliga, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Sonya Wagner, Heather Walter, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: John Corby, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Gary Miller, Nate Meeker Absent without notice: Stacia Biddle, Ed Evans, Dan Friesner, John Huss, Deb Owens, Catherine Strain, Eli Strohecker, Eric Veigel, Julia Wood Other attendees: Christine Boyd, Suzanne Bausch, Nicholas Campana, Becky Handley, Patti Huth, Wendy Lampner, Paula Neubauer, Michele Novachek, John Reilly, Mary Rossett, Christin Seher, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill
Agenda topics:	
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	10. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. 11. The chair made one correction to the agenda, removing the President's Remarks as the president would not be able to attend today's meeting. The revised agenda was approved. 12. The minutes of the 2024-3-12-minutes-university-council-final meeting were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The executive committee met March 25 and discussed five topic submissions: • Student Letter Videos – forward to Communications • Dean's List Publicity – forward to Communications • Heat in Olin Hall – was forwarded the same day to Jill Bautista with a cc to Physical Environment. • International Week on Campus – forward to Student Engagement with note to include USG/GSG in discussions. • Visitor Parking on Campus – forward to Physical Environment with note to work with UAkron Park.

	Unfinished Business – UC participation and Guest Speakers. Ad hoc committee for lab safety was brought by Eric Green. Discussion but no decision made. In person UCEC meeting to be planned with Paul Levy and include BOT member. PSAC needed approval for grievance policy to be removed from PSAC bylaws.
PROVOST’S REMARKS	
	Wiencek – president is in Columbus giving testimony at senate higher education summit. - Recruiting – very good performance in receipt of applications and students meeting admissions criteria, challenge is with FAFSA, this is a national issue. 27% decrease in submissions of FAFSA information. All sister institutions are in the same situation. We are monitoring it closely. Feel we are doing slightly better than some institutions due to the improvements we recently made. Kudos to Admissions. - Workday student went live April 1, smooth launch so far. Would love to hear input. Grateful to everyone who has been involved in this. One issue we’ve also tested is our ability to package financial aid within Workday, it’s a big deal and our systems are doing well. Once Feds get issues straightened out, we’ll be set. Will be an interesting summer with the delayed applications and FAFSA. Questions? Wagner – shout out to IT as well and the Workday rollout. Advisors also – kicked off last week and they are doing a great job.
STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
	Provost’s Fellows unable to attend but sent report, given by Chair Ferrell: Remind everyone there was a Digest announcement on UA strategic planning update, new plan links and ways to get involved. If you missed it, go look in Digest archives. Kickoff event 4/17 – UC invited, if you did not receive invite, please email provost fellows.
GUEST SPEAKER – FEDEARIA NICHOLSON-SWEVAL – COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA AND FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	
	Insert link to presentation - https://uazips-my.sharepoint.com/personal/hl_uakron_edu/Documents/University%20Council/Guest%20Speakers/Presentations/Retention%20Initiatives%20-%20UC%204-9-24.pptx
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	- Awards – completed reviews and award recipients will receive notification shortly. - Budget and Finance – no report. - Campus Wellness – no report. - Communications – no report.

	• Information Technology – no report. • Institutional Advancement – no report. • Physical Environment – no report. • Student Engagement and Success – met April 3, reviewed goals and are happy with status, shared that there are openings on SES and have informed UCEC. There is a Student Fair coming up and welcoming ex-officio student members who may want to be involved with this group. Next meeting will be May 3. • Talent Development and Human Resources – no report. • Ad hoc Social Engagement – moved Food Truck even to April 18, due to weather. Please join us.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• GSG –busy month. Grad student appreciation, House 330 collab, collab with Grad school for Grad student day, poster sessions. Luncheon and resume workshop done. Last week USG president and I did student trustees interviews. Student Life awards are coming up as well as Campus Remembrance Day. GSG recently held elections and Megan Frey was elected as the new GSG president with Nichole Bader as the new vice president. • USG – also a busy month in USG; last week was Advocacy Week on campus, educating students on various items. Event tomorrow at Compass Coffee – introducing the Zips Blue Bliss, available all day at Compass. This was the last meeting for President Alia Baig, and she thanked everyone for a great year and introduced incoming president Grace DeWitt. DeWitt greeted the body and shared that Elena Kozma will be the new vice president. She indicated she is excited to continue the work of USG started by the previous administration. • PSAC – met March 18 with Steven McKellips and learned about the financial aid leveraging model. Meeting next with Parking. • SEAC – met with President Miller and Paul Levy, received report from Blair. • Faculty Senate – no report. • Chairs – discussing ways to improve chair training and sending out a survey. • Deans – no report.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	

	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	John Messina shared that many events on campus celebrating students leading up to graduation. Spring Fest is a big event, raising funds to aid students. Reaching out to individuals to serve in the dunk tank to raise funds. Supporting Campus Cupboard. List of people coming out soon. Many awards ceremonies are going on as well. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

MAY 14, 2024

3:00-4:22 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

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TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
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Agenda topics:	
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	13. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. 14. The chair made one addition to the agenda, adding the report from the Physical Environment Committee. The revised agenda was approved. The minutes of the 2024-4-9-minutes-university-council-final.docx meeting were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The executive committee met April 23 and discussed: • Lab Safety Committee – the chair spoke with Eric Green and Faculty Senate Chair Budd regarding approval of committee existing under University Council, Chair Budd was agreeable to that. • Guest Speakers – updated schedule. • New business – discussed pending rulings on salaries in the Federal arena, how that could affect salaries on campus. Ruling will be coming in the next 12 months.

	The chair gave farewells to outgoing Student Government leaders.
PROVOST'S REMARKS	
	The provost gave an update on enrollment – doing well in light of FAFSA issues, all institutions have seen decrease in year to year numbers as a result. Starting to receive files now and have had a large batch arrive recently. Will continue to work on what we can control; good orientations, keeping in touch with students, admissions work, and fixing small issues in the systems. Attended the Budget & Finance Committee meeting – good discussion, gathering ideas on next steps. Next few months will be busy. Taking the time to be careful and thoughtful in decisions. Questions? Huss – question about admissions related things with financial aid and slow roll out – wonder if there are some elements of our response that could be proactive? With students holding off on decision of where to attend, seems like a good time to make an affordability argument. Students who were considering going away to school might decide instead to come to Akron this year. Should university take advantage of situation? Wiencek – will pass information on to Admissions and Tammy Ewin is here. Social media would be the best way to get that message out. Evans – wondering if you could comment on an article in the Daily News about state support of higher education. It was pretty dismal according to the article. The state of Ohio is supporting higher ed in Ohio at about 65% of the national average. How can we turn that around? Wiencek - please forward the article. It is a challenge nationally and has been for quite a while. Support for higher ed is nowhere near what it was in the 90s. Been a drifting of societal view of higher ed. Time has moved forward, and degrees have been linked to good jobs and then politicians have seen it as a private benefit. Moved from publicly subsidized to now a different model. Showing data to legislators is important. Higher ed is important to supporting an economy. College educated people contribute more to society, pay higher taxes, and are less likely to become involved in criminal activities. Useful information, though not sure there is much we can do about it.
STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
	Makarius - Building awareness of 24-26 strategic plan. Have hard copies here today. Look online to see up to date information. April had a strategic plan summit, celebrated the 5 collaboratives that have done work. Lifelong learning, flourishing people and social impact – 3 strategic plans moving forward. Well attended summit. Look forward to continuing the conversation, please let me know if you would like to be involved.
GUEST SPEAKER – SHELLY KELLER - PURCHASING	
	Shelly gave a PowerPoint presentation Travel Presentation Spring 2024.pptx Questions: Everett – work in small department, surprised by fees. Where can we get information on that?

