

University Council

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

3:01-4:27 PM

TEAMS

MEETING CALLED BY	Jeanette Carson, vice chair
TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
PRESIDER	Jeanette Carson, vice chair
NOTE TAKER	Heather Loughney
ATTENDEES	<p>Member: Miranda Brainard, Jeanette Carson, Kim Cole, Matthew Dowd, Tammy Ewin, Max Fightmaster, James Garchar, Marjorie Hartleben, Sarah Kelly, Kris Kraft, Dylan Leipold, Tim McCarragher, Nate Meeker, John Messina, John Nicholas, Robert Peralta, John Reilly, Linda Saliga, Varunee Faii Sangganjanavanich, Ben Swanson, Heather Walter, Nick Weber</p> <p>Absent with notice: John Corby, Ed Evans, Tonia Ferrell, Gary Miller, John Wiencek</p> <p>Absent without notice: Zack Azzam, Dallas Grundy, John Huss, Mai Lor, Steven L. Myers, Sherry Simms, Shawn Stevens, Eric Veigel</p> <p>Other attendees: Matt Akers, Suzanne Bausch, Cristine Boyd, Marie Celeste Cook, Carolyn DeBord, Aimee DeChambeau, Melissa Dreisbach, Kim Gentile, Paul Levy, Stephen McKellips, Mitchell McKinney, Christine Mayer, Brandon Mikulski, Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval, Michele Novachek, Gwen Price, Paula Neugebauer, Christin Seher, Tom Waltermire, Jessica Whitehill,</p>
Agenda topics:	
	<p style="text-align: center;">CALL TO ORDER JEANETTE CARSON</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vice chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. 2. The agenda for the meeting was approved without dissent. 3. The minutes of the December 13, 2022 UC meeting were approved without dissent.
	<p style="text-align: center;">EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT JEANETTE CARSON</p>
	<p>The EC met on January 21 and reviewed one topic submission regarding a student requesting assistance with graduation from COB. This was forwarded to the dean and associate dean. The EC discussed having a mental health month in August, just starting the conversation about this and will collect more information and who to invite to present. Discussion on the awards event and how to bring back to how it was pre-COVID and to include recognition of faculty, staff and contract professionals for their years of service. The list of guest speakers was reviewed and speakers are scheduled through June. Approved the February 14 UC agenda.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">PRESIDENT’S REMARKS – PAUL LEVY</p>
	<p>With the president in Columbus, Paul Levy shared updates with the group. He mentioned that the service awards and that administration is in conversation with HR on</p>

this and will continue that conversation. He acknowledged the tragic event at Michigan State and noted that it affects us all. He pointed out that at UA we are doing what we can to prepare for such an event. Active shooter training is happening on campus. Chief Gilbride is great and is on top of things. Run, Hide, Fight training was in today's Digest. We are a very safe campus. Weapon detection devices coming to the stadium, it will be a walk-through system to detect weapons.

Dr. Miller is in Columbus meeting with IUC today and met with the Knight Foundation last week in Florida to discuss the Polsky grant. The state budget has 150 million in innovation hubs for areas other than Cleveland, Columbus or Cincinnati. Feels like a good portion will come to us. There is a Polymer Testing Center that could be built. Budget also includes increase in OCOG grants, increase in SSI and changes in Pell eligibility and flexibility for tuition increases with the inflation curve.

There are major improvement coming to Exchange Street, work beginning in April. Two lanes in each direction, turn lanes, street trees, signals, bike lanes. Work will take place between Arch and Fountain. Create better pedestrian crossings and paint markings.

Dr. Levy also recognized Tom Waltermire and Christine Mayer in attendance in the meeting.

Questions:

-Timeline of Exchange Street project? Steve Myers responded that the work will begin in April, run through summer 2023 and summer 2024. Work will begin on UA campus side. There are plans to reroute the intersection of Sumner and Exchange. Three phases this summer and three phases summer 2024.

-Rumors that Rt 8 and UA entrances not being accessible? Steve Myers responded that there may be some closures during the construction, but that is a few years out. There will still be an access ramp.

PROVOST'S REMARKS – GWEN PRICE

Spent last month and a half getting to know everyone on campus and in Akron. Thank you for being so welcoming and informative. Working with lots of groups and working on finding efficiencies.

John did not give me any talking points for today's meeting, but will mention that a group is being formed to discuss ChatGPT, it's being discussed greatly on campus. AI that could change our world in a lot of ways. We want to have the conversation and come up with responses to it. If you have interest or have things to share please drop me a line.

Listening sessions have been set and will begin going to each college in March with the provost and Dr. Nicholson-Sweval. We'll talk about OAA and interact with colleges and answer questions. Those dates will be coming out soon, please join us when you can.

