

University Council

MINUTES

AUGUST 13, 2019

3 – 4:10 PM

STUDENT UNION 312

MEETING CALLED BY	Phil Allen, chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Phil Allen, chair
NOTE TAKER	Kim Haverkamp
ATTENDEES	<p>Member: Philip Allen, Arnob Banik, Jared Brown, Ann Bruno, Jeanette Carson, Katie Cerrone, Ed Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Kristine Kraft, Paul Levy, Chand Midha, Kris Nakoneczny, Ruth Nine-Duff, Mark Okocha, Linda Saliga, Isaiah Smith, Julia Spiker, Amanda Stefin, Shawn Stevens</p> <p>Absent with notice: Linda Barrett, Julie Cajigas, John Green, Marjorie Hartleben, Brittany Hartman, Mary Jo MacCracken, Harvey Sterns</p> <p>Absent without notice: None</p> <p>Other attendees: Matt Beaven, Robert Bouscher, Mike Dowling, John MacDonald, John Messina, Nathan Mortimer, John Reilly, Joette Dignan Weir</p>
Agenda topics:	
3:00 – 3:05	CALL TO ORDER PHIL ALLEN
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The chair called the meeting to order and asked for additions or revisions to the agenda. The chair revised the agenda as the president would not be attending and marking remarks. The agenda was approved as revised by unanimous consent. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the June 11 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.
3:05 – 3:10	CHAIR'S REMARKS PHIL ALLEN
DISCUSSION	<p>The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to UA Board Chair Gingo, the presidential search is making good progress Fall semester begin on Monday, August 26 UC Chair Allen would like to see faculty/staff and the administration come together in the spirit of shared governance to address current issues of conflict UC Chair Allen will resign from University Council on August 31. Ruth Nine-Duff will assume the chair role for the remainder of the chair's term ending August 31, 2020. There will be an election for vice chair at the Sept. UC meeting.

3:10 – 3:15	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT	PHIL ALLEN
DISCUSSION	<p>The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Committee will meet with CIO John Corby at the Sept. UCEC meeting to discuss professional development training at UA. • The UC Satisfaction Survey will be distributed in August. The Executive Committee is discussing creating a separate survey for distribution to the broader university community • GSG President Amanda Stefin asked if the Student Bar Association should be included as a constituency group on University Council. There will be further discussion at the Aug. UCEC meeting. 	
3:15 – 3:15	PRESIDENT’S REMARKS	JOHN GREEN
DISCUSSION	President Green was unable to attend.	
3:15 – 3:25	CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER REMARKS	CHAND MIDHA
DISCUSSION	<p>The following were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanks to Phil Allen for his role as UC chair and congratulations to Ruth Nine-Duff for assuming the chair role in Sept. • Welcome to Michael Dowling, Board of Trustees • As of Mon., Aug. 13, enrollment for fall is down 6.4% in credit hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We are still experiencing demographic pressures and competition, as well as seeing effects of APR phase outs. CAO Midha indicated that graduate student enrollment is still challenged and that international student enrollment is down due to political issues at the federal level. • 41 faculty participated in the Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The faculty list has been distributed to deans ○ The Council of Deans discussed critical needs for positions in FY20 and beyond; the deans will provide President Green with their input on where positions should be assigned • Deans, chairs and directors have reviewed a draft workload policy and provided feedback • New Student Convocation will take place on Fri., Aug. 23 at 11:30 a.m. followed by a reception on Coleman Commons • Classes being on Mon., Aug. 26 • Faculty and staff are welcome to participate in Week of Welcome activities 	
3:25 – 3:30	CLOSED PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE	JIM HASKELL
DISCUSSION	<p>The pedestrian bridge that links Auburn Science and Engineering Center with the walkway to the Jean Hower Taber Student Union is being replaced. The new bridge will open by October 2019.</p> <p>The attached map shows routes around the closed pedestrian bridge. The map is available online as well as in the Digest and Zipmail. Flyers of the map will be available at student orientation and in campus buildings. Posters of the map will be posted along campus walkways.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to include the map on social media pages.</p>	

