3-3-2016

Faculty Senate Chronicle for February 4, 2016

Pamela A. Schulze
The University of Akron, schulze@uakron.edu

the university of akron Chronicle

a report to the faculty of the university of akron

February 4, 2016

22 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

- **Passed a resolution from the ad hoc Committee to Consider a No-Confidence Vote in President Scarborough.**

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Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of February 4, 2016

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, October 1, 2015 in room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education. Senate Chair William D. Rich called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm.

Of the current roster of 62 senators, 52 were present for this meeting. Senators Holliday, Huss, Miller, Moritz, Osorio, Schaeffer and R.C. Schwartz were absent with notice. Senators Dey, Elliott and Onita were absent without notice.

I. Approval of the Agenda

Senator Raber moved to adopt the proposed agenda. The motion was seconded by Senator Schwartz.

The agenda was adopted without dissent.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Senator Bouchard moved to adopt the minutes of the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Lillie.

Senator Lillie noted that he was quoted in the minutes as saying that LeBron James had not made financial contributions to the University; he asked that they be amended to say that, according to the magazine quoted, LeBron James had not made any contributions.

Chair Rich asked if there were any objections. Hearing none, he called for the vote.

The November minutes were adopted as amended.

III. Remarks of the Chairman

Chairman Rich remarked as follows:

> Among the items on today's agenda are a report of the ad hoc Faculty Senate Committee of Chairs of the General Education Learning Outcome Committees; a report of the ad hoc Faculty Senate Committee to Consider Proposing a Vote of No Confidence in the President; and a report of the Faculty Senate's representatives to the Graduate Council. This report concerns the process for determining future allocations of graduate assistantship funds.
>
> I would like to welcome three newly elected members of this body: Jon Miller, representing the College of Arts and Sciences, who is returning to the Senate after a five-month hiatus; Jeanne-

Helene Roy, also representing the College of Arts and Sciences; and Walter Pechunek, representing the part-time faculty.

I would also like to welcome the members of the news media who are present for this meeting. I trust that the members of this body will bear in mind that what we say and do here today will be widely reported and thereby affect public perceptions of this University.

We have much to discuss today, so I shall keep my remarks short.

I do, however, wish to share with you some recent data on undergraduate admissions. As of yesterday, the number of confirmed admissions of traditional freshmen is 684. As of this date last year, the number of such confirmed admissions was 1,080. This is a decrease of 37 percent. At this time two years ago, the number was 897. "Confirmed" admissions refers to students who have been offered admission, accepted the offer, and paid the $145 matriculation fee.

The decrease in confirmed admissions among traditional freshmen so far this year is occurring disproportionately among students with ACT scores of 20 or above.

These data are cause for serious concern. They portend a significantly smaller entering class for the next academic year; and a larger proportion of students who are marginally prepared or ill-prepared for college, less likely to persist and complete their undergraduate programs, and in greater need of scarce University resources to help them succeed academically. They also portend a large decrease in revenue for the next and successive fiscal years, which would necessitate further budget cuts.

In an op-ed column in today's Akron Beacon Journal announcing the pledge of an additional three million dollars' donation by Dr. Gary B. and Pamela S. Williams and the planned naming of the Honors College after them, President Scarborough stated that the Williams Honors College will "provide an Ivy League style education." He also stated that "we are in the process of hiring more than 70 bargaining-unit, full-time faculty members, with more hires to come."

As best I can determine based on a list of hiring authorizations I received from Interim Provost Ramsier two weeks ago, there are 69, not 70, search authorizations already issued or pending in the Provost's office, and the 69 include four non-faculty positions – three contract professional and one staff. Thus, the correct number appears to be 65. Of the 65, at least 40 and potentially as many 57 will be non-tenure track positions. My best guess is that approximately 45 will turn out to be non-tenure track and approximately 20 will turn out to be tenure track.

The net effect is that there will be substantially fewer tenure-track faculty positions and more non-tenure track faculty positions after the next round of faculty hiring is completed. It is difficult to see how a substantial reduction in the number of the tenure-track faculty members

is consistent with the claim that the Williams Honors College will offer "an Ivy League style education."

This concludes my remarks.

III. Special Announcements

Professor Jeffrey Schantz, Professor of Technical Writing and Composition in the College of Applied Science and Technology, died on January 2nd at the age of 50.

Zachereia Hussein, an undergraduate student at The University of Akron, was shot to death on December 7th.

The Senate stood for a moment of silence in memory of our deceased colleagues.

IV. Reports

Executive Committee

Senator Schulze reported as follows for the Executive Committee:

Since the Faculty Senate last met on **December 3rd,** the Executive Committee met twice by itself and once with the President and the Interim Provost.

