

# University Council

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

3 – 4:37 PM

STUDENT UNION 312

MEETING CALLED BY	Harvey Sterns, chair	
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting	
PRESIDER	Harvey Sterns, chair	
NOTE TAKER	Kim Haverkamp	
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Member:</b> Philip Allen, Linda Barrett, Megan Bodenschatz, Michelle Byrne, Elizabeth Erickson, Kristen Giaquinto, Diane Gorse, Marjorie Hartleben, Nancy Homa, Kristin Koskey, Kristine Kraft, Isaac Lampner, Chand Midha, Ruth Nine-Duff, Rex Ramsier, Jeanne-Helene Roy, Shiva Sastry, Michael Spayd, Harvey Sterns, Cassie Verardi, Matt Wilson</p> <p><b>Absent with notice:</b> Julie Cajigas, Mike Cheung, Jared Coleman, Nick Golina  <b>Absent without notice:</b> Tonia Ferrell, Marina Pelemis</p> <p><b>Other attendees:</b> Rowland Bauer, Celeste Cook, Darnell Davis, Olivia Demas, Wayne Hill, John MacDonald, John Messina, Zachary Michel, Steve Myers, Warren Woolford</p>	
Agenda topics:		
3:00 – 3:05	CALL TO ORDER	HARVEY STERNS
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. UC Chair Sterns called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board of Trustees members to the meeting. BOT Chair Roland Bauer introduced the BOT members in attendance: Olivia Demas (official UC liaison), Warren Woolford, Zach Michael and Darnell Davis.</li> <li>2. The chair asked for additions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.</li> <li>3. The chair asked for additions or corrections to the January 10 minutes. There being none, the agenda was approved as distributed by unanimous consent.</li> </ol>	
3:05 – 3:15	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT	HARVEY STERNS
DISCUSSION	The chair reviewed the attached <a href="#">January 17 UC Executive Committee minutes</a> .	
3:15 – 3:20	ACTION ITEMS	HARVEY STERNS
DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Budget and Finance Committee discussed the attached <a href="#">UA Strategic Planning and Budget Proposal v3</a> and made the following motion:   The Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed and recommended that the integrated planning and budgeting process as presented here be adopted and recommended by the UC to President Wilson and the University of Akron for consideration.  <b>The motion carried</b> by a secret ballot vote of 16 in favor and 0 opposed.</li> </ol>	

	<p>2. The Physical Environment Committee reviewed and approved the attached <a href="#">Space Allocation Form</a> for reassignment of Goodyear Polymer Center 826 from lab space to office space and now recommends approval by University Council. <b>The motion for approval carried</b> by a secret ballot vote of 19 in favor and 0 opposed.</p> <p>3. Chair Sterns conveyed appreciation for the February 6 Special Information Session with the Board regarding the cost of Athletics. The second Special Information Session with the Board has been scheduled for April 10. More information is forthcoming.</p>
3:20 – 3:40	<p style="text-align: center;">TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIAL REQUEST REPORT</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LIZ ERICKSON</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>Liz Erickson, chair of the Talent Development and Human Resources Committee, discussed the attached <a href="#">report regarding the potential buyout program</a>. CFO Mortimer and Provost Ramsier met with the Budget &amp; Finance Committee and the Talent Development &amp; Human Resources Committee to discuss what a buyout program might look like. A representative from Towers Watson joined the meeting by phone. The attached report contains a summary of the meeting and feedback from the Talent Development &amp; Human Resources Committee.</p> <p>If there is a buyout plan it would need to be rolled out in April-May to allow a 45-day window and changes by Fall 2017.</p> <p>CFO Mortimer said that UA will not issue any debt to cover a buyout. There are many constructs to structure a program. The program has not yet been developed. Feedback from constituent groups will help guide the design process.</p>
3:40 – 4:00	<p style="text-align: center;">PROVOST'S REMARKS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">REX RAMSIER</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>1. HLC Site Visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HLC Team Visit Itinerary has been posted</li> <li>• There will be no public forum due to a new HLC process that compresses the 2 ½ day visit into a 1 ½ day visit</li> <li>• If you have been invited to two meetings that take place at the same time, attend the meeting that you feel you can make the most contribution</li> </ul> <p>We have invited a representative from the Chancellor's Office to accompany the HLC team. She will choose the meetings she wants to attend. She will not be part of the HLC team deliberation.</p> <p>2. Provost Ramsier said there was good discussion at the February 6 Special Information Session with the Board regarding the cost of Athletics. He hopes the second Special Information Session with the Board on April 10 goes as well, but he will not be present as he will be chairing an HLC team visit in Indiana.</p> <p>3. Graduate Assistantship Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A recommendation has been received from the Graduate Council through Faculty Senate</li> <li>• The target savings is \$10 million the first year and \$15 million the second year</li> <li>• The Deans are formulating their own savings plan which will also be considered before final decisions are made</li> <li>• Thanks to Phil Allen, Harvey Sterns and Chand Midha for their help with this initiative</li> </ul>