	Keller – service fees are how travel group gets paid. We are working on how to reduce those fees. We know they are ways to book on your own, and we’re figuring that out. We’re working on it. Meeker – there’s fees associated with booking, a lot of folks see those, talk about how the university might save money going that route. A lot of people are not seeing that. Keller – we’re all coworkers on campus. Hope to combine those fees and go back to travel group to ask for a better deal. Have told them we need the best pricing possible each and every time. We are always asking if there is a way to reduce the cost. Have talked to others who use Christopherson and others who have gone elsewhere, will be getting new contract in Fall, and we’ll look for the best prices. Huss – if someone is making travel arrangements and finds better rates, should they stop and email the agent or you to find out how to do that? Keller – in our cost savings is also the time spent working on a trip. Hate to do this right now, snip and copy me and/or the agent. I’ll get involved and help get someone to work on it. The agency does not always get the “Expedia” price. If you’re in a hurry just reach out. Shelly also shared this document for information: Travel Infographic.pdf
	COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL
	• Budget and Finance – met in April with Misty Villers, got current assumptions that we had planned to share today, president asked us to pause on that. Met last week with Misty, provost and president, new information. Things we’re looking pretty good, but we don’t know exactly what is going on with it. We’ve been told we will be looking at a lot of it and not finding out after the fact. Provost – more than happy to take any questions. Data has been shared and there is nothing new. Policy of drawing on reserves is the real issue. Do we want to continue to draw on those reserves or look at reducing expenditures? Working with Jill Bautista to develop budget but may change as we go. Look at the reduction in expenses in next few years. Revenue is the issue. We are in the midst of developing a plan, working with everyone on campus on that. Questions: Carson – I may be wrong but think I’m not. When we sold off parking we were supposed to get a 50 Mil windfall, last June/July president said that 55 Mil would get us about 18-24 months out and give us breathing room. We’re now 9 months out from that and we’re talking about it again. Did that 55 Mil not give us any breathing room? What we’re doing doesn’t ever feel like we’re plugging the hole. Saliga – it is helping with it, but we have a huge hole to dig out of. It’s helping but we have to do more. Wiencek – it reduced the draw on reserves but it’s a policy decision about what level of the draw on reserves we can maintain. Last summer the indications looked good. But now we are anticipating things that we weren’t talking about last summer; decrease in SSI for example. Trying to be responsible with the budget. Trying to stay ahead of the changes.

	- Physical Environment – Stephen Myers gave presentation of campus construction updates 202405 University Council Presentation comp.pdf Questions: Messina – is there a photographic history of before and after on campus, to help people watch changes? With all the campus changes happening, it’s a way to look at what it used to look like. Myers – we have a few before pictures, but not a lot of campus. Have a lot of photos overall, but need to find them. Carson – on the hardscape center of campus. How much of that does the State of Ohio provide anything towards that? Myers – this project is funded by the State of Ohio. Waiting for approval on that. Have asked for 5 mil, waiting to hear on it. Carson – JAR construction area, how long will that take? Myers – should be done in August. Evans – is there a definite plan for space where Exchange Deck is coming down? Will it be green space? Myers – yes, no plan for space. Evans – mentioned art percentage, have not heard that before. Could we commission work from staff or students? Myers – no, done through the State for that. Evans – existing issues on campus – did not see specific things. Understand we have a couple leaking rooftops on campus, being dealt with bladders at the moment. Myers – in this upcoming biennium we don’t have a ton of roofs included. Some of those leaks are not all roofs, some are condensation from AC and sometimes plumbing or roof drain. Trying to address as quickly as possible. Supposed to be temporary solutions. Not pretty but roof leaks are difficult to find. Carson – is capital planning involved with Polsky and what is the status of the work? Myers – capital planning not really involved, more of a support role. The chair thanked Stephen for his presentation and pointed out that there had not been on since before COVID. - Information Technology – targeting faculty in terms of training for Workday. Push out a lot of training during summer months to prepare for Fall. Questions: Evans – in addition to Workday, there are a bunch of faculty waiting to get access to Stellic. Any word on that? Sangganjanavanich – Stellic is secondary to Workday for now, Stellic will be coming. If you don’t have access right now or need more access, put in a ticket.
	CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL
	GSG – Megan Frey introduced herself as the new president of GSG. She reported that the change over in leadership was going on.

	• USG – Grace DeWitt introduced herself as the new president of USG and Elena Kozma as the incoming vice president. Also working on transition to new leadership. • PSAC – met April 20, Steve McKellips spoke. Discussions of end of semester events; bowling event happened and Rubber Ducks night coming up. • SEAC – no report. • Faculty Senate – no report. • Chairs – Heather Walter reported that there would be a new chair of chairs and that she was stepping down July 1. • Deans – working on end of year budgets.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

JUNE 11, 2024

3:00-3:45 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Kim Cole, Grace DeWitt, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Ed Evans, Blair Everett, Tammy Ewin, Tonia Ferrell, Megan Frey, Dan Friesner, Sarah Kelly, Kris Kraft, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Linda Saliga, Sonya Wagner, Heather Walter, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: Stacia Biddle, John Corby, Elena Kozma, R.J. Nemer, Maxwell Pastoria Absent without notice: John Huss, Brant Lee, Stephen L. Myers, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Catherine Strain, Eli Strohecker, Eric Veigel, Julia Wood Other attendees: Suzanne Bausch, Aimee DeChambeau, Heather Howley, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Patti Huth, Wendy Lampner, Steve McKellips, Patricia Miller, Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval, Michele Novachek, Christin Seher, Michelle Smith, Mark Stasitis,
Agenda topics:	
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	15. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. 16. The chair made one correction to the agenda; the removal of the President's Remarks as President Nemer was unable to attend. The revised agenda was approved. 17. The minutes of the May 14, 2024 meeting 2024-5-14-minutes-university-council-final.docx were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The Executive Committee met May 28 and discussed the following topic submissions: - Scholarship for International Students – to Student Engagement, include Steve McKellips - Electric Car chargers on campus – to Physical Environment - Student Work Study budget constraints – to Budget/Finance, cc Student Engagement - IT Support Issues –to Information Tech - An update of all TS on spreadsheet and responses was requested. UCEC Invited Steve McKellips to speak on FAFSA at the June UC meeting.

	A discussion regarding the conflict with December UC meeting with BOT meeting – decided to move the UC meeting to the week before (December 3).
PROVOST’S REMARKS	
	Wiencek – have a new president, former dean of COB, search for next dean will happen soon. Forming committee to begin work in summer. Charge and composition in process. We have a new interim Chief Financial officer – Misty Villers appointed to the role. She’ll be giving us an update at a future meeting. There are a lot of questions about the financial situation, can give general comments. But we also have a new president and BOT meets tomorrow to discuss. So not a lot of details yet, converging set of concepts coming together, shared govt will continue to play a role in that. Want to be measured and careful in making decisions. Experiencing a slowdown in HR functions at the moment, trying to move through requests as soon as possible. Still methodical view of hires. Enrollment – FAFSA has thrown curveball on that for all universities. Overall, we’re doing very well considering all that has happened, it has been a good year so far. Flat enrolment, possible up. The challenge will be to get confirmations turned into enrollments, expect people will be closing the gap late due to FAFSA issues. Not out of line given the FAFSA situation. Ohio State opened the ceiling on their freshman class so that affects all of us. If they take too many this year, will they take less next year? We don’t know that yet. There were no questions.
STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE	
	The chair shared a message from the Fellows: they continue to work on implementation of academic plan and are working with President Nemer to bring him on board and to understand his plans. Stay tuned.
GUEST SPEAKER – STEVE MCKELLIPS, VICE PROVOST, ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT	
	Address FAFSA situation: Why does the FAFSA impact me directly? Fundamentally, FAFSA is the only way a student can get a Pell Grant, financial aid, scholarships. The entire country was behind. FAFSA went live on Jan 1 and then crashed. Applicants were locked out if they made a mistake. Some waiting months to be able to get back in. Mid-January we are usually loading packages, we did not get them until March, and many had errors. Had to wait for feds to redo all packages. We were manually printing letters the weekend of March trying to catch up. Workday did not have a good way to package our students, so we had to really work on getting it together.

