University Council

MINUTES  OCTOBER 10, 2017  3 – 4:45 PM  ZOOK HALL 108

MEETING CALLED BY  Harvey Sterns, chair
TYPE OF MEETING  Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER  Harvey Sterns, chair
NOTE TAKER  Kim Haverkamp

ATTENDEES

Member: Philip Allen, Linda Barrett, Taylor Bennington, Michelle Byrne, Julie Cajigas, Jeanette Carson, Jared Coleman, Elizabeth Erickson, Tonia Ferrell, Kristen Giaquinto, Diane Gorse, Marjorie Hartleben, Katherine Holcomb, Nancy Homa, Kristine Kraft, Lynn Lucas, Chand Midha, Mike Nelson, Ruth Nine-Duff, Rex Ramsier, Linda Saliga, Shiva Sastry, Harvey Sterns, Matt Wilson

Absent with notice: Marca Kaplar, Néna Roy,

Absent without notice: Taylor Swift, Trent Weigand

Other attendees: Roland Bauer, Pam Brandenstein, Barbara Caillet, Harry Cheung, Celeste Cook, Kim Cole, Aimee deChambeau, Olivia Demas, Alison Doehring, Dorothy Gruich, Jolene Lane, John MacDonald, Ian McCullough, Melanie McGurr, John Messina, Stephen Myers, Kristen Foy Samson, Shawn Stevens, Joette Dignan Weir

Agenda topics:

3:00 – 3:05  CALL TO ORDER  HARVEY STERNS

1. The chair called the meeting to order and thanked standing committee members for attending. University Council is an important part of shared governance and this annual meeting of UC and committee members gives us an opportunity to discuss together how to help the University be successful and grow.

2. The chair asked for additions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

3. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the September 12 University Council minutes. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

4. The chair read the attached Age Friendly University motion response from President Wilson. He recommends adoption of the initiative and asks the UC to implement it.

3:05 – 3:13  EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT  HARVEY STERNS

DISCUSSION

1. The chair reviewed the attached September 19 UC Executive Committee minutes.

2. The secretary is working with University Communication and Marketing to distribute a summary of each UC meeting to the campus community via the Digest.
3. There was a discussion about creating an ad hoc Human Development Committee to rethink what we are doing about human development as a course of study. This will be a joint committee with Faculty Senate.

There was a motion to support the creation of an ad hoc Human Development Committee. **The motion carried** by a secret ballot vote of 21 in favor and 1 opposed.

3:13 - 3:25 ACTION ITEMS  

1. The UC voted on the following proposed changes to the UC Bylaws:
   - D(4): The university council shall define its year to begin September May first, so that terms expire August thirty-first April thirtieth of the following year. **The motion to support carried** by a secret ballot vote of 22 in favor and 0 opposed.
   - D(5): The university council shall consist of twenty-five seven voting members.
   - D(5)(e): Two members: The president and senior vice president and provost and chief operating officer (SVPP) shall be ex officio but non-voting members. **The motion to support carried** by a secret ballot vote of 21 in favor and 0 opposed.
   - D(8)(b)(iv): The duties of the vice chair are to assist the chair in such ways as the latter may request; and in the absence of the chair, the vice chair presides over the meetings of the committee. **The motion to support carried** by a secret ballot vote of 21 in favor and 0 opposed.
   - D(8)(b)(v): The duties of the secretary are to record, transcribe and distribute the proceedings of the committee to committee members and the university council, assist the chair in such ways as the latter may request, arrange for orderly conduct of the business of the committee, and in the absence of the chair and vice chair, the secretary presides over the meetings of the committee. **The motion to support carried** by a secret ballot vote of 21 in favor and 0 opposed.
   - G(1)(d): For purposes of conducting business, a quorum of the council shall be a majority of the filled council seats members present in person.
   - G(1)(e): For purposes of conducting business, a quorum of the standing committee shall be a majority of the filled committee seats members present in person. **The motion to support carried** by a secret ballot vote of 20 in favor and 0 opposed.

2. The Physical Environment Committee reviewed and approved the Space Allocation Form to move UA Adult Focus to the Polsky Building (suite 467, suite 469, room 465). **The motion for approval carried** by a secret ballot vote of 18 in favor and 0 opposed.

3:25 – 3:42 STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS IN-DEPTH STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT  

Michelle Byrne, chair, discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation regarding the committee goals for 2017-18.

