

SEAC University Council Reports

Date Reported:

University Council

Marjorie Hartleben

I was unable to attend but do have some information on what was being discussed in meeting:

Dean Nemer from College of Business was guest speaker, in addition to Jill Bautista and Matt Williams regarding Compliance & Risk Management.

Two items brought up were:

Standing Committee Name and Mission Change for the Recreation and Wellness

(f) Recreation and wellness committee. Campus Wellness Committee

OLD->The recreation and wellness committee is responsible for studying, monitoring and making recommendations on strategies and policies regarding intercollegiate athletic and recreational sports and wellness issues in collaboration with staff, contract professionals and faculty in appropriate departments.

NEW->The campus wellness committee is responsible for developing policy in support of, building a campus community that provides a foundation for the life-long wellbeing of each student, employee, partner, and alumnus. It is an institutional priority to continually mold thriving individuals to be citizens that use a lifelong model for reflection, resilience, meaning, and life-long happiness.

Endorsement of Carnegie Definition Resolution Dec 13 22

Whereas, The University of Akron strives to be a leading public urban research university with an unsurpassed commitment to community engagement with a great American legacy city, Akron ;

Whereas, The University of Akron has been awarded the Elective Classification for Community Engagement by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching since 2008 ;

Whereas, The Carnegie Foundation defines community engagement in both process and purpose as “the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity. The purpose of community engagement is the partnership of college and university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good ;

Whereas, articulating an institutional definition of community engagement advances a shared understanding of the process and purpose of community engagement across campus and community constituencies;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that the university council recommends the adoption of The Carnegie Foundation definition as a guiding framework of community engagement at The University of Akron.

Both were approved and forwarded to the President:

1) Approved the recommendation from the Executive Committee to revise the University Council bylaws with a name change for the Recreation and Wellness Committee to Campus Wellness Committee and a change in mission Board rule 3359-10-01.1. The university of Akron rules of the university council. Section (1)(2)(f) .

2) Approved the recommendation from the Executive Committee to endorse the Carnegie Foundation definition of community engagement

University Council Executive Committee

Marjorie Hartleben

Meeting for December was cancelled

Board of Trustees

Gabor Smith

At today's meeting, the Board celebrated winter graduates, thanked donors for many new financial gifts and welcomed new individuals to the Office of Academic Affairs.

Board Chair Report

- Board Chair Joseph M. Gingo shared his experience on "A Day in the Life of UA Faculty" where he shadowed the work of several UA faculty members on Nov. 16. He learned about funded research projects in the Department of Biology, visited a critical care nursing course, attended a cross-discipline Carnegie community discussion and visited the makerspace in the School of Art. He encouraged other Board members to participate in the future.
- Chair Gingo recently attended a Faculty Senate meeting and conveyed his appreciation to all individuals who are dedicated to representing the various constituency groups on campus.
- He thanked alumni Frank and Marie Bevilacqua for their recent \$1 million gift commitment. The Frank P. and Marie L. Bevilacqua Endowed Scholarship in Education will assist rising juniors and seniors to pursue their degrees and make meaningful differences in the communities that they go on to serve.
- He congratulated former Board member, Dr. Al Ciraldo, who will receive an honorary degree at the Dec. 10 afternoon Commencement ceremony.

President's Report

- President Miller thanked the Board for allowing employees extra time off for the holidays and also shared his appreciation for a core group of workers who keep things running on campus during this time such as members of the Physical Facilities Operation Center and UAPD.
- He conveyed his congratulations for those who will be graduating during the Dec. 10 Commencement ceremonies.
- He recognized alumni Raymond K. and Sylvia L. Lee who recently made a \$1 million gift to support the Raymond K. and Sylvia L. Lee B-STEM Experiential Education Fund. The

gift will extend business coursework to sixth and seventh grade students in the Akron Public Schools, which are aided by students from our LeBron James Family Foundation School of Education.

- He celebrated the \$423,000 in funding UA received from Ohio's 2022 Campus Safety Grant Program which will support the purchase and use of metal detectors at the entrances of campus sport and entertainment venues.
- He commended the leadership of the H. Kenneth Barker Center for Economic Education for their recent Compass Award from the Ohio State Treasurer's Office. This is a monthly recognition program for organizations and programs across the state that are working to bring financial literacy and empowerment to Ohioans.

