CALL TO ORDER

1. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

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 July 13 University Council minutes. There being none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The chair reviewed the June 27 UC Executive Committee minutes.

- Topic Submissions – there was a submission for the university to consider using plagiarism software. The topic is being forwarded to the Faculty Senate for review and to work through their channels.

- Unfinished business – bylaws review continues, will have for full UC review for final changes. Orientation conversation continues, this has not been done in the past few years and is something the bylaws outline that we do. It was suggested to have a video for new members to access on the UC website. The Food Truck event was a great success, we did not need any of the funds promised by the Foundation. There was discussion about doing this type of event more often (working on a calendar for 3 times a year) and we are looking into budgets for future events working with alumni and student affairs on insights they already have.
• New business – Appointments were made to the Data Governance committee with appointments from CPAC and SEAC. University planning group discussions, UCEC is majority of the group, discussion of other members and incorporating the body into the UC bylaws. A gift was received from Timken for the College of Engineering and Polymer Science. Positive feedback about the University of Akron is being heard from peers at other institutions, that’s good to know.

• The chair also shared that today’s meeting was intended to be in person but the COVID numbers going up has prevented that. We may go back to in person if things change. Planning to have virtual options when we go back to in person.

• Appointments should be to Heather by September 1. UC terms end August 31. When a person’s term ends they may still attend meeting but would no longer be a rep or allowed to vote. Elections for Vice Chair will be held at the upcoming September meeting, an email will be coming with information about that.

**PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

**DR. GARY MILLER**

• The president welcomed everyone back to campus.

• The president shared that the administration has consulted with shared governance groups and decided to return to mandatory masking indoors. The university will begin to require reporting of vaccination status, working to get more people vaccinated. Testing will begin of unvaccinated individuals in a few weeks. There will be vaccinations available on campus for those who wish to receive them. Testing of dorm waste water will continue. If vaccination rate goes up the mask rule may be relaxed. Wayne Hill added that an option will be made available for those who have religious or medical reasons to not be vaccinated. There will be a survey ready in the next day or so for reporting vaccination status. Reporting may be declined. This will be used to make the pool for testing. A percentage will be tested each week.

• A question was asked about guidance for dealing with students who resist masking. John Messina shared that faculty are the purveyors of their classrooms and students who are noncompliant will have some repercussions. There will be progressive discipline. Marie Celeste Cook also shared that communications regarding masking will be coming from the Provost’s office and believes that will go a long way towards students accepting and following faculty directives. USG President Kasunic shared that students have expressed appreciation for faculty guidance and are excited to be back in person.

• The president shared that tomorrow’s Board of Trustees meeting will be light on business but that some gifts will be announced and the new academic calendar will be approved which includes Juneteenth as a holiday. They will approve the summer commencement list and have some minor Board rule changes.

• Getting some encouraging news in fundraising efforts; there has been a lot of time invested in planning our $150 million capital campaign. There was a list of 45 different fundraising events, some will have to be suspended or moved. But seeing encouraging signs from donors and are to ready to talk to them.
• August 20th at 9 am will be the campus reunion for faculty and staff. An hour with refreshments and video presentation. Masks of course required but we will be together. Later that day will be convocation for the students. The following Monday classes will begin and we need to start thinking about the year ahead.

PROVOST’S REMARKS

JOHN WIENCEK

• The Provost began with introducing Dean Mitchell McKinney, who is the new dean of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences. Dean McKinney responded that it was good to be with everyone, even onscreen. He is learning a lot of names and hopes to have opportunity to meet in person. The provost shared that Dean McKinney will be serving on UPG and a UC committee.

• Enrollment – turning attention to Fall 2022 class, the goal is to get applications up. Looking to all to help get the news out that UA is here and as strong as ever. Speak positively about UA and our trajectory; we are all responsible to encourage prospective students. If anyone needs assistance or materials, please contact Kim Gentile.

• Scholarships – will be working on university’s offerings, presidential scholarships to return while others will be ending. Parents and prospective students have found the current offerings confusing and we’re going back to traditional offering. Zips Affordability looks like it has a significant increase in yield for students and we are looking to expand the program within current financial constraints. This program addresses the financial need of an important group of students and is having an impact for them.

• University Planning Group – plans are ready to go and UCEC is driving that discussion. The UCEC will recommend a new UPG and bylaws for the UC to consider. Envisioning one’s self into President Miller’s vision of UA and reconnecting with positive feelings about UA will be some goals for this initiative. In addition, a simple framework to set short term objectives (O) and defining key results (KR) needed to achieve those objectives will provide an OKR (Objective and Key Results) structure to execute our action plan. We will be rolling out this OKR approach with colleges/deans first. These will be semester-sized goals to help us achieve the goals of the two-year action plan.

• The provost shared that he has been working with Faculty Senate, University Council and USG to identify project that overlap those groups. Some ideas that have been discussed with deans include incentivized enrollment plans and a look at our academic advising philosophy and implementation.

• A question was asked about the salary survey progress. The provost shared that activity was handled by the Talent Development and Human Resources committee of UC and he would defer to them. Sarah Kelly added that conversations began at the end of the last academic year and they have spent the summer gathering information for the committee to review in the fall. She added that this is a process that would take approximately 24 months for completion.
### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The were no committee reports.

### CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

- GSG – Katelyn Frey reported that every college now has a representative but there are a few standing committee positions that still need to be filled. If any grad student is interested, please contact her. Focus is now on orientation and she has met with International student office and Graduate School and things are going well.

- USG – Grace Kasunic reported that their focus is on welcoming students back. She has also communicated with the rising sophomore class and they are excited to have a redo of their first year. Keeping students updated on masking policies and appreciated the update in Zipmail that in person classes are still happening. She closed by saying that students are excited to come back.

- CPAC – Will Cole shared that August 30 would be the CPAC meeting to appoint committees and announce new members and that this would be his last meeting. He said he looked forward to helping in any way he could.

- Faculty Senate – Ed Evans stated that Faculty Senate Executive Committee has been working with the administration around masking policies.

- Deans – Dean McCarragher shared that the colleges have completed orientation and thanked all those who helped. He said that they are coordinating with healthcare providers and meeting with them regarding masking requirements. Starting to meet with admissions on recruitment for 2022 and meeting with chairs on this subject.

- Chairs – Chair Levy reported that chairs are preparing for incoming students and recruiting for 2022 students. Also resetting classrooms and all the things to be ready for fall.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

### NEW BUSINESS

- None

### GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Chair Ferrell thanked Ann Bruno for her service to University Council and UCEC and stated that Anne will be retiring in September. She also thanked Will Cole for serving as chair of the Budget & Finance and that his leadership would be missed as well.

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 pm.