The Executive Committee met on **January 21st** for regular Senate business and to prepare for the meeting with the President and Interim Provost.

- The EC made three committee appointments
    - Pei-Yang Liu from Nutrition Dietetics was appointed to the Distance Learning Review Committee.
    - Stacey Nofziger from Sociology was appointed to the Faculty Research Committee.
    - Susan Wynn from the College of Applied Science and Technology was appointed to the Part-Time Faculty Committee.
- The EC certified the elections of Jon Miller and Jeanne-Helene Roy in Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences and Walter Pechenuk, who represents Part-Time Faculty.
- The EC was asked to recommend faculty members to serve on an Enterprise Resource Planning committee in the Information Technology division. The EC will contact members of the University Council IT committee, the Faculty Senate CCTC committee, and faculty in the College of Business Administration to identify potential members for this committee.
- We also discussed the need to fill a vacancy on the University Council Communications Committee.

Later that day, we met with the President. We were updated on the following topics:

- the Gen Ed Core 13
- the General Education coordinator position, now filled by Janet Bean, and the chain of command for that position

- meetings with deans regarding implementation of college strategic plans and allocation of additional full-time faculty positions
- the strategic planning process for University Libraries, Graduate School, and Honors College

- a search to replace Dean of the University Libraries, who announced that she will retire effective June 30th.

- Progress on Zook Hall construction
- Faculty hiring in key programs on campus for the Center for Data Science, Analytics, and Information Technology (Statistics, computer Science, Mathematics)
- Center for Experiential Learning, Entrepreneurship, and Civic Engagement
- Corps of Cadets and Leadership Academy, and goal to have 100 in Core of Cadets by Fall
- Evaluation data for Success Coaches
- and current enrollment data

The EC asked about

- the status of and process for reactivating the suspended and revised Theater BA program
- the Association of Governing Boards consultant visit and subsequent recommendations
- the President's discussions with Higher Education Partners, although specifics could not be shared due to a non-disclosure agreement
- and whether 8-week summer courses can be offered by combining the 3-week intercession and first 5-week summer session.

The EC next met on **January 28th** for regular senate business and to prepare the agenda for the upcoming faculty senate meeting.

- The EC made two committee appointments
  - Steven Chuang from Polymer Science was appointed to the Faculty Research Committee.
  - Jeanne-Hélène Roy was appointed to the Reference Committee.

The EC discussed the following topics:

- Recommendations of the Association of Governing Board consultant: A red-lined version of the UC Bylaws has been distributed to the Board of Trustees. After the BOT provides reactions and possible revisions, the latest red-lined version will be given to the University Council for consideration
- Graduate assistantships and a new model for admissions and funding.
- And the President's conversations with Higher Education Partners and some EC members' concerns about non-disclosure.

The EC also decided to distribute the resolution of the Ad Hoc Committee to Consider a Vote of No Confidence in President Scarborough on the ua-faculty listserv so that faculty would have an

opportunity to review it and contact their senators if they wished prior to upcoming Faculty Senate meeting.

That concludes the Executive Committee's report.

Remarks of the President

The president updated the Senate on the initiatives on which the administration has been working. The first year focused on diagnosing the financial condition and enrollment market for the University, working on college strategic plans, working to develop University-wide initiatives, and developing the first budget. In the second year, we implemented some of the new initiatives funded by the budget. The president handed out a document that summarized the University's key initiatives.

We are now entering the third quarter of the second year. We will begin work on the 2016-2017 budget. Student recruitment is a priority. We have had a donor step forward to help make minor improvements to the JAR. We have had a number of conversations with potential partners to strengthen our satellite campus network. The President said there has been significant progress through collective bargaining, and that he is hopeful that the Board of Trustees will approve the University Council Bylaws.

The University has key leadership positions to fill: the Director of Development, the Director of Facilities, Dean of Engineering, Provost, General Counsel, Vice President of Innovation and Economic Development, Dean of Libraries, and Dean of Wayne College. The president referred to his handout, which listed those people who were brought in from outside the University and those who were promoted from within.

The president's handout also contained graphics to give a sense of the financial condition of the University. The financial problem is due to high operating expenses and the need for investment in strategic initiatives, and underinvestment in capital expenditures.

The president discussed declining enrollment. To overcome challenges described in his handout, the president believes we must leverage existing strengths, respond to unmet market demands, and stay in front of the innovation curve. We looked at what we could do at the industry or sector level to change our dynamic.

The President noted that Kent State's main campus is actually smaller than ours. Their total enrollment is higher because of the significant strength of the satellite campus network. In contrast, our satellite campus is immature. The focus is on recruiting from a farther distance.

