



## **University Council Student Engagement and Success**

Minutes: December 13, 2011

Meeting called to order by John Kline 1:00 pm.

**Attendees:** Fey,Charlie; Gannon,Debbie; Kline,John; Levy,Paul; Mothes,Holly; Pavlichich, Andrea; Pleuss,Carol; Steer, David; Thorpe,Lauri; Yu,Jaimie

**Absent:** Herstich,Carolyn; Krovi,Ravi

### **Topic Reports: Guest Speaker, Dr. John Messina, Director Residence Life and Housing**

John addressed questions that were sent to him by the committee regarding the on-campus residency requirement for freshmen and possibly sophomore students.

- **On-campus residency requirement** – there is a requirement in place however it is not strictly enforced because of space limitations. To enforce the requirement, UA would have to add approximately 2,200 bed spaces on campus to accommodate incoming freshmen. One of the major reasons why UA cannot enforce this requirement, even if there was additional bed space, is financial reasons for a student. If a student cannot afford to live on campus, we do not make them. On a plus side, by not enforcing this requirement our vandalism in the residence halls is significantly less than other universities who require students to live on campus. The conduct of the students in our residence halls is good and we hold students accountable for their actions.
- **Why are we hearing rumors about a written policy to make it mandatory for students to live on campus?** – Sasaki Group has been on campus which could be the reason for these rumors. Currently about 10% of our students live on campus in residence halls. Reasonable thought is having students live on campus if they would like to. There is a rumor that sophomores would be required to live on campus. That coincides with OSU having their sophomores live on campus. We have more part-time students than full-time on campus which means they cannot afford approximately \$11,000 to live on campus. Residence halls range from \$5,410 - \$8,484. If our demographic was different we could expect to require our freshmen to live on campus.
- **Benefits for students living on campus** – It is not just about a room, tile, carpet, it is about people checking on you, getting students involved, and student support.
- **Academic success for a first year student vs. a commuter** – Living and Learning communities on campus, very successful. One of the major factors for student success on campus is socioeconomic background and interest in learning.

### **New Topic – Public Policy on campus**

- **Where, When, What** – Freedom/public speech on campus. Groups, students, etc., may be restricted to time, place, manner of speech on campus.
- If the person(s)/group have nothing to do with UA they would probably not be able to hold their public address on campus.
- Open Public Expression Document – Outside speakers cannot be an individual, but can be an organization.

**Next meetings will be determined, time and place.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.