	Last week we got the packages out to returning students. Our process has now accelerated with our changes to the process. When OSU admits 25% more students, that's 9,000 students who might have come to other schools. Feel like that is a big thing to happen at the moment. Typically, people won't register until they know they are getting money. Question: does that potentially change enrollment dates for students who are trying to decide? McKellips – yes, almost all schools changed their deadline to June 1. Don't know how many schools will extend their deadline. Most schools will be open to late applicants. Students just didn't have enough time to find their money and apply. Question: how should we as faculty who don't have the knowledge that you do, when a student says their package was not what they expected? McKellips – tell them to call financial aid. We can look at their record. This is the kind of stuff where we have well intended populations, and FAFSA has now changed all the formulas. They also forgot to include inflation calculations. Steve shared a PowerPoint presentation The chair thanked Steve for the presentation. There were no questions.
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	- Budget and Finance – have met, nothing new to report. - Institutional Advancement – committee has worked on scholarship presentations.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	- GSG – all going good. - USG – doing work internally and preparing for next year. - PSAC – met May 20, meet next week. Discussion of what our committee did to help with search and when we might be able to invite President Nemer to a meeting. PSAC put together an event at Rubber Ducks. It is time for new PSAC members and have put out call to new members. - SEAC – seeking nominations for Ziptastic Awards, nominations can be made on our website. - Faculty Senate – no meetings in summer. - Chairs – no meeting this month, busy with enrollment management. The chair pointed out that this is Heather Walter's last meeting as chair representative and thanked her for her service.

	Deans – getting ready for next year.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	None
NEW BUSINESS	
	None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

JULY 9, 2024

3:02-3:24 PM

LH 208 & TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Stacia Biddle, Kim Cole, Grace DeWitt, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Ed Evans, Tammy Ewin, Tonia Ferrell, Dan Friesner, John Huss, Sarah Kelly, Kris Kraft, Stephen L. Myers, R.J. Nemer, Maxwell Pastoria, Linda Saliga, Catherine Strain, Sonya Wagner, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: John Corby, Megan Frey, Elena Kozma, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Absent without notice: Blair Everett, Brant Lee, Eric Veigel, Julia Wood Other attendees: Matthew Akers, Phillip Allen, Michelle Banis, Suzanne Bausch, Kelly Bialek, Christine Boyd, Bernadette Citano, Celeste Cook, Aimee DeChambeau, Melinda Grove, Marlene Huff, Brian Humm, Patti Huth, Emily Janoski-Hachlen, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Steve McKellips, Paula Neugebauer, Daniel Reichert, John Reilly, Deanne Reynolds, Scott Roberts, Christin Seher, Mark Stasitis, David Szalay, Patrick Tabatcher, Misty Villers, Jessica Whitehill, Morgan Yanke
Agenda topics:	
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	18. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. 19. The chair made one correction to the agenda: the removal of the report from the Provost Fellows. This will be permanent. The revised agenda was approved. 20. The minutes of the June 11, 2024 meeting 2024-6-11-minutes-university-council-final.pdf were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL	
	The chair stated that due to the current financial situation, the strategic planning fellows will no longer be working on UPG. She shared her thanks to Erin Makarius, Angela Hartsock and Matt Juravich for their work and collaboration on the strategic vision documents and for their work on the plan. The Executive Committee met June 25, there were no new topic submissions received, but there was discussion about the procedure for handling incoming submissions. When a submission is received it will be posted in the UCEC Teams folder for review and discussion, a decision will be posted in the Teams folder on what committee it will be

	sent to. If a submission requires more discussion before being forwarded, that will take place at the next UCEC meeting. The chair will share topic submission updates at each UC meeting. The guest speaker list was discussed and possible speakers for the upcoming year were discussed. If anyone has an idea for someone they would like to speak to the UC, please contact Chair Ferrell. UCEC discussed Copilot and its use in committee meetings. The chair communicated with committee leaders and only one committee responded favorably to the use of Copilot in their meetings. There was concern about recording meetings where members might not have protection. Concerns will be discussed. There was also discussion on the transition in university leadership.
PRESIDENT’S REMARKS	
	Nemer - thanks for the opportunity to speak today. Been about 2 months since I took this on, many have received the survey, thank you to those who have completed it. Have had time to make my own observations but thought it was time to hear from you. Thank you to Tammy and her team for their help. Over 600 responses were received. Still in the process of reading. Why am I doing it? Will use in conjunction of using ideas to put together committees on various number of topics to address as a university community. Would like everyone to be able to participate. Who we are and what we are in the next chapter. Rethinking the budget and making decisions is tough but needed and have to decide what we need to do to get to the next chapter. The best lesson from the survey was that once the survey went out right before the holiday, we had about 400-500 responses in the first hour. People really have something to say. Want to keep that momentum going, give everyone the opportunity to share. Look forward to sharing more of that with you. Meet with BOT and UA leadership tomorrow to discuss our way forward. Tammy will announce who won the parking spots soon. Look forward to meeting all of you. Hope those of you who are off are enjoying their time. Questions: • Last year, Becky Erickson and Wendy Lampner led an effort to get a lot of the same responses from campus as those in the survey. You might want to reach out to them for the information they gathered. Nemer – have seen some information from the Provost Fellows and would like to see the information from them as well to see if things have changed. • Large response would indicate you still have a critical mass of people who care. That has not changed. The population of those who care shrinks and grows. Glad to hear you received such a large response. Nemer – appreciate the thoughts that were sent in, not just one-word replies. We have something wonderful here, something worth growing and protecting.
PROVOST’S REMARKS	
	Wiencek – First item is enrollment; we’re tracking an expected lag in confirmations, OSU increased their draw, so we expected to see more students go to them. A lot of potential upside is on the international side. Strategically allocating money to respond to

	a drop. We must wait to see how responses go. Headed into a strong year but FAFSA fiasco has affected everyone. Could be a potential rebound. Leading shared governance to give overview of BOT discussions and moving forward. Feel that there are many areas on the communication front to be addressed. Future of graduate school and decision making with Faculty Senate, this is a faculty-based decision. In general, the president and BOT have ideas of groups to employ to create our vision moving forward. A lot of work to be done and by fall hope to have specific action items to work on. There were no questions.
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• Awards – will start meeting in October. • Budget and Finance – brainstorming and meeting. -a question was asked about how the group going to be participating in budgeting process moving forward. Chair Saliga responded that the last meeting had a lot more discussion and brainstorming than in the past. Discussions going on and think it's getting better. • Campus Wellness – have met, have some great ideas coming up. If you're interested in helping with "Banana Day" that is happening on campus, being done at other schools, we are looking at how we can do it here. Getting some fun competition going on. • Communications – currently no chair, no report. • Information Technology – no report. • Institutional Advancement – no report. • Physical Environment – things going well, received three topic submissions and will respond later this month. • Student Engagement – received three topic submissions in June, we took those into consideration; Steve McKellips gave us an update on International students, Polsky topic submission was sent to Aramark, John responded to the topic submission on student employment. • Talent Development – no report. • Social Engagement – watch Digest for August event.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• GSG – no report. • USG – doing internal work and focus on next semester.