To leverage the strengths at the University level, the new Center for Experiential Learning and the Center for Data Science and IT, and the Corps of Cadets were formed. The President also mentioned new National Center for Choreography with Dance Cleveland.

The Williams Honors College has become a key new strategy to recruit and retain greater numbers of well-prepared students. The Honors College will be used to attract traditional students to main campus, and the satellite structure will be used to grow enrollments in non-traditional students and ultimately international students.

The President said that the University would meet its budget goals through position eliminations which have already occurred, price increases, and a $1 million legislative change to help us with the surcharge that only The University of Akron has to pay.

The President concluded by emphasizing the importance of teamwork and good communication.

Remarks of the Interim Provost

Interim Provost Ramsier said that he is happy to serve as Interim Provost, and would do his best to make the case for good academic arguments. Provost Ramsier announced the allocation of full funding to the colleges for graduate assistantships for the next academic year.

Graduate Council is discussing issues and looking at possible improvements to the process of GA allocation. Professional development leaves were announced to the deans; 59% were funded. The Assessment Associate Provost position has been posted. This position is important; assessment of student learning is an expectation and a requirement for accreditation. Senator Hausknecht, Senator Miller, and others are serving on the committee.

Of the 55 Phase 1 faculty hiring positions that were approved in the Fall, 3 were tenure track. Last week, Provost Ramsier began interviewing candidates for the positions in the College of Business Administration. He is committed to interview every tenure track faculty candidate.

Phase II of the hiring process has begun. An updated list was sent to the Deans with instructions. The Deans should relay and forward these instructions to the chairs and directors, who should forward them to the faculty. As of yesterday, there were 118 new requests from the colleges, mostly for faculty. About 62 have already been approved.

Visiting positions are being replaced mostly by non-tenure track faculty. Last year and this year we had more than 100 full-time visiting faculty. If Deans know that they are going to continue to need to renew the positions, then there is no reason to continue people as visiting. The plan is to post bargaining unit positions in their place.

Please know that we are doing our best to hire as many faculty as we can. There will be a point at which the money will run out. We will do our best; this is driven by a 'real needs assessment.' It is an academic decision.

If you are unhappy with the prioritization, please contact the Provost's Office, and make the case. The Provost's Office will fund positions that make the most sense, where there is a demonstrated need.

Chair Rich thanked Provost Ramsier for his dedication to the University.

V. Committee Reports

Ad hoc Committee of General Education Committee Chairs

Senator Saliga: The Foundations subcommittee has completed its work. The Disciplinary Learning Outcomes Committees have all finished their work. The courses that have been submitted for inclusion in the new General Education program satisfying the three learning outcomes have been determined.

Chair Rich: The Chair noted that the Natural Science Committee has not yet completed its work, but expected it to be complete later this Spring.

Chair Saliga: The call has gone out for three of the four tagged courses, the ones that were in Learning Outcome Four: Domestic Diversity, Global Diversity, and Complex Issues in Social Context. The proposals are due to the various committees by March 4th.

For the Critical Thinking tag, that Committee is still working on its template and particular instructions. It will likely be a text-returned form, not quite as easy as the others. That should go out by the end of next week. As we turn everything over to GEAC, we'll have some knowledge of the new system there. The Committee of Chairs will no longer be meeting alone; they'll be meeting with GEAC, with five other members in addition to the chairs.

The implementation plan is that once all eight committees have finished their work, we'll implement the new program. If we can roll out the first half, the Foundations, the disciplinary learning before the Tag Committees finish, those could be ready to go into effect in the Fall. Students should not be in a position to take any of the tagged courses until their sophomore year.

Ad hoc Committee on No-Confidence Vote

Senator Coffey: The committee met in December and twice in January. They also met the Monday before the Senate meeting. The committee debated a number of different points and wrote a resolution that was distributed to all faculty on campus (Appendix A).

Senator Coffey thanked the other committee members. They took the work seriously. They deliberated carefully on every single item, and they didn't agree on writing the final draft until they felt they could back up every single sentence. This represents a tremendous amount of work, patience, and compromise.

Senator Coffey read the resolving clause: "Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of The University of Akron has no confidence in the policies of the current administration and the ability of President Scarborough to lead The University of Akron.

Chair Rich: The motion is before the body. Chair Rich pointed out a grammatical error: in the fourth clause of the preamble which begins "whereas the reputation and the operation of the University," there is a subject verb disagreement. Chair Rich asked if there was an objection to changing the wording so that the verb agrees with the plural subject of the sentence.

There were no objections. The wording was amended by unanimous consent.

Chair Rich asked for debate on the motion.