	<p>4. Textbooks: There is a proposal going in the state budget regarding textbooks. The University/College will charge students a fee, up to \$300, for textbooks and then be responsible for purchasing and providing the textbooks to their students. Apparently, the University/College will have to cover any cost over the \$300 fee. It is unclear whether the fee is annual or per semester. If the plan is passed, it will take affect Fall 2018. UA has a contract with Barnes and Nobel until 2019.</p> <p>Provost Ramsier is on a committee to develop a proposal that may be more reasonable.</p> <p>The UC Textbook Committee sent a list of questions to Barnes and Noble and has not received a response. Provost Ramsier asked Celeste Cook, Nathan Mortimer and Bill Viau if there are legal ramifications to asking questions of Barnes and Noble.</p> <p>5. There is a proposal in the state budget that will allow community colleges to offer bachelors degrees as long as they are not offered by a local University.</p> <p>Provost Ramsier said that there are organized groups working on these issues and all groups need to work together. He encouraged UC members to stay informed.</p>
4:00 – 4:18	<p style="text-align: center;">STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS</p>
DISCUSSION	<p><b>Communications</b> – No report.</p> <p><b>Information Technology</b> – The committee discussed the process for implementing a laptop refresh rollout. UCIT is working with the Faculty Senate Computing &amp; Communications Technology Committee (CCTC). They also discussed other systems that need to be examined: curriculum proposal system, clickers, WebEx, etc. Springboard and PeopleSoft are being examined by other University committees.</p> <p><b>Institutional Advancement</b> – The committee is currently researching agreements between Universities and companies servicing local customers (cable providers, groceries, fast food restaurants, retail stores, etc.) to solicit donations in support of scholarships from those customers.</p> <p><b>Physical Environment</b> – The committee is evaluating the use of space in Simmons Hall. Traffic will be affected for upcoming projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sections of Buchtel Avenue and College Streets will close after Commencement to connect Central Hower to chilled water and electrical</li> <li>• South College Street turnaround will be under construction; lanes will be open</li> <li>• The parking lot at Wolf Ledges and Carroll Street will be closed</li> <li>• There will be a hole in front of the Goodyear Polymer Building for a month or two</li> </ul> <p><b>Recreation and Wellness</b> - The committee was approached by a student who would like sharps containers installed in campus restrooms. The student is also working with USG and GSG.</p> <p>Megan Bodenschatz, USG President, informed UC that legislation regarding this topic was passed by USG. If the USG legislation is passed by John Messina, USG will bring it to UC.</p>

	<p><b>Student Engagement and Success</b> – The committee met with David Black regarding international scholarships. International students do not typically take the ACT and many scholarships are based on ACT scores.</p> <p>The committee is working on the following to help international students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication to inform them to take the ACT</li> <li>• First year learning community</li> <li>• EXL Unclasses</li> <li>• How to help them feel immediately connected on campus</li> </ul> <p>Other goals – Determine how to help students in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Student Orientation</li> <li>• Financial Aid</li> <li>• Registration</li> </ul>
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4:18 – 4:37	PRESIDENT'S REMARKS	MATT WILSON
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DISCUSSION	<p>President Wilson thanked the Board of Trustees members for their support of University Council.</p> <p>The following items were discussed:</p> <p>Enrollment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applications and confirmations are up from last year</li> <li>• Residence Halls applications are up over 100% from last year</li> <li>• The Admissions team has been enhanced</li> <li>• Faculty are visiting High Schools</li> </ul> <p>Diversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our new chief diversity officer, Jolene Lane, has been attending Rethinking Race events; she will officially begin on March 29</li> <li>• The Black Male Symposium is scheduled for April 7-8, 2017</li> <li>• The Black Male Summit is scheduled for September 29-30, 2017</li> </ul> <p>International Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 120 people responded to the call for information on international programs and expertise</li> <li>• 115 people attended two open forums to brainstorm potential strategies for international engagement</li> <li>• 180 students, faculty, staff and community members attended the immigration forum; the streamed event received over 700 hits on Facebook</li> <li>• An executive director of international recruitment has been hired</li> <li>• A proposal for an International Center is being developed</li> <li>• Housing is asking students if they would like to room with an international student</li> </ul> <p>Transformation Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dean Tudor is working on a proposal for evening, weekend and flexible programming</li> </ul> <p>Scholarship Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President Wilson will meet with the UC Budget and Finance Committee to discuss a new scholarship program that entails automatic upgrades for a guaranteed number of semesters</li> </ul>
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	<p>Budget Reductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spending is down and we want to keep it down</li> <li>• Looking at ways to save money through centralized travel</li> <li>• Looking at energy costs</li> <li>• Scholarship Plan – if everyone opts in, we can save money in the first three years and potentially receive revenue in the fourth year</li> <li>• Athletics – decrease spending and increase revenue</li> <li>• Fundraising – increase development officers and give them targets</li> </ul>
4:37 – 4:37	<p style="text-align: center;">NEW BUSINESS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">HARVEY STERNS</p>
DISCUSSION	<p>There were none at this time.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m. by unanimous consent.</p>