	• PSAC – no report. • SEAC – no report. • Faculty Senate – no meetings in summer. • Chairs – no report. • Deans – finished budget cycle, moving to getting students in the door.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

AUGUST 13, 2024

3:00 – 3:37 PM

TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Stacia Biddle, Kim Cole, Grace DeWitt, Melissa Dreisbach, Tracie Epner, Blair Everett, Tonia Ferrell, Megan Frey, Dan Friesner, John Huss, Elena Kozma, Kris Kraft, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Stephen L. Myers, Maxwell Pastoria, Linda Saliga, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Eric Veigel, Sonya Wagner, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: John Corby, Tammy Ewin Absent without notice: Ed Evans, Sarah Kelly, Brant Lee, Catherine Strain, Misty Villers, Julia Wood Other attendees: Matthew Akers, Michelle Banis, Suzanne Bausch, Kelly Bialek, Nicholas Campana, Jeanete Carson, Celeste Cook, Aimee DeChambeau, Mark Fridline, Charles Guthrie, Becky Handley, Emily Janoski-Haehlen, Matt Juravich, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Wendy Lampner, Tim McCarragher, Steve McKellips, Meredith Merry, Patricia Miller, R.J. Nemer, Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval, Melissa Olson, Gwen Price, John Reilly, Mark Rittenour, Scott Roberts, Christin Seher, Michelle Smith, Mark Stasitis, David Szalay, Patrick Tabatcher, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill, Katie Willis
Agenda topics:	
	CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL
	21. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. 22. The agenda was approved as distributed. 23. The minutes of the July 9, 2024 meeting 2024-7-9-minutes-university-council-working.docx were approved as distributed.
	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL
	UCEC met July 23, approved mins of June. No new TS. Talked about topic submissions – Kris and Heather are working on a better way to track progress of submissions, file on UCEC Teams folder to see progress. Begin tracking follow up to committees and work to improve follow up to respond to submitters. Discussed guest speakers for fall, Ali Doehring invited to speak at Sept meeting, all UC meeting in October. Budget & Finance to give report at Oct meeting. UCEC Aug meeting led by Meeker as Ferrell will be out of country. UCEC sent a memo to Budget & Finance requesting more details in report outs.

	Topic submission update – one new submission on student org advertised on UA webpage, referred to Comm/Stud Eng – response is that it is progress and working with GSG on this.
PRESIDENT’S REMARKS	
	Nemer – good afternoon everyone. Talking with provost earlier is would love to incorporate I’m happy to answer any individual questions in meeting, happy to engage and address things that are important to you. New chief strategy officer, Matt Juravich, appointed recently. Big part of making campus a community is to give everyone a chance to be heard. Academics, athletics, development will all be part of this. Matt to put together an architecture to put together groups to dig in and come back with observations on how we operate and engage and fulfill our mission. Those groups will be made up of members of BOT and will curate those with guidance and input from Kate, Tonia, Toni to get a collective voice. Opportunity for everyone to engage across the board. Trying to authentically put into practice shared governance. Some of the best ideas that have come across my desk were from conversations that were unexpected. Look forward to doing that across campus. Will share that at our back-to-school meeting at the beginning of the month. Welcome Matt to our conversations. Tonia, if it’s okay with you I’ll entertain questions. Questions: • Can you talk about the timeline for budget decisions, BOT does not meet until September. Nemer – thinking through best allocations of budget. I’ve cut just shy of \$900,000 and that includes the addition of Matt’s new role. I’ve taken out some things I don’t think we need right now to lead by example. Other areas will be part of the conversations of these ad hoc groups. Look at outside resources as well. Conversations about utilizing our assets more; use our stadium to generate additional revenue. Rethink our footprint, 8 million square feet to utilize or get rid of it were not using. We have not been making pan-university decisions without input from our various groups across campus.
PROVOST’S REMARKS	
	Wiencek - I would like to acknowledge Nick Campana and Tom Waltermire into meeting, look forward to their work on the committees were forming, none of our BOT members get paid for their work. Enrollment – not a lot has changed from last meeting, modest decline in enrollment primarily due to FAFSA rollout and its effect. Transition in Bursar’s office is going on as well. Want to give shoutout to Steve and his team for their response to things. Trying to be more proactive to messages that are generated in new system. Overall, looking at a small decline, in single digits. In budget forecasting already. A lot of our time has been spent with shared governance and meeting with ECs. We’ve invited Akron AAUP into discussions as well. Our financial future and decisions related to it. If you want more details encourage you to reach out to those people. The Budget and

	Finance committee is spending a lot of time on new budget and everyone has been giving a target. Reductions in adjunct budgets and other areas, realize this is an adjustment for everyone and necessary for us to move forward financially. Thank you for your flexibility. COB search group is formed and starting work. Goal to get people on campus as soon as possible with goal of getting someone on board by spring semester. We really do want to seek quality candidates. Finally want to say that we have a lot of data that is managed, the business side of university has rebranded as PSI – they do a great job, we were looking for a new chief data officer, thought we should not continue in that search. Some of that money was used to meet budget reductions. Updating of dashboards in Workday and other areas, so we are going to go with an external provider to do that work. Purchases will be occurring in that regard. This is in the need category. Working groups forming and some curiosity about what is going on in the budget. Nervousness about decisions being made without communication with campus, that is not happening. Communication with representatives of groups. Questions • I appreciate what you said, curious about new approaches to enrollment and financial aid, not throwing money at students who may not need it. Right model groups. Modest decline offset by maybe keeping revenue levels? Wiencek – thank you, it is a highlight. Students that show are typically going to be paying more tuition this year than previous years. A 1% decline doesn't mean a decline in money. Revenue could still go up. McKellips – early estimates suggest we'll produce more revenue this year despite the decline in enrollment. Last year's discount rate was 60%, this year could be closer to 40%. • Will the dean search be national or internal? Wiencek – It will be national, using the same search firm we have used for nearly every dean search. They give us what we need at a good price.
	COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL
	The chair reminded everyone that we are at the end of the UC year, minutes should still be filed every month even if committee did not meet. Annual reports are due September 13, should be a summary of the work of the past year. Goals are due September 30. If you are losing a chair, vice chair or secretary the administrator should convene meeting in September to elect officers. Information should be sent to us as soon as the elections are done. • Awards – no report. • Budget and Finance – met on July 25th. We discussed the topic submission about student jobs. Campus units use their own budget to employ student workers. Our recommendation is that the students contact Career Services to explore other on campus employment opportunities.