OAA Report

- Executive Vice President and Provost John Wiencek welcomed new hires Gwyneth Price and Daniel Friesner.
 - Gwyneth Price, Ph.D., has been named senior vice provost, replacing Cher Hendricks, and will begin her role at UA on Dec. 22. Price brings nearly 30 years of experience in both teaching and leadership roles in higher education to UA. Her most recent role was as associate provost and dean of the College of Education at Pennsylvania Western University, overseeing three campuses.
 - Daniel Friesner, Ph.D., has been named as dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences. He will begin his role June 30, 2023. He currently serves as senior associate dean for the College of Health Professions, professor of pharmacy practice, and director of the Bachelor of Science in Health Services Program at North Dakota State University where he also previously served as associate dean for student affairs and faculty development and as interim associate dean for student affairs for the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Sciences. He will replace Tim McCarragher who has been serving as acting dean for the past two years.
- He shared some interesting data regarding our winter graduates, noting their commitment to degree completion.
 - 50% are male
 - Average age of graduates is 27 years
 - 25% are first generation, 7% athletes, 50% Pell recipients, 27% transfers
 - 92% from Ohio, 83% from Northeast Ohio, 37% from Summit County
- He discussed the newly formed First Year Experience Task Force which will work to create a seamless student experience and overall support for all students entering and completing the first year through enhanced student engagement, curricular and co-

curricular experiences, as well as further increase academic success, persistence and completion. The group is being chaired by Dr. Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval.

- He congratulated many others for their achievements including:
 - Dr. Chrys Wesdemiotis in the Department of Chemistry, along with Dr. Mark D. Foster and Dr. James M. Eagan from the School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering who received \$525,000 in National Science Foundation funding for a mass spectrometer.
 - Dr. John Green, director emeritus of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics, who was awarded the Samuel Eldersveld Career Achievement Award. The award recognizes a scholar whose lifetime professional work has made an outstanding contribution to the field.
 - The I-Corps Program, out of the University of Akron Research Foundation, trained its largest cohort to date - 33 teams.
 - Akron esports being named the #2 esports program in the country based on varsity competition success, general student engagement, esports facilities and curriculum offerings.

Student Trustees Report

- Student Trustees, Brooke Campbell and Luke D. Smith, spoke of the positive fall semester and congratulated the Zips men's soccer team and Zips Esports for successful seasons. They also highlighted programs available to students through ZipAssist including Roo-Boost, a peer-to-peer accountability program and a Zips Recharge Together course, which will allow students to renovate the space above Starbucks in the Union into a mental health oasis.
- Lexi Currie and Tyrone Johnson, UA's 2022 Homecoming royalty, were the featured student speakers.
 - Currie is a senior majoring in political science. She plans to continue her graduate education at UA, entering the graduate program for intelligence and security studies. She is a member of Emerging Leaders, Pre-Law Society, National Residence Hall Honorary, Sigma Lambda Honorary and a Student Fellow for the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies.
 - Johnson is a senior majoring in computer science and will be interning with Goodyear next summer. He has worked as a resident assistant, was a cast member of UA's College Tour segment, membership chair of the National Society of Black Engineers, founder and president of Collegiate 100 and is a member of many more organizations.

Financial Report

- The Board approved several financial items including:
 - personnel actions as recommended by the president.
 - the Combined Statement, General Fund, Auxiliary Fund and Departmental Sales and Services Fund Financial Reports for the three months ending Sept. 30, 2022.
 - procurements for more than \$500,000 including:
 - Award to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield for stop loss insurance regarding the University's self-insurance medical and prescription drug plans for calendar year 2023 at the rate of \$81.69 with an estimated expenditure of \$1,339,387.
 - Award to Summit Construction Co., Inc. for the renovation of the Akron Polymer Training Center facility into the new Center for Precision Manufacturing, in the amount of \$3,016,165.
 - Award to Speelman Electric, Inc. to connect the Fir Hill and Exchange Street substations to provide much-needed redundancy in the University's electrical infrastructure and to connect Goodyear Polymer Center to the new system as the first leg of a new engineering electrical loop, in the amount of \$1,345,450.

