

The University of Akron
Staff Employee Advisory Committee (S.E.A.C.)
Minutes for April 15, 2010 Meeting at Wayne College

Members and Attendance:

Name & Start Date	Position	Attendance
Jean Andrick - 2008	HR Liaison	Present
Kristina Artino - 2009		Present
Gary Beckman		Present
Mary Dingler - 2009	HR Liaison	Present
Lissia Gerber - 2007	Vice Chair	Present
Nancy Homa - 2009		Absent w/Notice
Mike Kimble - 2009	Chair	Present
Jim Shuster - 2008	WWW	Absent w/o Notice
Laura Spray	Ex-Officio	Present
Bob Stachowiak		Present
Mary Tabatcher - 2007	Secretary	Present
Lindsie Webb - 2008	Treasurer	Present
Pam Woodall Caine - 2008		Present

Meetings always scheduled on third Thursday of month at 12:30 PM unless otherwise announced.

Meeting called to order at 11:53 AM.

Review minutes for 3/18/10 meeting. Minutes approved .

Agenda for Today's Meeting:

I. Opening

II. Goals

- Vote on SEAC membership for By Laws
- Compilation of survey questions

III. Agenda Topics

Private Session will be held first, from 11:30 am-12:20 pm

1. Confirm March minutes (Private Session)
2. Address Bylaw topic (Private Session)
3. Discuss survey questions (Private Session)

Public Session will be held from 12:30pm to 1:15pm. Two members of Wayne attended.

Introductions were made.

4. Brief summaries of initiatives that SEAC is working on. Each subcommittee will present on their current status.
5. Q&A with Wayne Staff Employees

IV. New Initiatives

- Survey

V. Closing

Awards & Recognitions Sub-Committee: Mary Dingler (reporting), Gary Beckman, Jean Andrick, Jim Shuster and Pam Woodall Caine: Proposal to improve Service Award ceremony was

forwarded to HR but it didn't appear that they had considered any of our recommendations. Those that were in attendance said it was a nice program and an improvement over last year's event.

Board of Trustees Observers (www.uakron.edu/bot/) - Kristina Artino and Gary Beckman (reporting): The Board of Trustees met on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. Minutes as follows:

Dr. Proenza was given a raise by the BOT increasing his salary to \$385,000.

University students were overwhelmed by their visit with Warren Buffet.

Total gifts are down approximately 3 million over last year's giving.

The Soccer Stadium improvements are on Schedule.

Caleb Porter is National Soccer Coach of the Year!

Campus Activities Magazine Acknowledged UA as 2010 Campus of the Year.

Tuition was raised beginning summer 2010 session 3.5% for all our campuses and 6% for Law School.

Budgets are of great concern for 2011-2012. Board asked for detail info from V.P. Business & Finance to be reviewed in great detail at May meeting.

By-Laws - Laura Spray (ex-officio and Chair reporting), Pam Woodall Caine, Nancy Homa and Lindsie Webb: Draft bylaws sent by Laura on 4/14/10 to committee for final review.

Submit any recommended issue changes to Laura for final draft. Discussion followed. Revisions to be made and final vote will be in May. Correction to first paragraph to specify we are an advisory committee to president.

Should chair and vice chair sit on committee for one year before being elected? OSCHE has a past-chairs group who act as an Advisory group. Maybe the past chair of SEAC should be an automatic ex-officio for one year to provide continuity?

Motion: Bob moved that the chair has to be on the committee for one year before being up for chair. Vote yes or no. Tie vote – 5 yes, 5 no. Revote = tie vote – 5 to 5. Ex-officio breaks tie by a 6 to 5 vote. No's prevailed.

Motion: Bob moved for chair to be ex-officio member after their term is complete. Discussion ensued that the by-laws do not specify the number of ex-officios. Because of the new UC, their could be overlap on terms, causing completing members to be named as ex-officio to complete the UC term. After discussion, Bob revoked the motion.

Come to the May meeting prepared to vote.

Budget Committee (Lissia Gerber reporting): No report.

Campus and Community Outreach Committee - Lissia Gerber (reporting), Pam Woodall Caine, Kristina Artino, Jean Andrick and Mike Kimble: No report.