	We discussed the outsourcing of housing. A few options are being explored including public-private partnerships and refinancing ourselves. The option to refinance ourselves would give the institution more flexibility. All options are being explored regarding housing to understand the cost/benefit and will not rush into making any changes. We reviewed the debt schedule. Looking at refinancing about \$76M. The budget was pushed out that day with 10% reductions in operations. For open positions, 35% of the dollar figure was saved to the department budgets. Open positions are on hold and being reviewed. This budget has a \$23M draw on reserves – the goal is for a draw of no more than \$20M. We have another \$3M to trim. • Campus Wellness – no report. • Communications – no report. • Information Technology – no report. • Institutional Advancement – no report. • Physical Environment – no report. • Student Engagement – no report. • Talent Development – no report. • Social Engagement – August event on hold, October event is still happening, date coming soon.
CONSTITUENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	The chair pointed out that appointments should be sent to Heather by September 2 so that UC knows who voting members are by the September 10 meeting. • GSG – changes in GSG, running an election right now. • USG – onboarding new members for upcoming year. • PSAC – met 7/25, had a question/answer with President Nemer on plans for the university. Elections are just finished wo will be onboarding new members. • SEAC – no report. • Faculty Senate – no meetings in summer. • Chairs – no report. • Deans – working with chairs & directors to set up for Fall semester.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• September meeting there will be elections for chair and secretary. Call for nominations coming from Heather.
GOOD OF THE ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	• HR shared Lunch and Learns on wellbeing and mental health recently. Next event August 21 at Noon on Supporting Individuals with Disabilities and on September 4 at Noon on Addiction. • If anyone is rolling off UC, thank you for your service to UC and your work in shared governance. • Thank you to all of those working behind the scenes in Workday; Steve McKellips and his team as well as Registrar and Advisors. The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 pm.

University Council

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

3:03 – 3:42 PM

LH 208 AND TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Marilia Antunez, Stacia Biddle, Kim Cole, Tracie Epner, Ed Evans, Blair Everett, Tonia Ferrell, Megan Frey, Dan Friesner, John Huss, Elena Kozma, Kris Kraft, Brant Lee, Nate Meeker, John Messina, Stephen L. Myers, Linda Saliga, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Amy Trunko, Eric Veigel, Misty Villers, Sonya Wagner, Nick Weber, John Wiencek Absent with notice: John Corby, Grace DeWitt, Tammy Ewin, Absent without notice: Sarah Kelly, Catherine Strain Other attendees: Suzanne Bausch, Aimee DeChambeau, Alison Doehring, Melissa Dreisbach, Charles Guthrie, Becky Handley, Kathleen Hauenstein, Brain Humm, Patti Huth, Marcinda Jackson, Matt Juravich, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Wendy Lampner, Olivia Lane, Steve McKellips, Patricia Miller, Michele Novachek, Gwen Price, Scott Roberts, Christin Seher, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill, Sheldon Wrice
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	24. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. 25. Elections were held for the positions of Chair and Secretary of the University Council. Tonia Ferrell was elected to a two-year term as Chair and Kris Kraft was elected to a two-year term as Secretary. 26. The agenda was approved as distributed. 27. The minutes of the August 13, 2024 meeting 2024-8-13-minutes-university-council-working.pdf were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT NATE MEEKER	
	As Chair Ferrell was not in attendance at the UCEC meeting in August, Vice Chair Nate Meeker gave the UCEC report. The UCEC met August 27 and discussed a topic submission on student organizations and university social media. The submission was forwarded to the communications and student engagement committees for response. UCEC also discussed participation in UC committees and there will be communications coming out about that. John Messina was also added to the agenda as a guest speaker for September along with Ali Doehring.

	PROVOST'S REMARKS
	Wiencek – Good afternoon. I'll be sharing similar comments to my report to Faculty Senate last week. We are gathering census data and numbers are coming in that were expected but good. We are down about 1%, maybe a bit more but close. First-year class is reduced due to issues with FAFSA and larger enrollment allowances at the big Ohio universities. We feel we have turned a corner in our approach and the financial aid strategies. A right fit is important. We're hitting the projected numbers and happy with that. That is good news. We also had a hiring freeze last spring and worked over the summer with Misty Villers to identify ways to have a process for strategic rehiring and put funds towards the debts. We will be meeting with groups across campus to provide more detailed information and to speak to the changes were looking at to move the university through in coming years. We are focusing on student experiences. We want our students to have a positive experience, in recruiting all the way through graduation and also focus on life after campus. It is a heavy lift to focus on all those areas at once. But setting big goals and working hard to meet them. We are having discussion on visioning groups and the president's memo outlined that. We remain engaged and if you have a chance to serve on a committee, we encourage you to do so. The president is working on innovative ideas to reduce debt and bring in income. We continue to focus on international recruiting and have had gains in that area over the past year. You'll be seeing a memo from me about those areas coming soon. Our students' experience is most important. Questions: In speaking on student experiences, are you considering all aspects of student experiences? Athletics and other areas as well? Provost – We recognize the importance of our students having a great experience here, that they feel their time and passion were well placed in The University of Akron. We're proposing to look at how we do our work and how to empower people to make decisions without waiting for permission, across many areas.
	GUEST SPEAKER – ALI DOEHRING, SENIOR DIRECTOR, ZIP ASSIST AND STUDENT AFFAIRS DEVELOPMENT & JOHN MESSINA, VICE PRESIDENT, STUDENT AFFAIRS – ODHE GRANT
	Ali shared her presentation UC Update on ODHE MH Support Grant 9-10-24.pdf. Questions: ADHD testing, is that through ZipAssist or Counseling and Testing? Doehring – Counseling and Testing. Messina – looking for ways to continue with more grants, programs or majors centered.
	COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL

	Secretary Kraft reminded committees that goals and annual reports are due soon, committee reports are up to date. • Awards – no report. There are opportunities to get involved. Calls to join coming out soon. • Budget and Finance – met August 22, reviewed fiscal year. Budget at about 5 Mil less than what was budgeted. Discussed assumptions being used for 2025 budget – 3% increase in tuition guarantee, plant fund will remain flat, overall draw on reserve to be about 8 Mil less than this year. Look for ways to increase revenue and decrease costs. The consultant is reviewing discounts. Goals have started to take shape. • Campus Wellness – met in August, worked on goals to align with goals coming from President Nemer. Looking for help with the Banana Games, contact me if interested in helping. • Communications – no report. • Information Technology – no report. • Institutional Advancement – met on September 6, discussed announcement from Kim Cole – nurse anesthesia program opening. Precision manufacturing center opening soon. Update on Knight Polsky Building – plans under revisions. Approximately 130 endowed scholarships that are gender-aligned, looking to rewrite to law. • Physical Environment – no report. • Student Engagement – no report, meeting in next couple of weeks. • Talent Development – no report. • Social Engagement – watch for announcement of October event in Digest.
	CONSTITUTENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL
	• GSG – GSG is strong this year, elections have finished. We are full. Initiatives to come. • USG – Introduce our new UC rep, Ann Trunko. • PSAC – met on August 19, welcomed new members, finalized constituency members, elected officials and should be getting new PSAC folks in committee meetings. • SEAC – meeting coming 9/19, sent email to members to join. • Faculty Senate – met last Thursday, elections of myself and Kris Kraft to UC. We had several curriculum proposals, CRC work continues.

	- Chairs – had a chance to meet with Gwen from OAA, Mark and Sarah to discuss bookstore processes. We are set to follow up with different groups regarding this. - Deans – work reflected in Provost’s remarks.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	None
NEW BUSINESS	
	None.
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
TONIA FERRELL	
	The Chair commented that if members came to the meeting and did not find their name on the sign-in sheet or did not have a name tent, reach out to Heather (hl@uakron.edu). Transitions to new members are happening. The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 pm.



