

University Council

MINUTES

APRIL 11, 2017

3 – 4:52 PM

STUDENT UNION 312

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| MEETING CALLED BY | Harvey Sterns, chair | |
| TYPE OF MEETING | Monthly Meeting | |
| PRESIDER | Harvey Sterns, chair | |
| NOTE TAKER | Kim Haverkamp | |
| ATTENDEES | <p>Member: Philip Allen, Linda Barrett, Megan Bodenschatz, Michelle Byrne, Julie Cajigas, Mike Cheung, Jared Coleman, Elizabeth Erickson, Kristen Giaquinto, Nick Golina, Nancy Homa, Kristine Kraft, Isaac Lampner, Chand Midha, Ruth Nine-Duff, Néna Roy, Shiva Sastry, Michael Spayd, Harvey Sterns, Matt Wilson</p> <p>Absent with notice: Tonia Ferrell, Diane Gorse, Marjorie Hartleben, Rex Ramsier, Cassie Verardi</p> <p>Absent without notice: Marina Pelemis</p> <p>Other attendees: Taylor Bennington, Olivia Demas, Wayne Hill, John Messina, Nathan Mortimer, Lakeesha Ransom, John Reilly, Bill Viau, Barbara Weinzierl</p> | |
| Agenda topics: | | |
| 3:00 – 3:03 | CALL TO ORDER | HARVEY STERNS |
| DISCUSSION | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The chair called the meeting to order. He asked for additions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the March 14 University Council minutes. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent. The minutes will be posted to the UC website and SharePoint site. | |
| 3:03 – 3:24 | ACTION ITEMS | HARVEY STERNS |
| DISCUSSION | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There was further discussion about the Recycling and Composting Initiative. A motion was made to lay the question on the table. The motion carried by unanimous consent. The Communications Committee chair discussed the attached Technology Student Communication Report and Resolutions regarding mobile application development and Zipmail improvements. <p>There was a motion to support the following resolutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Whereas student communication is important to retention and reputation at The University of Akron, and whereas research has been conducted on the communication needs of students at The University of Akron, the University Council resolves that resources should be identified and allocated to University Communication and Marketing in order to address student communication challenges through the redesign and development of an updated mobile application, considering the priorities listed in the attached report. | |

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| | <p>II. Whereas student communication is important to retention and reputation at The University of Akron, and whereas research has been conducted on the communication needs of students at The University of Akron, the University Council resolves that University Communication and Marketing should consider and implement changes to Zipmail listed in the attached report in order to improve student experience with this important information channel.</p> <p>The motion carried by a secret ballot vote of 19 in favor and 0 opposed.</p> |
| 3:24 – 3:49 | <p>PRESIDENT'S REMARKS MATT WILSON</p> |
| DISCUSSION | <p>The following items were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UA, Cleveland State, Kent State and Youngstown State are discussing the state's Tuition Guarantee Program that would allow students in the same cohort to pay a fixed rate for four years. • The Governor's Office may challenge Institutions of Higher Education to reduce the burden of textbook costs to students by 50% over 5 years. • CFO Mortimer is working with the UC Budget and Finance Committee to develop a budget for the next fiscal year. Departments have been underspending by 5-10%. • The first seat deposit deadline is May 1. We are seeing a 20 – 23% increase over last year. • Center for International Students and Scholars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We are not hiring a VP for cost savings purposes ○ The Executive Director of International Recruitment began in February ○ The Executive Director of Global Engagement will begin in May ○ The search for Director of the Center for International Students and Scholars is ongoing • The new Akron Guarantee Scholarship requires students to opt in. The Admissions team is calling students and parents and 90 – 95% of the students contacted are taking the scholarship. Approximately 752 students have opted in so far. We are increasing revenue with every student that opts in. • Ernst and Young are continuing to look at enrollment, scholarship and SSI. The Dashboard Team will develop processes to make data more accessible. We will need to put systems and people in place to maintain the processes. • The administration is working with AAUP on the TARP program. • Bits and Atoms: UA is dedicating time and effort; not money. CFO Mortimer met with all deans and leadership. We are about one year from relocating and construction. |
| 3:49 – 4:00 | <p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT HARVEY STERNS</p> |
| DISCUSSION | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chair reviewed the attached March 21 UC Executive Committee minutes. 2. The following items were discussed at the April 10 Special Information Session of the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics discussion, including the resignation of Coach Dambrot and the hiring of Coach Groce. • Future planning and approaches; resources are limited. • Staff opportunities for career development and skill enhancement. • Textbook discussion, including alternate resources (i.e., library resources and Springboard). <p>The Board plans to have two more sessions.</p> |

4:00 – 4:23

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
IN-DEPTH STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

NATHAN MORTIMER

DISCUSSION

Nathan Mortimer, appointed administrator of the Information Technology Committee, discussed the attached [Information Technology Services \(ITS\) Update](#). The following items were discussed:

- Considered migration of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to the cloud, but decided to stay with PeopleSoft for the next 3-5 years and not incur migration costs. The student module in the cloud is not robust yet.
- Verizon put 350 distributed antennas on campus increasing cellular service across campus and in the residence halls. The cellular service at Wayne College still needs to be rectified.
- The wireless and wired networks are being upgraded. The residence halls haven been upgraded.
- A laptop refresh is planned for FY18.

A suggestion was made to allow faculty to purchase their own laptops and get software support from UA to save the cost of a refresh. Nathan Mortimer explained that it is important to have expert security mechanisms on devices used by employees. The laptop refresh is an investment.

4:23 – 4:45

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

DISCUSSION

Budget and Finance: No report.

Communications:

- The committee is working on student centered initiatives.
- They are discussing the need for an Institute for Teaching and Learning, where faculty can come together to talk about the scholarship of learning. A suggestion was made to contact Faculty Senate because they are also discussing this topic.
- They are working with the Recreation and Wellness Committee to develop a survey regarding food insecurity. The survey is expected to be ready in the fall.

Institutional Advancement:

- The committee is planning a discussion among colleges/departments regarding best practices for connecting students and donors.
- There was a motion to support the decision to discontinue leasing the following parking lots. The cost savings will be \$50,000 annually.
 - Methodist Church near ASB
 - Greek Orthodox church near Olin Hall
 - The Chapel near Route 8
 - Broadway Parking Deck near Quaker Square

The motion carried by a secret ballot vote of 17 in favor and 0 opposed.

Physical Environment: The committee is working on a space plan for Simmons Hall. UC members should visit Zook Hall to see the new flux chandelier.

Recreation and Wellness: The committee is working with the Communications Committee on the tobacco free campus initiative and a survey regarding food insecurity.

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| | <p>Student Engagement and Success: The committee is revamping their goals due to the scholarship changes.</p> <p>Talent Development and Human Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chair discussed the attached report. A suggestion was made to get input from the leadership of SEAC and CPAC. The chair will ask the constituent group representatives to get input from their group. • The chair reminded the Executive Committee to consider scheduling the proposed Committee Alignment Workshop in May. <p>Ad hoc Awards Committee: Harvey Sterns reviewed the attached University Awards document. A suggestion was made to have the Communications Committee involved in marketing the awards to campus. Julie Cajigas and John Messina volunteered to be on the committee.</p> |
| 4:45 – 4:52 | <p style="text-align: center;">NEW BUSINESS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">HARVEY STERNS</p> |
| DISCUSSION | <p>UA is hosting a Retirement Planning Fair on Monday, April 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Student Union Ballroom A. Representatives from the University’s Benefits Administration, SERS, STRS and nine vendors for the Alternative Retirement Plans (ARP), 403(b) and 457(b) will be available.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm by unanimous consent.</p> |