DISCUSSION

CFO Mortimer reminded UC that both UC Budget and Finance and UC endorsed the FY20 Budgets prior to the Board's approval on June 12. CFO Mortimer also reminded UC that it endorsed the proposed FY20 General Fund, Auxiliary Funds, and Department Sales and Services Funds Budgets based upon numbers that were largely but not completely final at its meeting during May. At that time, CFO Mortimer offered to return to both UC Budget and Finance and UC once the Budgets were finalized and approved by the Board of Trustees to review the Budgets again. CFO Mortimer commented that he performed such a review with UC Budget and Finance earlier this summer.

CFO Mortimer reviewed the following documents:

- [UA Funds to Audited Financial Statements](#)
- [Board Approved General Fund FY20 Budget](#)
- [Board Approved Auxiliary Funds FY20 Budgets](#)
- [Board Approved Departmental Sales and Services Funds FY20 Budgets](#)

CFO Mortimer commented on and discussed the revenues and expenditures, and transfers. CFO Mortimer also commented on the use of reserves and the refinance initiative for General Fund debt service and the intentional deficit of the self-insurance fund. CFO fielded a couple of questions including whether he was open to doing a re-budget for FY20 should circumstances merit, much like what was done for FY19. CFO Mortimer responded in the affirmative.

CFO Mortimer also fielded a question about FY19 and commented that FY19 is closed and the financial reports are now being circulated among the respective functional employees for their reviews and those reviews should be completed within the next couple of weeks.

The company that provided health insurance benefits to students, Student Educational Benefit Trust (SEBT), abruptly went out of business in late December.

Insurance coverage is required for all international students and is an elective coverage for domestic students.

The following was a summary of the discussion:

- The Department of Purchasing requested quotes from insurance brokers for international students (660) and for domestic students (230)
- A broker was secured for the international students
- The quotes received for the domestic students were high (\$1,300 - \$1,400) because the number of students wanting coverage is low; many brokers declined to provide a quote
- They will continue to work with the markets to try to secure a plan for the domestic students
- The next update will be in November

A suggestion was made to have a UA representative talk to the Office of Affordable Care and be able to help domestic students navigate the system.

The following questions were raised:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since graduate students have employee IDs, can they get health coverage through the employee health care program? • Will UA provide financial assistance to students who have outstanding medical bills due to the bankruptcy? <p>ZipAssist can provide emergency funds to help students overcome financial obstacles. More information is available at www.uakron.edu/zipassist.</p> <p>Student Health Services can provide health care needs. More information is available at www.uakron.edu/healthservices.</p>
4:00 – 4:10	<p style="text-align: center;">COMMITTEE REPORTS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMMITTEE CHAIRS</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>Budget and Finance: No report.</p> <p>Communications: No report.</p> <p>Information Technology: No report.</p> <p>Institutional Advancement: They are continuing to work on the Brightspace Scholarship Tool Kit and will plan an event for employees who work with scholarships when the tool kit is finished.</p> <p>Physical Environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are working on the UC annual report • They approved a space allocation in Kolbe Hall for network services equipment • They discussed the closed pedestrian bridge • Per a discussion with the City of Akron Traffic Engineer, the intersection of Buchtel Avenue and Hill Street will become a three-way stop on Mon., Aug. 19. <p>Recreation and Wellness: They will bring forth informational items at future UC meetings.</p> <p>Student Engagement and Success: They are working parallel to assist the student enrollment, retention and graduation Tiger Team.</p> <p>Talent Development and Human Resources: No report.</p> <p>Ad hoc Awards Committee: They discussed feedback of the award process. They asked if the ad hoc committee should be changed to a regular standing committee.</p> <p>Ad hoc Human Development Committee: No report.</p> <p>Ad hoc Textbook Committee: No report.</p>
4:10 – 4:10	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW BUSINESS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PHIL ALLEN</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>There will be an election for vice chair and secretary at the Sept. 10 UC meeting.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. by unanimous consent.</p>