University Council

MINUTES

OCTOBER 8, 2024

3:03 – 4:02 PM

LH 208 AND TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair

NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Member: Stacia Biddle, Tracie Epner (UCEC), Ed Evans (UCEC), Blair Everett (UCEC), Tonia Ferrell (chair), Megan Frey (UCEC), Dan Friesner, John Huss, Elena Kozma, Kris Kraft (secretary), Brant Lee, Nate Meeker (vice chair), Linda Saliga, Amy Trunko, Sonya Wagner, John Wiencek Absent with notice: Marilia Antunez, John Corby (AA), Grace DeWitt (UCEC), Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich Absent without notice: Kim Cole, Nicolina Kravljaca Other attendees: Suzanne Bausch, Cristine Boyd, Eric Brisker, Jeanette Carson, Sheau-Huey Chiu, Gershon Cohen, Celeste Cook, Lisa Craig, Asoke Dey, Scott Dilling, Karima Elgarroussi, Tammy Ewin (AA), Becky Handley, Kathleen Hauenstein, Jennifer Hebert, Brain Humm, Patti Huth, Matt Juravich, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Leslie Kallenborn, Rhiannon Kallis, Sarah Kelly (AA), Lori Kidd, Wendy Lampner, Olivia Lane, Erin Liggett, Steve McKellips, John Messina (AA), Renee Mudrey, Stephen L. Myers (AA), Paula Neugebauer, Melissa Olson, Gwen Price, John Reilly, Jordan Renna, Scott Roberts, Lisa Sabol, Christin Seher, Michelle Smith, Mark Stasitis, Ally Temsey, Misty Villers (AA), Tom Waltermire (BOT), Nick Weber (AA), Katie Willis, Kim Wise AA – appointed administrators BOT – Board of Trustee member UCEC – members of the University Council Executive Committee
	CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL
	28. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. 29. The agenda was approved as distributed. 30. The minutes of the September 10, 2024 meeting 2024-9-10-minutes-university-council-final.pdf were approved as distributed.
	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT NATE MEEKER
	Chair Ferrell welcomed everyone to the full UC meeting; welcomed committee members attending. The chair then shared an orientation to University Council UC Overview Presentation 10-2024.pptx. The chair then shared the EC report: The UCEC met September 24; there were no new topic submissions, there was a discussion about topic submissions in general, only seeing one or two per month, discussed ways to bring attention to the campus community. The provost was to speak to the president about making a statement to the campus community on topic submissions and the process for submitting. Also, discussion on getting information to constituency groups. No official guest speaker for October as it is the full UC meeting. Scheduling through rest of the year was discussed. UCEC decided guest speakers were helpful and will continue to have them, turning focus to students for the upcoming year, looking to schedule guest speakers from student organizations. The chair shared that a topic submission was received by UCEC after their meeting, related to parking fines for incorrect parking. The submission was referred to Student

	Engagement and Success and cc'd to Jared Coleman of UAkron Park. The provost also emailed individuals asking for more signage as well.
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS R. J. NEMER	
	The president greeted UC and invited everyone to attend the internal State of the University address on Wednesday, October 16. He continued by sharing that he and the provost are starting small group discussions as they begin visioning for the future and to kick off the strategic analysis team's component of Vision 2030. They have distributed invitations to participate in the strategic analysis teams in the areas of enrollment and academics; branding and marketing; organizational culture; athletics; development; and facilities. The committees will include representation from students, Board members, faculty and staff from units across campus. He updated the UC with information about the ribbon cutting for facilities that increase student opportunities; thanks to the UA Foundation Women in Philanthropy, the School of Nursing opened the nurse anesthesia surgical lab. At the end of last month, the Timken Foundation Center for Precision Manufacturing was opened in a beautiful new facility that will provide new student research opportunities. There has also been some significant development with the Cleveland Browns partnership. A group of UA colleagues from across campus went to visit the Browns' facilities, many of which we now have access to reserving as part of the partnership. There was a call for course proposals that went out and there were multiple submissions received. Last week a couple hundred people attended the 10th annual Leadership and HR Advisory Board Conference at Quaker Station. This continued the College of Business's slate of programming exploring advancements in AI. There is outstanding work continuing throughout campus. Despite that, the enrollment issue does continue to loom, and of course, we need to be very cognizant of our financial situation. Part of the Vision 2030 planning process involved gathering ideas from all stakeholders about enrollment, potential growth areas, providing unique experiential learning opportunities to students and increasing our recognition and reputation. If you have any ideas for the planning process, especially salient ideas to increase enrollment, please don't hesitate to come to us with those. Last week, an announcement and invitation was distributed to join small group discussions with me on Vision 2030. Those initial timeslots will simply be dedicated to the sharing of ideas and Q/A from faculty and staff. There were no questions for the president.
PROVOST'S REMARKS	
	Census report has been pushed out, saw ABJ article. Positives in data, things to be proud of: we've taken on switching financial aid and paying attention to matching aid and what has been received. Several million added to our pool from that. Applications and admits were up over 10%, FAFSA may it difficult, but we still feel we had a good showing this past year, we're up by 2.9%, that includes CCP and international students. Overall new student numbers are up. Transfers are up 15.4%. Doubled international students. That's going to become a focus for us over the next year or two, we have the capacity to bring in both undergrad and grad in that area. Master up 7.8%, Wayne up by more than

	2%. All in all, we're closing the books on a successful year, want to see it continue to grow and turn to the next cycle. Retention numbers are just out, thanks to Fedearia and her team, retention is a hands-on deck activity for all of us. Meeting the needs of students. We've seen an increase of 9%, to 72% this year. Focus on pushing that number up. We use high impact practices to increase retention and grad rates, focus on learning communities and those students involved in those are up 2%. More students in the communities as well as cohorts and such are working to achieve retention. Plenty going on and happy to answer questions. Questions: - A couple of ideas; students in ECH, or Wayne, these students are racking up credits and going wherever, the more we can make them part of the main pool of the campus the more likely they are to stay. Faculty from the main campus go out into HS where it's being offered and to Wayne to give them a feel for the main campus. Another thing is to create as many incentives as possible to keep them here, they come with a lot of credits, give them opportunities for grad work with possibilities for staying. A lot of ways to keep them and get more credit hours from them. More that could be done. Wiencek – there is a lot going on, Greg Dieringer and his team work hard to get students incorporated in UA. High number who matriculate to campus, approaching 40%, but you're right, there is always more we can do. Look at us as a viable option for their ongoing education. Might want to ask Rick to come in and talk about ECH and ideas.
CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER REMARKS MATT JURAVICH	
	The university's new Chief Strategy officer introduced himself. Quick overview – strategic planning, operational decision making, and many are involved in this. Teams have formed and priorities on that front. Marketing and branding is important and our collective brand, that team will have its first discussion tomorrow. Strategic positioning and thanks to those participating. Athletics is a hot button item in context to the financial situation. They will start meeting in the coming weeks; we will do a thorough review of not only the finances, but our role in division 1 athletics. We have no preconceived notions of where that will lead. Important discussions. Last two-year planning cycle, myself and Angela Hartsock and Erin Makarius were leading that. Meeting UPG EC to reengage and keep tabs on the work of strategy teams. That's all I have for now. Happy to entertain questions. No questions.
COMMITTEE REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• Budget and Finance – Misty Villers gave a report on the FY25 budget. UC FY25 Budget.pptx Questions: - SSI – formula and how it's divided? Is there a floor? Villers - there is no floor. We are working to make sure we are reporting everything accurately and what we can do to increase that. We are three years in arrears, so we are taking the hit now from the decline in students. It's a portion of what we are compared

