

*University Council*

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| University Council | | | | |
| Minutes | november 11 | 3 – 4 PM | | Microsoft teams |
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| Meeting called by | Tonia Ferrell, Chair | | | |
| Type of meeting | Monthly Meeting | | | |
| Presider | Tonia Ferrell, chair | | | |
| Note taker | Heather Loughney | | | |
| Attendees | **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  **Absent with notice:** Kevin Feezel  **Absent without notice:**  **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 | | | |
| Agenda topics: | | | | |
|  | Call to Order | | tonia Ferrell | |
| Discussion | 1. The chair began the meeting by changing the agenda, moving Cher Hendricks’ presentation to the Provost’s remarks section. The chair asked for any other additions or revisions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as amended by unanimous consent. 2. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the October 13 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed by unanimous consent. | | | |
|  | executive committee Report | | Tonia Ferrell | |
| Discussion | The chair reviewed the attached October 27 UC Executive Committee minutes (attached).   1. Discussed the Topic Submission regarding President Miller’s response to the AAUP letter. The Topic was sent to the President and Wayne Hill. 2. Discussed committee goals and their relationship with administrator. Chair Ferrell to follow-up each Chair to discuss further. 3. OAA reorganization committee has been formed and has met. Seven representatives each from University Council and Faculty Senate. Cher Hendricks to give update. 4. Ad hoc Human Development committee has had no volunteers to serve. Volunteers may contact the Chair or Heather Loughney if interested in serving. 5. A working group to address childcare during COVID was formed with Faculty Senate. The small group will work quickly to discuss the situation and come up with some ways that the university can help. 6. Strategic Planning was discussed. UCEC will be part of ongoing discussions. 7. Provost discussed replacing of Jarod Tudor. | | | |
|  | PRESIDENT’s remarks | | Dr. GARY MILLER | |
| Discussion | President Miller expressed his appreciation to the group.   * The President expressed that the rise in COVID cases continues to be troubling, state has seen biggest one-day uptick in recent days. Watching to see what the Governor will say in his address on Wednesday. * Discussion of fall admissions and people statewide are looking at fall enrollments. UA has waived admission fees ahead of everyone else and incoming students are eligible for $500 scholarship as well as the Akron Advantage scholarship. Continuing in person as well as virtual campus visits. * Concerns about student COVID numbers as we approach Thanksgiving.      * Many working on OAA reorganization plan and appreciate the great work happening there. * Question was asked about the list of laid off staff and when it would be made public. The President responded that he thought that had happened. Discussion between the Provost and Wayne Hill determined that the list of positions eliminated was part of the Board Actions. Names are not posted for privacy reasons. | | | |
|  | provost’s remarks | | john wiencek | |
| Discussion | * The Provost turned his time over to Cher Hendricks to share her presentation on OAA reorganization (attached). * Cher Hendricks shared her presentation and the work of the group. Themes from discussions were turned into a Qualtrics survey that the group completed to focus their work. Shift from compliance mindset to one of problem solving. Moving responsibilities to Deans and decision making to Deans and chairs. Professional development was a key request for both faculty and staff. A survey has been created with the key ideas that will be shared with the UC and the Faculty Senate. Once survey has closed, the group will look at responses and develop a final report to go to the Provost after Thanksgiving. * The Provost shared that Heather Howley had been named the Acting Director of -Branch Campuses. Congratulations to Heather. * Moving forward with Strategic Planning process. Draft action plan is out and can be modified as needed. Steve Ash asked to serve as a chair with group from UC to look beyond draft plan to make changes and develop a plan that would run into next year. Two-year cycle would be made with plans to develop governance process. * University planning group formed and will being working in the next two weeks. | | | |
|  | Reports | | tonia ferrell | |
| Discussion | 1. Graduate Student Government: President Banik reported on a survey done with grad students that found that 70% of grad students met criteria for depression. Many also met critical depression levels. Next step is to focus on mental health issues, organizing a grad student mental health workshop.   The Chair asked what the average is for depression usually. The response was that the number is usually closer to 30% for 18-29 year olds.  Question was also asked about what the campus can do to help? Banik responded that they are working on a plan and will look to the university for help with that. Also suggested checking in on your grad students.   1. Undergraduate Student Government: Stevie Allen reported on behalf of Chair Feezel – USG recently hosted a talk with President Miller and appreciated his insights. Looking for ways to engage students.   Committee Reports:   * Information Technology and Physical Environment Committees have submitted their committee goals. * Awards Committee – announcements coming soon about nominations. Nominate a colleague for their service or work with students. If interested contact John Messina or Michele Novachek. | | | |
|  | unfinished and NEw business | | tonia ferrell | |
| Discussion | There was no Unfinished or New Business.   1. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 pm by unanimous consent. | | | |