University Council

MINUTES  SEPTEMBER 10, 2019  3 – 3:35 PM  STUDENT UNION 312

MEETING CALLED BY  Ruth Nine-Duff, chair
TYPE OF MEETING  Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER  Ruth Nine-Duff, chair
NOTE TAKER  Kim Haverkamp


Absent with notice: Katie Cerrone, Brittany Hartman, Kris Nakoneczny

Absent without notice: None

Other attendees: Taylor Bennington, Olivia Demas, Wayne Hill, Jolene Lane, John Messina, John Reilly, Joette Dignan Weir

Agenda topics:

3:00 – 3:02  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 by unanimous consent.

2. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the Aug. 13 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.

3. The Tiger Team developed strategies to improve persistence to sophomore year, degree completion and enrollment. Dr. Jarrod Tudor presented the recommendations to Faculty Senate. Faculty Senate submitted the recommendations to the president for review.

3:02 – 3:07  EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT  RUTH NINE DUFF

1. There will be an election today for vice chair and secretary. The terms for both positions will be two years.

2. There was discussion about the ad hoc committees:
   a. A proposal is being developed to make the Awards Committee a permanent subcommittee of a standing committee; the UCEC will bring the proposal to the UC
   b. The Human Development committee will continue as an ad hoc committee
   c. The work of the Textbook Committee is complete

3. The UCEC is following up on outstanding topic submissions

4. Standing Committees should send their meeting schedule and meeting minutes to Kim Haverkamp, kh1@uakron.edu
5. The UCEC is following up with constituent groups that have not submitted new members
6. The in-depth report from the Physical Environment Committee has been moved to May because Steve Myers is attending the College of Business Administration Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
7. The chair wants to keep the UC meetings to one hour; we hope to be able to send proposals that require a vote to Council members prior to the UC meeting
8. The UC Satisfaction Survey Results will be reviewed by UCEC and then discussed with the UC

3:07 – 3:17
PRESIDENT’S REMARKS
JOHN GREEN

The following were discussed:

- Dr. Gary Miller was named the 18th president and will begin on Oct. 1. Interim President Green is grateful to everyone for their hard work to move the campus forward in an impressive way over the last 18 months, which resulted in good candidates for the presidential search. Interim President Green is working closely with President-elect Miller for a smooth transition.
- According to the census, headcount is down 6.5% from the same time last year. The number of credit hours is also down, but slightly ahead of projections. However, we have one of the best entering freshman classes in terms of GPAs and test scores that we have seen as an institution. We will continue to work on enrollment in terms of recruitment and persistence.
- Interim President Green is impressed with the Tiger Team report and thanked everyone who participated. The report will be shared with deans, chairs and school directors, who will be asked to consider the Tiger Team’s recommendations during the updates of 3-year action plans.
- Dr. Green indicated 3-year action planning should commence this week. It is time to update the action plans that were developed last year. The process will begin with unit plans, then move to college plans and the University plan. Not only do we need to plan, but also implement the recommendations and be successful in our work as we move UA forward.
- National searches will begin this fall for a chief academic officer and deans of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business Administration, the LeBron James Family Foundation College of Education and the College of Health Professions. Searches for 17 faculty hires are planned in areas with enrollment growth or potential for growth. The searches will be conducted in the current academic year with hires targeted to be in place by fall 2020. Staff hires are under discussion.
- In March, there was a six-month “pause” in the campus wide discussion about a proposed partial reorganization of some academic units. Interim President Green is impressed by what has been accomplished. After consultation with President-elect Miller, any further discussion of reorganization will occur in connection with a new university strategic plan.

3:17 – 3:20
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER REMARKS
CHAND MIDHA

The following were discussed:

- CAO Midha welcomed Mrs. Olivia Demas and Mr. Taylor Bennington, Board of Trustees, to the meeting
- He extended a congratulations to Ruth Nine-Duff on her appointment as UC chair
- The Council of Deans is continuing to discuss the workload policy
• Our biggest challenge is enrollment decline; we are down 6.5% in head count and credit hours
• He extended a congratulations to Wayne Hill, who was named Vice President and Chief of Staff in August
• Retention figures for returning students is not yet available

3:20 – 3:25 OFFICER ELECTIONS

RUTH NINE-DUFF

1. The chair asked for nomination for the position of vice chair and nominees made a statement of interest. **Julia Spiker was elected vice chair** by a secret ballot vote.

   Election Results:
   - Kris Kraft, 9
   - Julia Spiker, 11

2. The chair asked for nomination for the position of secretary. Tonia Ferrell was the only nominee and she made a statement of interest. **Tonia Ferrell was elected secretary** by unanimous consent.

3:25 – 3:33 COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Discussion:

**Budget and Finance:** No report.

**Communications:** They elected officers and are working on revising their goals.

**Information Technology:** No report.

**Institutional Advancement:** There will be a launch event for the scholarship toolkit on Oct. 3 and 4 for employees who work with scholarships. The event will be held in InfoCision Stadium 203. This will be an annual event.

**Physical Environment:** No report.

**Recreation and Wellness:** They are working on proposals regarding immunizations and fitness (“Roo Fit”) that will be brought to the UC.

**Student Engagement and Success:** They held officer elections. They are waiting on a dean appointment. They look forward to receiving the Tiger Team report from Faculty Senate and acting on the recommendations. They will present an in-depth report at the Oct. UC meeting.

**Talent Development and Human Resources:** They are working on the employee discount topic submission. They need USG members.

**Ad hoc Awards Committee:** They are working on a proposal to make the ad hoc committee a permanent subcommittee.

**Ad hoc Human Development Committee:** No report.

3:33 – 3:35 NEW BUSINESS

RUTH NINE-DUFF

Discussion:

VP Messina thanked everyone who participated in welcoming our new students to campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. by unanimous consent.