	to other universities. We may increase, but others could increase more. Lots of conversations are going on at state level. - Assumption of 10% increase in operating budget, how is that reflected in this? Villers - continuing obligations – 3 mil in insurance, advertising budget, things that aren't operating budget. Putting together a list of obligations that we are going to look at and how to reduce. Get rid of some licenses perhaps. Need to drive that number down. Fixed expenses. The chair thanked Villers for presentation and for the Assumptions in particular. Significant step in transparency. • Awards – started planning for spring awards, we will start asking for volunteers for reviewing and nominations in the next 4-5 weeks. • Campus Wellness – starting planning for RooFit, coming in January. We'll be working with KSU again, step challenge. We were short last year by a few steps. • Communications – no report. • Information Technology – conducted a survey on goals we wanted to work on this year. Narrowed down the goals: enhancing the Workday applications and Wobble. Research other institutions and how they are using those platforms. Upgrading classroom tech, focus on materials available. Targeted surveys of students and faculty on their tech needs. And improving the My Akron portal; will work with web designers and programmers to look to integration with Workday. Our goals are about enhancing the experience for students, faculty and staff. • Institutional Advancement – no report. Meet on Friday. • Physical Environment – no report. • Student Engagement – met Sept 23, elected Stacia Biddle chair. Assessed goals. • Talent Development – met Oct 4, elected Stephanie Davis-Dieringer chair. Mental health for campus culture focuses, educate and engage the campus in mental health goals. • Social Engagement – Halloween themed event on October 30, 11 am-2 pm. Dress up for extra raffle tickets, fun time with Zippy, bowling and snacks.
	CONSTITUTENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL
	• GSG – We had our first meeting of the year this last month. We swore in our new members, worked on building up our group and planning events, and team building has been our focal point. We want to be strong this year and incorporate all of the great ideas from each of our senators. We are down a Senator for the College of Health and Human Sciences. We want to do a good job for all graduate students, so we are interested in ensuring that we are considering graduate students from this college as well. GSG also has a good group of Senators this year, so I have no doubt that we will do our best to

	represent graduate students. GSG received our budget and approved it for the year. We also worked with USG on the International Student Lounge Dedication on October 9th, and we look forward to continued collaboration with USG in the future! USG also mentioned at Faculty Senate that we are working with them on an event at the Akron Art Museum, which we are very excited about! - USG – Introduce our new UC rep, Ann Trunko. October 7th from 10 am-2 pm is the mental health fair in the Student Union Concourse; a collaborative event that USG was able to assist with by providing food and refreshments. UAPD meet and greet on October 8th from 11 am – 1 pm in the Student Union Piano Lounge; students will get the chance to meet UAPD officers and enjoy some free pizza and Zippy cookies. And the International Lounge dedication coming October 9th from 11 am – 1 pm in the Student Union, this ceremony recognizes the refresh done to the International Lounge in an effort to highlight our international student population and make them feel at home on campus. USG will also host an event called Bridging Campus and Community with Akron Mayor Malik on October 22 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm where Mayor Malik will introduce himself to students and there will be an open discussion on topics related to the City of Akron. On the horizon USG has the Professional Development speaker series for students, Rethinking Race which USG is planning an event to encourage student groups to submit proposals. And the Bicentennial event planning – a collaborative event with GSG for late spring or early fall of 2025. - PSAC – met September 15, set some rules for the year. Meet again in a few weeks. - SEAC – met September 19, focus on filling spots on our board. Secretary is stepping off. Nominations for Ziptastic awards. - Faculty Senate – met week. - Chairs – no report. - Deans – one update – thank you to faculty and staff for their recruitment push, thanks also to advisors and recruiters.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	None
NEW BUSINESS	
	None.
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
	John Messina thanked everyone who worked on the planning and orchestration of Homecoming, from Alumni to Student Life and all the others involved, Dr.
TONIA FERRELL	

	Messina reported there was great weather and great events across campus for the weekend. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.
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University Council

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 12, 2024

3:00 – 4:23 PM

LH 208 AND TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	Members: Marilia Antunez, Stacia Biddle (SES chair), Stephanie Davis-Dieringer (TDHR chair), Grace DeWitt (UCEC), Tracie Epner (UCEC), Ed Evans (UCEC), Blair Everett (UCEC), Tonia Ferrell (chair), Megan Frey (UCEC), Dan Friesner, John Huss (IA chair), Kris Kraft (secretary, CW chair), Nate Meeker (vice chair), Linda Saliga (BF chair), Amy Trunko, Sonya Wagner, John Wiencek (ex-officio) Members Absent with notice: Members Absent without notice: Karima Elgarroussi (IT chair), Elena Kozma, Nicolina Kravljaca, Brant Lee

	Other attendees: Matthew Akers, Michelle Banis, Suzanne Bausch, Cristine Boyd, Vivian Campbell, Jeanette Carson, Kim Cole (AA), Celeste Cook, Lisa Craig, Aimee DeChambeau, Tammy Ewin (AA), Becky Handley, Kathleen Hauenstein, Brain Humm, Patti Huth, Matt Juravich, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Wendy Lampner, Olivia Lane, Maureen Lerch, Erin Liggett, Steve McKellips, Meredith Merry, John Messina (AA), Stephen L. Myers (AA), Gwen Price, John Reilly, Martha Reynolds, Christin Seher, Michelle Smith, Mark Stasitis, Ally Temsey, Misty Villers (AA), Tom Waltermire (BOT), Nick Weber (AA), Jessica Whitehill, Katie Willis, Alison Winters, Kim Wise AA – appointed administrators BOT – Board of Trustee member UCEC – members of the University Council Executive Committee
CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	31. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. 32. The agenda was approved as distributed. 33. The minutes of the October 8, 2024 meeting 2024-10-8-minutes-university-council-final.pdf were approved as distributed.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT NATE MEEKER	
	UCEC met October 22 and continued the discussion of guest speakers for spring, looking to focus on student experience. Discussed the status of strategic planning and the UPG going forward and Matt Juravich was invited into the meeting to speak about his role as chief strategy officer. UPG is comprised of content experts and UCEC. Concerns were expressed about the role of UPG in the new structure. They are not looking to be a “rubber stamp”, but to be involved in discussions. The decision was made to cancel the December 3 UC meeting due to conflict with the Service Awards ceremony. TS about parking and ticketing of students without front plates. Sent to Parking and Phys Env. Parking responded that changes are being made to website, orientation and signage. The first ticket will now be a warning, without a fee. Good response from UAkron park.
PROVOST’S REMARKS	
	The Provost gave an update on enrollment: • Enrollment is looking good with a 3% increase in responses and an 8% increase in enrollments. • Compared to two years ago, admits are up by 57%. • OSU not taking an extra 9,000 students this year and that will be beneficial. • Focus on integrating donor-based scholarships into packages rather than using them as one-offs. The Provost also shared that he has been involved in ongoing discussions with faculty regarding voluntary separations to potentially avoid retrenchment.

