University Council
Student Engagement and Success

Minutes: September 4, 2012

Attendees: Gannon, Debbie; Kline, John; Levy, Paul; Mothes, Holly; Pleuss, Carol;

Absent with Notice: Krovi, Ravi; Thorpe, Lauri.

Absent: Dennis, Bryan; Yu, Jaimie

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm. August 7th minutes approved and seconded with the change noted of future meeting times. Changed times are indicated below.

Old Business:

I. Akron Experience – Focus 2
   • During Freshman orientation at Wayne Campus, the FOCUS2 assessment was handed out to all new freshmen. (see attached).
   • Wayne campus is down in enrollment by 2% (50 students)
   • Akron main campus is down in enrollment by 3-4%
   • Summer enrollment was down
     o Possibly because Pell Grants were cut again this summer.
     o Typically there is not as many courses offered during the summer.
     o Students need to work full-time in the summer to pay for fall/spring.

II. Veterans
    • John met with the veterans’ steering committee on August 9, 2012.
    • Pedal For Heroes -- together with the University of Akron Veteran Affairs Committee -- presents two benefit concerts with proceeds going to local veterans' charitable organizations. Oct 6 in Mentor - Tickets on sale now and Oct 7th in Akron - Tickets go on sale at EJ Thomas next Friday.
    • This Fall The University of Akron will offer a Speech and Hearing clinic for veterans. (see attached).
    • John will recommend to University Council to tap into veterans to meet the 40,000 mark.

III. Goals
    • Practice to explore pathways that could improve student success
      o Paul Levy, Holly Mothes, Carol Pleuss
    • Examine the University’s orientation program
      o Debbie Gannon and Lauri Thorpe
    • Veteran’s Issues on Campus and make them more Veteran Friendly
      o John Kline
    • As a group we decided these goals were still on target for our committee. Also John will ask to have more people appointed to our committee to replace those who have left. We are in need of a co-Convener since Charlie Fey has taken a new position.
New Business:

I. **Financial Aid**
   - Financial Aid is paperless and may be very confusing for students this year.
   - We need to analyze what happened in financial aid this year.
   - Contact Michelle Ellis to speak to our committee re: Financial Aid.

II. **Orientation**
   - The orientation program on campus needs to be restructured.
   - Invite Chris Tankersley to speak to our committee re: Orientation.

III. **Family Housing Issue Brief – Tia Jackson**
   - Tia submitted a letter saying the University does not provide family housing and childcare.
     - The Residence Halls on campus are not structured for family housing.
     - Fir Hill Towers located on Fir Hill does accommodate students with families.
     - The Center for Child Development located on Fir Hill provides child care for students/staff/faculty.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

**Student Engagement and Success meetings:**

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