

# University Council

MINUTES

JUNE 8, 2021

3 – 4:19 PM

MICROSOFT TEAMS

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Tonia Ferrell, chair
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Monthly Meeting
<b>PRESIDER</b>	Tonia Ferrell, chair
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Heather Loughney
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<p><b>Member:</b> Anne Bruno, Jeanette Carson, Will Cole, Laura Conley, Ed Evans, Kathee Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Amy Freels, Katelyn Frey, Grace Kasunic, Kris Kraft, Paul Levy, Tim McCarragher, Gary Miller, Michele Novachek, Scott Randby, Tiffany Schmidt, Shawn Stevens, John Wienczek</p> <p><b>Absent with notice:</b> John Nicholas</p> <p><b>Absent without notice:</b> Katie Cerrone, Shagata Das, JP Garcher, Marjorie Hartleben, Jennifer Manista, Emily Starkey</p> <p><b>Other attendees:</b> Phil Allen, Christine Boyd, Maria Celeste Cook, Aimee DeChambeau, Olivia Demas, Pamela Duncan, Tammy Ewin, Jeffrey Franks, Joshua Grove, Dallas Grundy, Wayne Hill, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Sarah Kelly, Wendy Lampner, John MacDonald, John Messina, Michael Monaco, Nicholas Nussen, John Reilly, Scott Roberts, Linda Saliga, Sonya Wagner</p>
<b>Agenda topics:</b>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CALL TO ORDER</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>TONIA FERRELL</b></span></p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.</li> <li>2. The chair asked for additions or revisions to the agenda. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.</li> <li>3. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the May 11 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.</li> </ol>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>TONIA FERRELL</b></span></p>
	<p>The chair reviewed the May 25 UC Executive Committee minutes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Topic Submissions – there were no new submissions. Existing topic submissions are being closed out, will keep the budget training topic open for now.</li> <li>2. Unfinished business – Sarah Kelly shared the new flexible work policy and took feedback from the UCEC. Bylaw revisions were discussed will be talking with legal counsel on changes. UC orientation was discussed and how to approach that for the upcoming year. Subcommittees were created to address both orientation and bylaws and to bring updates to the UC after work completed.</li> </ol>

	<p>3. Approved the agenda for the June 8 UC meeting.</p> <p>4. The provost thanked the planning group for their work on the strategic planning document. Currently waiting on final response from president and provost.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRESIDENT’S REMARKS</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>DR. GARY MILLER</b></span></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The president thanked everyone for their work on UC.</li> <li>• The president commented that it was a busy week with the Board of Trustees meeting next week and approving the 2022 budget.</li> <li>• Items coming to the Board for approval include the vacation bank proposal and the FY22 budget.</li> <li>• The athletic review report and recommendations will be coming out this week and they will be turned over to the new athletic director to work with the group and others to take action.</li> <li>• The president encouraged everyone to get vaccinated and to pay attention to items moving through the Ohio House that are detrimental to public health.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PROVOST’S REMARKS</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>JOHN WIENCEK</b></span></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provost shared that the emphasis at the moment is on the importance of recruiting. COVID uncertainty is showing in enrollment, noting at 6% decline in the enrollment pool. Need now is to make sure we don’t lose those students who are confirmed, support student orientation and the Roo Experience.</li> <li>• The next step is to think about recruitment of the next class of students. Get marketing and communication out to potential students as well as look at our financial aid packages and tweak scholarships and making it all more understandable. Work is under way to tune our financial aid suites to remove back loading and be more competitive with flat rate monies. Working with Faculty Senate for advice and ideas in developing the packages. Ideas are encouraged.</li> <li>• Looking to the return of employees to campus after July 4, work from home will be available to those who want to continue to work from home. The flexible work policy is in place.</li> <li>• Primary goal of university planning group is enrollment and recruiting and getting freshmen classes to increase, modeling showing a continued decline in enrollment and we are anticipated a small decline in the next year but work continues to increase transfers.</li> <li>• A question was asked about the search for the Vice President of Research. The provost responded that the search committee is poised to start the search in the fall, but that there was not a lot of progress so far. There are many searches coming and some may have to be pushed back another year. But many will start in the fall and run concurrently. Looking to hire a moderate search firm to get a more diverse pool of candidates.</li> </ul>

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

TONIA FERRELL

- Budget & Finance – Dallas Grundy shared a presentation (attached). A question was asked about how the reductions in the budget for athletics are reflected. Dallas shared that there are reductions of about 7 million from 2020 to 2021.
- A question was asked about auxiliary services and whether the contract with Aramark would be revisited. Dallas responded that we are about halfway through the contract with Aramark and that there will be a discussion with them to address the losses. He also shared that EJ Thomas Hall has had significant losses due to COVID but hoping to recoup some of that.
- A question was asked about budget savings from this past year and if they will be allowed to be carried over to this budget year. Dallas responded that monies will not carry over. He did say that decisions were not final yet and that discussion could be had about carryover.
- The resolution to endorse the UA budget was passed 14 Yes and 0 No.

**CONSTITUENCY REPORTS**

TONIA FERRELL

- GSG – Katelyn Frey shared that work has begun on finding insurance options for graduate students without access to health insurance. She also stated that GSG is still searching for members from the College of Health and Human Sciences as well as the College of Engineering and Polymer Science.
- USG – Grace Kasunic shared that USG is focusing on New Roo Orientation and working on student development breakouts.
- Deans – Dean McCarragher congratulated everyone for surviving a global pandemic. He shared that the deans are working on engagement over the summer, orientation and contact with students. They are also working on future enrollments. Developing print materials, electronic materials and videos for recruiting and messaging.
- Chairs – Chair Levy commented that the chairs are also focused on recruitment and retention. Next is getting staff back to campus and focus on melt and not losing confirmed students.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

TONIA FERRELL

Flexible work policy – Sarah Kelly said that the policy should be distributed to campus tomorrow.

**NEW BUSINESS**

TONIA FERRELL

- Anne Bruno made a suggestion to have a “welcome back to campus” event for returning staff the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>. To have a local food truck on the Coleman Commons for community building. It would not cost anything and would be a fun event for the university community. Jeanette Carson volunteered to help out with planning.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 pm.