The following was discussed:
- Improve communications with students
- Use of “Help A Zip”
The following was discussed:

Thank you:
• Board chair Roland Bauer and vice chair Olivia Demas for attending UC meetings
• Everyone who played a role in homecoming weekend; 1,200 people participated in homecoming events
• UC members for their efforts in committee meetings and engagement across campus

Enrollment:
• Overall enrollment decreased 4.5%; UA planned for a 5% decrease
• Undergraduate enrollment is close to 22,500
• Increase in college credit plus students
• Graduate enrollment decreased 12.5%; number is deceptive because of adjustments made to graduate assistantships

Budget:
• We started FY18 with a $29 million deficit
• Operating budget will be adjusted to reflect spending from last year; units will receive same operating budgets from 2015-16.
• Everyone needs to be prudent with expenditures

New initiatives:
• Non-resident tuition for out-of-state-students will be reduced to $15,500 per year from $19,500
• The Akron Guarantee Scholarship will be expanded to populations beyond traditional students, including adult students, transfer students and former qualifying UA students who “stopped out” more than three years ago
• We have increased online/weekend programming (flexible learning options) to attract more non-traditional students
• We are recommending to the Board of Trustees the return of men’s baseball and the introduction of women’s lacrosse; the Department of Development is fundraising for academic scholarships; we expect the sports to generate revenue and media exposure
• We are recommending to the Board of Trustees the introduction of e-gaming; we expect e-gaming to attract students and draw positive attention to UA

The following was discussed:
• See Provost Updates on the OAA website, www.uakron.edu/provost, for matters of importance to our academic mission
• Provost Ramsier attended the Inter-University Council (IUC) Provosts’ meeting. The following was discussed:
  o The State Budget Bill included numerous mandates for universities
  o Report on the cost of remedial education will be presented to the Board of Trustees before it is sent to the Chancellor
- Report on duplicative programs will be presented to the Board of Trustees before it is sent to the Chancellor
- Provost Ramsier is on the Provosts’ Textbook Subcommittee; UC ad hoc Textbook Committee should keep him informed of their progress
- IUC Provosts will convene a special meeting in November to continue discussion about applied bachelor degrees at community colleges and other issues
- The Chancellor is setting eligibility requirements for College Credit Plus; the IUC Provosts can make recommendations

**Council of Deans:**
- Doctoral program funding: Colleges have been allocated the same funds as last year
- Masters program funding: Students admitted this fall are held harmless for two years and the funds have been allocated for their continuance. Colleges also received masters funding for next year’s incoming class with specific amounts to be used for tuition and for waivers.

### 4:16 – 4:45 COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget and Finance:**

1. The committee made the following recommendation:
   UC Budget and Finance Committee recommends that the UC endorse the resumption of Men’s Baseball and the addition of Women’s Lacrosse with reservations. As indicated in the financial pro forma reviewed with the UC B&F Committee, we commend the administration for their leadership in recommending the use of academic scholarships instead of Athletic Scholarships to support these programs. We strongly encourage them to pursue any and all donor engagement strategies to reduce the general fund support for these programs in the future. In addition, we strongly recommend that the students who receive scholarship for these programs must be required to stay in our campus dorms for their first two years in the program.

   Expanding general fund athletic support at this time when UA faces fiscal challenges concerns us. For the continued wellbeing of the university, we strongly recommend a detailed financial review of all athletic support on campus to create a specific plan that can reduce the general fund support for athletics over the next three years.

   A comment was made that this recommendation would impact local students. The current housing policy exempts students from living in the dorms if they are within the five-county region. Students outside the region are required to live in the dorm for one year.

   A motion was made to support the recommendation. **The motion carried** by a secret ballot vote of 13 in favor and 5 opposed.

2. The committee made a recommendation to allow undergraduate students to take graduate classes at the undergraduate tuition rate.
   The following comments were made:
   - This would only apply to Graduate School credit; not Law School credit
   - This would not apply to 3+ programs
   - Undergraduate students in the plateau (12-18 credits) would not pay for the
A motion was made to support the recommendation. The motion carried by a secret ballot vote of 16 in favor and 2 opposed.

**Communications:** They are conducting a preliminary investigation into branding best practices for higher education and identifying key branding constituent groups at UA.

**Information Technology:** They are discussing consolidating faculty, staff and student emails on the same platform and shared network storage space.

**Institutional Advancement:** They are continuing to gather information about scholarship best practices. They discussed this topic with Rita Klein, Health Professions Dean’s Office, and will discuss it with Mary Schadle, Student Financial Aid.

**Physical Environment:** The committee recommends that routine Space Allocation Forms be approved at the committee level. The Space Allocation Form can be sent to the UC upon the request of a committee member.

**Recreation and Wellness:** They have been working with Alma Olson on TB testing for international students and will bring a presentation and recommendation to the UC. The American Lung Association recognized UA at their meeting for going smoke free.

**Talent Development and Human Resources:** They are working on a request to revisit the creation of a sick leave bank. They are also working with ITL on a talent development program for the non-academic sector.

**Ad hoc Textbook Committee:** They have generated ideas to get a baseline of the top 20 classes and programs per college. They would like to develop a toolkit on ways to lower textbook costs.

**Ad hoc Awards Committee:** They reviewed previous awards and will create new award descriptions and a new award process.

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<th>4:45 - 4:45</th>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>HARVEY STERNS</th>
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<tr>
<td>DISCUSSION</td>
<td>The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. by unanimous consent.</td>
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