	He also gave kudos to those who put together the recent Next conference. Questions: • Concern about changes in Washington leadership affecting international students. Provost: Similar impacts as the first administration; need to be agile and seize opportunities. • Inquiry about voluntary separation for staff or professional staff. Provost: Current CBA allows this for faculty, not for staff/professional staff. • Clarification on admits relative to two years ago. Provost: Admits are up 8.3% compared to last year and 57% over two years. • Impact of FAFSA changes. Provost: No significant impacts expected; the process should be smoother than last year. • Concerns about international students. Provost: Positive outlook on admitting college graduates; internal processes are being improved.
CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER REMARKS MATT JURAVICH	
	Juravich – wanted to highlight a couple key messages that came out last week. Of the strategic teams, marketing and branding have worked hard, kudos to Deb Owens for their work. Culminated with positioning exercise to give to our consulting group. They will be on campus in early December doing information gathering. Also be facilitating the visioning exercise after the first of the year. They will also be helping us out with PR and communications. Look forward to them coming to campus. Highlight also about the departure of our athletic director, that is a part of our bigger discussion about Athletics, have met three times over the past weeks and discussing legal aspects and review initial data. Will convene in early 2025 to discuss alternative revenue generating. Think those are the two main updates. Questions: • Can you elaborate on visioning exercise to be facilitated? Juravich – the goal will be to craft UA vision 2030, part of the rebrand and identity discussion that needs to coincide with this. That group is trustees, students’ presidential leadership, community and AAUP, Faculty Senate and UC. Larger project underway around brand continuity and what’s the right move in the competitive market we are in. That visioning piece will be one of the strategic themes. • Follow up on question – if not a member of one of the constituencies being represented, some faculty in my dept have asked about getting information to the group. Juravich – providing means or mechanism to campus to provide information and have people get a chance to share input.
GUEST SPEAKER – ESPORTS STUDENTS, ROWEN STEYN, GRAHAM SCHAEFER AND NATHAN FLINT	
	Advisor Nate Meeker shared a presentation. UC Esports Presentation.pdf

Questions:

- Tell us more about your pictures?

Students explained about various pictures on their pages.

- This is really interesting, most interesting is that my guess is that The University of Akron is really good at and now we get international attention from it too. What is the potential for attracting international students to Akron? To what degree is that catching on? People on Twitch from all over the world.

Meeker – we are doing that right now, when it started it wasn't the goal but now know that the expansion will come from international students. Working with international recruiters.

- How many students are involved at this time?

Meeker - 40-45 on sport side, about 650 on the club side, 2-3,000 involved in gaming activities. 700 engaged per week.

- What is the capacity?

Meeker – we are maxed out now. Seats are full every night. Everything for Esports happens in the evening. Looking at how high school scene is growing right now, about 600 students will graduate with Esports interest.

- How active are we today compared to what we could be in promoting ourselves to those students?

Meeker – about a high school and half per week, some have 15-25 students, some have 75-100 students. If we look to expand we could start to market it more. We only take 4-5 students each year.

Provost – we are looking at more space now.

**NATIONAL SURVEY FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
RESULTS – MARLENA LEWANDOWSKI, LEAD
INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH INFORMATION OFFICER PSI**

Marlena shared her presentation. [NSSE November 2024.pdf](#) [NSSE24 Selected Comparison Groups \(U Akron\) November 2024.pdf](#)

Questions:

- Are all the institutions handing out the survey at the same time?

Lewandowski - Window that it goes out. We used a wide time period because it had not been done in so long.

- Demographics of students who responded?

Lewandowski – have access to that data but not here today.

- Follow up - would be good to know that information.

Lewandowski – we can look into that. Was not going to start manipulating the data till I knew more.

- How do we get information from the survey?

Lewandowski – plan to release the data at some point. Can answer specific questions, you can email me.

	Price – we’ve talked about ways to get results publicized. A lot of universities have a dedicated web page. We haven’t done it in a long time so best to look for trends as we do it more. • Thanks for sharing all this, at Alumni Relations we are always looking for a happy ending to our student’s time here. Would be interested in helping our students end happy with their experience at UA. Lewandowski – can look for that information. Provost – our seniors were here during the heart of COVID, so it was a less than normal experience. • You didn’t say much about the biggest word there (professor) and wonder if it was because it was on their mind a lot. Lewandowski – when the professor was associated with the section, some of it was what you expect – professor not available was one I saw often – they weren’t always negative, the word just came up a lot in their comments. • It’s obvious that professors are vital to the student’s experience, maybe if just that idea was communicated to faculty on that. Could be transformative to their experience. Provost – I agree. • You said you didn’t get many responses, what would you say was the amount of responses? Lewandowski – would have to look for that. Got about 500 responses.
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COMMITTEE REPORTS		TONIA FERRELL
	• Awards – thank you to everyone for response, most diverse as well in representation. Great group to be working with. • Budget and Finance – met, will start looking at policies, Misty will give us work. • Campus Wellness – working on RooFit, announcement coming with that about the Health Fair associated with it. • Communication – met in October, elected cochairs and secretary, set meeting schedule and reviewed goals. • Information Technology – no report • Institutional Advancement – met on Friday, Nate Newhouse (development) talked to group on CHHS development. Many community partners for CHHS could benefit other areas of campus. • Phys Env – no report. • Student Engagement & Success – no report.	

	• Talent Development & Human Resources – met a 11/1, developed subcommittees for goals. • Social Engagement – Halloween event was held, thank you to committee for their work on that. Great time with bowling food, raffle prizes. Zippy was also there. Be on the lookout for next year.
CONSTITUTENCY REPORTS TONIA FERRELL	
	• GSG – GSG held their October meeting ○ Big focus on Senator involvement and empowerment ○ USG/GSG Akron Art Museum collab Nov. 13 4-6pm ○ Following the results of our event survey, we planned a few upcoming events, particularly the timing of events being best for evenings and weekends ○ Graduate Student Meet and Greet Nov. 23rd ○ Graduate Student tour with Cummings Museum Nov. 20th ○ Appointed a new CHHS Senator following the GSG Constitution and bylaws, and now GSG has a full Senate again. We are looking forward to the bright insight of our leadership team this year! • USG – - Mental Health Fair ○ October 7th from 10:00am - 2:00pm in the Student Union Concourse ○ Collaborative event that USG was able to assist with by providing food and refreshments. - UAPD Meet and Greet ○ October 8th from 11:00am - 1:00pm in Student Union Piano Lounge ○ Students get the chance to meet UAPD officers and enjoy some free pizza and Zippy cookies - International Lounge Dedication ○ October 9th from 3:30pm - 4:30pm in Student Union International Lounge ○ This ceremony recognizes the refresh done to the International Lounge in an effort to highlight our international student population and make them feel at home on campus. - Bridging Campus and Community with Mayor Malik ○ October 22nd from 5:30pm - 6:30pm in the Student Union Theater ○ Akron Mayor Shammass Malik will be introducing himself to students, followed by open discussion on topics related to the City of Akron. - On the Horizon: - Professional Development speaker series for students - Rethinking Race involvement ○ USG is planning an event and has outreached to numerous student organizations on campus to encourage them to submit proposals - Bicentennial event planning ○ Planning a USG event as well as a collaborative event with GSG ○ Likely late spring or early fall of 2025 • PSAC – met 10/21, finalized members and talked about events that already happened.

	• SEAC – elected new secretary and in the process of electing new chair. • Faculty Senate – met last week, discussion around budget cuts, retrenchment. • Chairs – no report • Deans – in middle of recruitment, shoutout to Kim for events. Thank you to faculty and staff and students who attend.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
	• None
NEW BUSINESS	
	• None.
GOOD OF THE ORDER TONIA FERRELL	
	• The December UC meeting has been canceled as it conflicted with the Service Awards, the chair wished everyone a happy holiday • John Huss emphasized that Rethinking Race is next week. Moved to Diversity Week in the Fall. Great events planned. Equity in Healthcare on of the topics. • Kim Cole shared that the call for submissions for Women in Philanthropy is coming up, watch Digest. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 pm.