

University Council

MINUTES

OCTOBER 13

3 – 4:30 PM

MICROSOFT TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Tonia Ferrell, Chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Tonia Ferrell, chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	<p>Members: Arnob Banik, Anne Bruno, Jeanette Carson, Katie Cerrone, Will Cole, Shagata Das, Ruth Nine-Duff, Ed Evans, Kathee Evans, Kevin Feezel, Tonia Ferrell, Marjorie Hartleben, Kris Kraft, Paul Levy, Tim McCarragher, Jennifer Manista, Gary Miller, John Nicholas, Michele Novachek, Scott Randby, Tiffany Schmidt, Emily Starkey, Shawn Stevens, Ben Swanson, John Wiencek</p> <p>Absent with notice: Katelyn Frey,</p> <p>Absent without notice:</p> <p>Other attendees: Katie Cerrone, Laura Conley, Olivia Demas, Randi Depp, Gregory Dieringer, Joette Dignan Weir, Melissa Dreisbach, Elijah Eubanks, Tammy Ewin, Amy Freels, Ankita Gupta, Marc Haas, Greagory Hustack, Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, Grace Kasunic, Jolene Lane, Nancy Lupi, John MacDonald, Nicholas McFadden, John Messina, Jonathan Minnich, Richard Newsome, Steve Patton, Dee Dee Pitts, Stephen Myers, Melissa Seabolt, Stephen Storck, Don Visco, Sonya Wagner, Nathaniel Yost</p>
Agenda topics:	
	<p>CALL TO ORDER TONIA FERRELL</p>
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chair welcomed all the members of standing committees who were attending the meeting. 2. The chair asked for additions or revisions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent. 3. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the September 15 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.
	<p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT TONIA FERRELL</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>The chair reviewed the attached September 22 UC Executive Committee minutes (attached).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion of new UC member orientation. It was decided by the UC Executive Committee to table the orientation for this year due to timing and to discuss bringing it back next year. Will need to discuss best way to do that. 2. Discussed the Office of Academic Affairs reorganization and the UC participation in that committee. The committee has had one meeting.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Discussion of the calendar of in-depth reports; UCEC will review the calendar and decide if it is necessary to have each committee report if they have no current business. Do not want to give busy work to the committees. Reporting goals was also discussed. 4. Topic of access to drinking water in campus buildings has been sent to Eric Green and Physical Facilities committee. 5. Ad hoc Human Development committee has had no volunteers to serve.
<div>PRESIDENT'S REMARKS</div> <div>DR. GARY MILLER</div>	
DISCUSSION	<p>President Miller welcomed all the members of the UC committees and thanked them for their work on behalf of the university.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He updated on COVID testing on campus, UA has received an allotment of rapid tests for use. Doing voluntary surveillance testing. Have had report of one employee in Student Union testing positive, area was shut down and thoroughly cleaned and reopened. Reminder to everyone to get flu shot. • Discussion of commencement and how to make it happen in this environment. Trying to do some type of face-to-face ceremony with groups moving in and out. • Board of Trustees meeting on October 14, will do budget review and approve the hiring of Dallas Grundy as the new VP of Budget and Finance and CFO (?) • The vice chair asked about the Athletics working group and the President responded that they have met and are watching the developments in Division I athletics. • The vice chair asked about the Winter break holiday pay for staff and contract professionals and the President indicated that was going ahead following past years.
<div>PROVOST'S REMARKS</div> <div>JOHN WIENCEK</div>	
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provost shared his perspective on his meeting with UCEC and agreed with their view to look for ways to improve the relationship of UC and university community; reduce busy work and focus on key projects for committees. • Discussed the OAA reconfiguration and announced that IT will now report to CFO. Database and data management are important to work of university and will be through IT • Discussion with Faculty Senate about a formative feedback from students, got great ideas. The survey was launched and encouraged faculty use it but no requirement to do so. No oversight by the administration of the survey. • Recent BOT action supporting the national best practice of retaining student records for five years. In the past that was with gradebooks but now many are using Brightspace. Have discovered that many faculty still using gradebooks and

	<p>written grades. Moving to archiving of all data within next year and working with Faculty Senate on this issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question of whether student were using formative feedback on Brightspace. The Provost shared that 2,000 student provided 4,000 responses. Discussed with the Faculty Senate and vetted the survey before bringing it forward.
<div>REPORTS</div> <div>TONIA FERRELL</div>	
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Graduate Student Government: President Banik shared that the GSG has been discussing fees charged to graduate students at other universities versus the University of Akron. UA was higher in both resident and non-resident than the average charged. Also discussed virtual mental health workshop being coordinated by GSG. <p>A question was asked about access to healthcare for grad students at other universities; Banik responded that the group was still investigating that issue.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Undergraduate Student Government: President Feezel that USG had been reaching out to students to ask about their input on classes and their experiences this semester. Overall students felt safe on campus. Some shared that they wanted more in person events. John Messina congratulated President Feezel on his participation on the Governor's Roundtable and getting funding for UA for mental health initiative. <p>Committee Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards Committee – appealed to new members for the committee, this is not a standing committee so anyone may join. If interested contact John Messina. It was suggested to put request out through Digest. • Information Technology – Discussions with John Corby and have formulated goals for the year. Asked UCEC to get unfilled seats filled for their committee.
<div>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</div> <div>TONIA FERRELL</div>	
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jolene Lane brought the updated Sexual Harassment policy to the University Council. She pointed out the changes that were requested by the UC. A question was asked concerning the Title IX information, Jolene replied that all Title IX information is on the website and can be accessed there. She thanked the UC for their input and suggestions on changes. 2. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm by unanimous consent.

