# University Council

## MINUTES

**DECEMBER 3, 2019**  
**3 – 3:50 PM**  
**STUDENT UNION 312**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEETING CALLED BY</th>
<th>Ruth Nine-Duff, chair</th>
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<tr>
<td>TYPE OF MEETING</td>
<td>Monthly Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESIDER</td>
<td>Ruth Nine-Duff, chair</td>
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<td>NOTE TAKER</td>
<td>Kim Haverkamp</td>
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**Member:** Phil Allen, Arnob Banik, Linda Barrett, Jared Brown, Ann Bruno, Ed Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Marjorie Hartleben, Brittany Hartman, Kristine Kraft, Paul Levy, Mary Jo MacCracken, Gary Miller, Ruth Nine-Duff, Mark Okocha, Dane Quinn, Linda Saliga, Shiva Sastry, Julia Spiker, Shawn Stevens, Joe Urgo

**Absent with notice:** Jeanette Carson, Katie Cerrone, Kris Nakoneczny, Isaiah Smith, Amanda Stefin

**Absent without notice:** None

**Other attendees:** Andrew Adolph, Taylor Bennington, Cristine Boyd, Kim Cole, Mike Dowling, Steve Kaufman, Willy Kollman, John MacDonald, John Reilly

## Agenda topics:

### 3:00 – 3:03

#### CALL TO ORDER

**RUTH NINE-DUFF**

1. The chair called the meeting to order and asked for additions or revisions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

2. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the Nov. 11 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

### 3:03 – 3:07

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

**RUTH NINE DUFF**

The chair reviewed the attached [November 26 UC Executive Committee minutes](#).

### 3:10 – 3:20

#### PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

**GARY MILLER**

The following were discussed:

- He recognized the Board members in attendance: Mike Dowling, Andrew Adolph and Taylor Bennington
- He thanked UC members for their great work and service on the UC
- He concluded formal meetings with faculty before the Thanksgiving holiday and will begin meeting with non-academic units, which should be completed in January
- He will continue to meet individual faculty, staff and contract professionals by phone or in person
  - If you would like to schedule a meeting, call Linda Malachin at x7869
- The strategic planning effort is underway and the UCEC is assembling strategic themes and priorities from the three-year action plans
  - It is anticipated that campus conversations about strategic themes will begin in February
- Continuing to look at our models, financial, administrative and other, to move us forward
- He wished everyone a happy holiday season with family and friends
- He wished the students good luck on their exams

**3:12 – 3:20 PROVOST’S REMARKS**

**DISCUSSION**

The following was discussed about student success:
- There has been a paradigm shift in how we educate undergraduate students and we must learn how to help those who are academically behind; this process can take a while to move through the many layers of the institution
- Faculty Senate passed a grading policy that will help students shed the previous performance that is no longer relevant (instead of averaging grades together)
- Many institutions have administrative or procedural rules in place that work counter to the best interests of their students. He provided some examples from other universities.
- He asked UC members to let him know if you see practices that inhibit students’ progress or ways we can improve student success; students should feel supported by us

**3:30 – 3:44 INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT IN-DEPTH REPORT**

**DISCUSSION**

Julia Spiker, chair, and Steve Kaufman, vice chair, discussed the attached presentation and the following were discussed:
- The committee appreciates the participation of the USG and GSG members
- The committee created the UA Scholarship Toolkit, which is an ongoing, online resource of best practices, FAQs, templates, discussion groups, etc.
  - Information was collected from and shared with individuals across campus who work with scholarships
  - The toolkit is located on Brightspace
  - If you know someone who would benefit from the toolkit, please contact Steve Kaufman, skaufman@uakron.edu
  - Julia thanked Steve for his dedication to this project
- This year’s goals will focus on Alumni Affairs
  - Study the guidelines and processes of keeping UA alumni contact information current and complete
  - Study the procedures of how UA alumni are contacted by the university
  - Review peer institutions’ best practices for maintaining alumni contact information

Willy Kollman, Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations discussed the attached presentation about the Office of Alumni Relations and the following were discussed.
- Alumni Association branding
- UA alumni are willing to volunteer their time to help colleges/units and the Alumni Association is receiving more requests than ever before
- There needs to be quality control of alumni data
  - Colleges/units keep and use outdated information
  - Alumni do not receive information if they do not update their contact information
  - The Institutional Advancement Committee will work with colleges/units to get accurate information and will develop a policy for alumni data
- Ways we engage UA alumni

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<tr>
<th>3:44 – 3:48</th>
<th>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</th>
<th>TONIA FERRELL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISCUSSION</td>
<td>Secretary Ferrell discussed the attached revisions to the UC Bylaws Proposal to change the ad hoc Awards Committee to a Special Committee on Awards and Recognition that was presented at the Nov. 12 UC meeting.</td>
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<td><strong>The UC Bylaws Proposal passed</strong> by a secret ballot vote of 17 in favor and 1 opposed.</td>
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<th>3:48 – 3:50</th>
<th>COMMITTEE REPORTS</th>
<th>RUTH NINE-DUFF</th>
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<td>DISCUSSION</td>
<td>The attached committee reports were submitted for UC review prior to the meeting.</td>
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<td>There was a question about when the new scanning software will be available. Linda Barrett, IT Committee Chair, will inform UC of the timeline for implementation.</td>
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<th>3:50 – 3:50</th>
<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
<th>RUTH NINE-DUFF</th>
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<td>DISCUSSION</td>
<td>The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. by unanimous consent.</td>
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