Faculty Senate (<http://www.uakron.edu/president/facultySenate/>) - Nancy Homa (reporting) and Mike Kimble: Following are minutes from the April 1st 2010 Faculty Senate meeting:

- Faculty Senate announced quorum
- Approval of Spring 2010 Graduation List
- Announced that Provost Mike Sherman would begin June 2010
 - Special thanks and recognition given to Interim-Provost Dr. David Baker
- Discussion around University Council
 - The passing is “stuck on a few discussion points” concerning implementation. Nobody elaborated on what these “discussion points were. It is in the hands of President Proenza now—45 days to decide.
- Provost Baker comments
 - Provost Mike Sherman to begin June 1, 2010; Assured that measures have been taken to ensure a smooth transition.
 - Ohio Board of Regents’ Report on Ohio
 - Reported that University System of Ohio is an overall success; highlighting increase in collaboration among universities in Ohio
 - Announced the upcoming Black Male Summit on April 9th, and 10th
 - Announced the Akron Symphony & Dance Ballet Event and gave away 4 tickets
- Associate Provost Ramsier
 - Recommended a ‘Computer Literacy Assessment’ for incoming freshman.
 - Results would not be used to assess admission.
 - Results would be used to determine if a student needs to take an introductory course in computer literacy to learn computer programs. i.e. word, powerpoint, excel, etc.
 - Discussion ensued
 - Faculty members feel that in addition to computer literacy, incoming students should be assessed on how well they know how to do research, and work other computer programs (not just Microsoft).
 - Faculty members also concerned that the cause of a student’s computer illiteracy is caused by financial reasons and making them take another course is an added financial burden.
 - Nobody knows what the assessment would look like; not that far in the planning stage.
- Ad Hoc Committees
 - Organizational Structure and Effectiveness
 - Response to President Proenza’s “Revisioning the University” letter to campus community.
 - Associate Professor Julia Beckett presented
 - Possible recommendation to President for new college
 - Health & Human Services + Nursing would equal a new college
 - Faculty Senate expressed displeasure with restructuring
 - Chair Sterns asked for the Faculty Senate to provide constructive feedback to Julia Beckett; expressed concern that Beckett must present a response to the President by April 15th and the Senate needed to have a voice in response.
 - Senator Gerlach opposed, saying the Senate did not have enough info.
 - Senate discussed the matter, no formal input was given.
- Session Closed.

Group Insurance and Benefits Committee: Laura Spray (reporting) and Mary Dingler: No report.

OSCHE (Ohio Staff Council on Higher Education): Mike Kimble (chair) and Lissia Gerber (vice-chair), Mary Tabatcher and Bob Stachowiak (alternates): No report.

Performance Evaluation Committee - Jim Shuster (reporting), Mary Dingler and Gary Beckman: No report.

Social Committee: Bob Stachowiak (chair and reporting), Mary Dingler, Gary Beckman, Jean Andrick and Pam Woodall Caine: No report.

Treasurer - Lindsie Webb (reporting): No report.

University Council Exploratory Committee – Bob Stachowiak (reporting): No report.

University Safety & Security Committee – Bob Stachowiak (reporting): No report.

Web: Jim Shuster (reporting) Laura Spray and Bob Stachowiak: No report.

New Business: Joanne Dabb emailed on SEAC-C on 3/24/10; Secretary responded to SEAC-C on 3/26/10 to determine when items would be updated; currently January and February 2010 minutes not online. Will request Jim upload. March minutes are now approved as well and will be forwarded to Jim for uploading. Jim, please post the minutes and let Mary know so she can notify Joanne that they are online.

Lissia has asked that people attend the president's forum. Monday 11:00-Noon or Thursday 2:00-3:00.

Old Business: Voting for SEAC representatives underway. Elections close on 4/27/10.

Survey: Should we send the survey to the President for approval before doing the survey? Motion: Lissia moves that as a courtesy to Proenza, we submit questions to be presented to campus. Should the survey be vetted thru ORRSP? Is there a university rule about how to communicate the survey to campus? Two previous SEAC surveys were never pre-approved. Should Mike contact Institutional Marketing (IM) to get a feel for the survey? Mary suggested that we reduce the number of questions and Jean recommends we list how many questions there were in previous surveys. Lissia rescinds motion. Mike to informally vet this through IM and will get back to us. Everyone else to review questions. The survey is multi-purposeful and after tabulating will be presented to the president. UA priorities seem to be caste-related. Last year the chair visited everyone and specified he wants people to focus on the positive. Even within staff it's siloed even more – Wayne, administration, academics, etc. The discussion revolved around trying to uncover basic, on-going problems related to staff level. Everyone should review each category of questions and submit their top five. Due date is Friday, 4/23. One of the Wayne guests mentioned that we do need a comment section.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Next meeting is on May 20th at 12:30 PM. See schedule below:

Date	Start	End	Room	Status
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10/15/2009 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed
11/19/2009 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	CAS 116	Confirmed (By-laws to meet at 11:00)
12/17/2009 Thu	11:00 PM	2:00 PM	CAS 116	Confirmed (By-laws to meet at 11:00)
1/21/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	CAS 116	Confirmed
2/18/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed
3/18/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed
4/15/2010 Thu	11:30 AM	1:30 PM	Wayne College	Confirmed
5/20/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed
6/17/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed
7/15/2010 Thu	12:15 PM	2:00 PM	SU Room 323	Confirmed