Cumulative Gift and Grant Income

- The Board accepted the Gift Attainment Report for the period of July 1 through Oct. 31, 2022, which stated:
 - as of Oct. 31, 2022, total attainment for the first three months of fiscal year 2023 is \$5,632,106, a 49 percent increase over the same period in the prior fiscal year.
 - as of Oct. 31, 2022, The University of Akron has generated \$72,489,582 in commitments for the We Rise Together Campaign, reaching 48% of the \$150 million goal since its inception in February 2020.
 - From July 1 to October 31, 2022, five commitments totaling \$8,465,000 have been designated to The University of Akron through estate gifts. Also, during this period, \$2,405,295 has been received in bequests disbursements, more than three times the amount received during the same time period in fiscal year 2022.
 - During the first four months of fiscal year 2023, \$933,447 has been received in support for scholarships, including \$477,928 for immediate use.
- Dr. Sheldon Wrice addressed the Board, commending an anonymous donor for a generous \$1 million estate commitment to support the Office of Multicultural Development Social Justice Fund, housed in the [Office of Multicultural Development](#). This

commitment represents the largest gift to the Office of Multicultural Development in University of Akron history. The fund will support efforts to provide wrap-around services to underrepresented students as they pursue college degrees and move into professional life. It will also support the Office's efforts in the recruitment, retention and advancement of students from diverse backgrounds.

Other Board Actions

- The Board approved the prospective degree candidates for fall 2022, contingent upon candidates' fulfillment of requirements. This included 770 total degrees – 82 associate degrees, 507 baccalaureate degrees, 100 master's degrees, 37 doctoral degrees and 44 law degrees.
- The Board approved the 2022 University remediation report prepared for the chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Ohio Revised Code Section 3345.062 requires the president of each state university to issue a report by each thirty-first day of December, regarding the remediation of students.
- The Board approved revised Rule 3359-1-05 – President of the University, to authorize the president, or the president's authorized designee(s), to employ, set compensation for, and remove all University employees other than individuals employed pursuant to a personal multi-year employment agreement. These revisions eliminate the requirement for the Board of Trustees to approve any employment matter related to individuals whose total compensation exceeds \$75,000. Delegations by the president will be in writing and reported back to the Board of Trustees by the president.
- The Board approved revised Rule 3359-9-01 – Appointments to classified and unclassified civil service, to correlate with the revisions to Rule 3359-1-05.

These changes, in concert, will update and streamline University Rules to provide greater organizational flexibility and operational efficiencies, while reducing potential delays in making non-conditional offers of employment, which will expedite the University's ability to hire new employees in a competitive marketplace. The delegation of hiring authority also brings the University's human resource operations more in line with the practices with other Ohio public universities.

- The Board approved revised Rule 3359-3-05 – Office of Human Resources. The revisions to this Rule update the title of the vice president of human resources and chief human resources officer and clarify the administrative reporting line to make it consistent with changes approved recently by the Board of Trustees for other vice-presidential rules.

<p>Budget & Finance Lejeune March</p>
<p>Communications Richard Newsome</p>
<p>Information Technology Steve Patton and Nathan Yost</p> <p>Review and Update of AKR for 2022-2023: Neal gave a presentation on current UA Communication methods. Neal noted that Yammer has been tested but not in production.</p> <p>Eli presented on Viva Apps (Engage and Connections): Engage: Essentially Yammer, but nested within Teams. Connections: A company intranet platform. Eli gave a presentation of Viva Engage functionality. Viva Connections – New MyAkron Portal: Will open after holidays for preview, should be fully functional by Workday Go-Live in April 2023. The MyAkron portal for employees will be decommissioned. Viva would allow users to customize their communications.</p>
<p>Institutional Advancement - Michele Novachek and Joe Shannon</p> <p>Kim Cole presented the updated organization chart and explained the role of the foundation, development and alumni association. Committee members gain a better understanding of AKR directions.</p>
<p>Physical Environment Max Fightmaster and Joe Shannon</p>
<p>Recreation & Wellness Gabor Smith and Peggy Walchalk</p>
<p>Student Engagement & Success Dr. Gabor Smith</p> <p>We met in Folk Hall and supported the student Art sale happening at the same time. A good amount of the faculty members were missing. The committee needs to get new faculty added possibly and a new administrator rep as well to beef up the group. We need one more SEAC member they emphasized. The students were largely missing as well. Only one made it. We will try to bring two graduates in the future. The chair Dr. Tim McCarragher from Social work stepped down as Chair citing too many things going on. Dr. Gabor Smith was selected as the new Chair with support from other members as well as J. Eric Veigel who will serve as co-chair. Stacia Elizabeth Biddle will be providing support too. Goals need to be submitted and are behind. Largely, we are just copying and pasting from the past goals with minor changes. An AKR needs to be done so we are looking for someone to do that as well.</p>

Talent Development & Human Resources

Matthew Dowd and Martha Reynolds

Campus Community Outreach

Special Committee on Awards and Recognition

Michele Novachek

"The awards committee will convene after the holiday. In the meantime, SEAC, please visit our website to nominate a colleague for a UA Achievement Award. Thanks!! <https://uakron.edu/uc/awards>
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