I want to give some of my time to Steve McKellips to talk about enrollment.

Happy to report that application season has picked up in last 4-5 weeks, was slow start but picked up in January. Have seen increases in Cleveland area and we are off still in Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton. Local market has responded and increased.

Confirmations are up over last year by about 60. Applications for undergrad are down but confirmations are up. Growth in international applications. International continues to be a point of interest but has challenges with it. We are ready with financial aid packages to go out in March, later than hoped but we had some large turnover in the prep

	<p>side of process. Confirmations continue we could see a big jump once aid packages go out.</p> <p>There were no questions.</p>
<p align="center">PRESENTATION – NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION – BRANDON MIKULSKI, CARLY DEBORD, FEDEARIA NICHOLSON-SWEVAL</p>	
	<p>Carly share their presentation: link</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the kickoff profile something you’re overseeing? – Students are getting connected a little too late, finding themselves in a waiting period. We have been working together on that. • They also shared a document on student orientation. link <p>The vice chair thanked them for their presentation.</p>
<p align="center">PRESENTATION – CHRISTIN SEHER – CARNEGIE RECLASSIFICATION</p>	
	<p>Christin shared the presentation link</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are the main suers of the classification system? - Mainly a story telling tool, strive towards best practices. We don’t receive any awards or money from this, it’s mainly for recruitment and marketing. Aligns the institution. • Are we pushing out this story? - I don’t think we have leveraged it like we should be, last classification was in 2015, it was a little tumultuous then. We are hoping to do more this time. • Are you looking for things we are doing in community engagement? We are working with Children’s Hospital on a clinic in the Fieldhouse. – Carnegie is less interested service hours but we will talk about our service, but they are really interested in dep, reciprocal partnerships with the community. • Is research of interest? – A little bit, we are looking for community engaged research that benefits the community. Need to talk about support for community engaged research. • This FAQ can also help with questions. link <p>The vice chair thanked Christin for the information and hard work of the group.</p>
<p align="center">STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS JEANETTE CARSON</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards – thank you to everyone who submitted a nomination for achievement awards. We’ll be setting things up for review. Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the review team. • Campus Wellness – enter your RooFit points and don’t forget to submit waivers and thanks for participating. • Communication – be on the lookout for UA Points of Pride, it’s a living document to provide us with all the good stuff at Akron.

- Physical Environment – Exchange Street work coming, it’s going to get ugly on Exchange next month, work in the middle of campus to begin as the Akron water exchange is coming. Do not expect work in middle of campus to affect any services. Buckingham/McLain looking good, go take a look. Center for Precision Manufacturing starting back up soon. Construction for Children’s Hospital in Fieldhouse will start soon. Wayne Campus is getting new HVAC system. Air handler installed in Crouse building. Discussions about security, we may add to our AKRs for next year. Camera project is 96% complete on campus. Please report any problems. Safety walk took place, identified more lighting issues to work on with the City of Akron.
- Student Success – committee is putting together a series of “knowledge nuggets”. Broader welcome to faculty and staff to campus. Services to be pushed to students throughout the year.
- Talent Development & Human Resources – put together system for the performance module. Email digest item coming out. March will be first item. Pathway for next 6 months after.
- Social Engagement – have scheduled a March Food Truck event. Will confirm with the president and an email digest item will be out soon.

CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

JEANETTE CARSON

- GSG – looking at results of survey from breakfast social, many grads expressed willingness to be more involved in GSG, vice president has been in process of developing new logo for GSG, started planning for GSG election cycle, promotional phase will start and applications start March 6, voting April 3-7. Progress on GSG elected group to connect with campus entities and in touch with career center for networking workshops and events for grad students.
- USG – last week held Downtown Akron Partnership meeting – see what students want to see out of downtown in next 5 years. Working to facilitate shopping experience at Unknown. USG also about start election cycle, will begin that soon. OSGS is this weekend, we have 15 other student governments coming, 150 attendees. Safety walk next Monday at 7 pm, last month looked at Greek Row, this walk will be near Polsky. Student Trustees applications are out there, videos on our Insta, looking for qualified students. Encourage students to apply. Advocacy –all of our Roo Diversity offices are filled, working with them to make the space the best for them. Working with our diversity and inclusion ideas, working on mental health survey on campus, hoping for a large response. Brightspace initiative to make opening for students better.
- CPAC – met twice in last month, discussed report from HR, received updates on social and first-year committees. Met with President Miller and addressed concerns.
- SEAC – working to set up our meeting in March with the president. Waiting on SEAC bylaws change to be approved, will add membership. Reviewing staff appreciation ideas and developing budgets.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Senate – no report. • Chairs – no report. • Deans – no report.
NEW BUSINESS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
GOOD OF THE ORDER	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 pm.