Senator Sastry: On page 3, footnote 6, 2016 should be changed to 2015.

Chair Rich asked if there were any objections to making that correction. The amendment was made by unanimous consent.

Senator Matejkovic: Senator Matejkovic stated that he was a member of the committee, and agreed with Senator Coffey's observation that the committee was a good group who had spirited debates. Senator Matejkovic was the dissenting vote.

Chair Rich asked Senator Coffey to report the vote.

Senator Coffey reported that it was 6-1 in favor of the resolution.

Senator Matejkovic: Senator Matejovic explained that he disagreed with changes such as the rebranding and discussion of renaming, but he is not certain that the President was behind that decision. He disagreed with cutting the baseball team, and the timing of the cut, but he was not certain that president Scarborough made that decision.

Given that the vote has significant impact, Senator Matekovic did not believe that the items enumerated in the preamble to the resolution justify the conclusion. He voiced concerns about declining enrollment, again reiterating that the decline can't be completely attributed to the President.

Senator Matejkovic praised the President for his efforts to reform the budget process to one that is fair and accurate. Not all of the problems that resulted, such as the cuts at E.J. Thomas, can be laid at the feet of President Scarborough because the staff did not get back to the budgeting people in response to the request for information when proposed budgets were sent out.

Declining donations and letters to the editor of the Akron Beacon Journal were about the rebranding effort. There were letters about the band uniforms having Zips on them instead of Akron. The team name is the Zips, so Senator Matejkovic did not have a problem with that. Funding for graduate research funding has changed because it needed to be changed. The budget process

wasn't accurate or appropriate before. With regard to shared governance, after years of requesting and waiting, we may soon see a final resolution to that.

While Senator Matejkovic sees problems on the horizon, at this point in time, this resolution does not do anyone service or justice. Senator Matejkovic urged the senate to vote against the resolution.

Chair Rich asked if there was further debate.

Senator Coffey noted the number of students in attendance. Senator Coffey expressed confidence that he can back up every single item in the preamble of the resolution. The enrollment declines, population cut, 5% with a potential of 30%--these all point to a disconnect that comes from the top. The top students are saying they don't want to come here.

Senator Coffey continued, "When I first came here, i had a ton of contractors coming to the house, asking when I talked to them, 'Where do you work?' I work at the University of Akron. Oh, I went there, they would-in a self-deprecating way, they laughed about time there. 'My kid is going there.' I heard over and over again, 'My kid is going there. I'm proud of my kid for going there.' You know what I hear now? I hear--you all hear the same thing, No way I send my kid there now. No way do I send my kid there now.' We see--how about what's going on with Higher Education Partners? I sat through an executive meeting with the president, and we asked that question, and we were told 'non-disclosure, can't talk to you,' then in the Devil Strip I read a day later all about it. Where do we find out about things? We find out about things in the newspaper. That's shared governance.

One of the younger faculty members like me -- I haven't lived through 30 years of this, I'm living this now. I'm looking at this room. There won't be a Faculty Senate in 10 years because we lost 44 tenure faculty members, and the College of Arts and Sciences, number one item in our strategic plan we wrote in November, we can't teach students, we can't mentor students, students aren't going to want to come here and the question is, if you don't take action, you don't take action. We can wait. Let's wait. Let's deal with it, wait until something really goes wrong. The argument for waiting is wrong. The argument for now is right. This is the time. We have an emergency on campus. Those enrollment numbers, that's the canary--no, that's a bull in a coal mine. Things are wrong here.

Again, shared governance is being laughed at. I go to the meetings, and it is a joke. It is a smirk. Yes, this is the time. Things like the baseball team, again, those are student-athletes. I'm not a big supporter of athletics because they, you know--someone is in it, did it, the president approved it. This is an emergency. We have to take action because what's being reported in the press, that we support this, we're behind it. Our name was used last year that they support this. I don't support this. That's why I propose this, and I'm -- I stand behind every item. If it were up to me, it would have gone a lot further. I made sure--I made sure that everything in here was something we had consensus on. We stand behind this. Again, I appreciate the support of the students. I stand absolutely in favor of this."

Chair Rich asked if there was any other debate on the motion.

Senator Landis: Senator Landis added that he polled his faculty in the Department of Polymer Science. The vote that he will cast is a vote of the majority of the Department of Polymer Science. The vote was 11 in favor, 3 against, with four abstentions.

Senator Lillie: Senator Lillie asked what in what form the ballot should take. There has been discussion among some of a secret ballot.

Senator Lillie added that the first time he engaged in a protest was in April of 1968. He was shot with a B. B. gun. Senator Lillie said that he appreciates the passion of Senator Coffey. Senator Lillie said that this may be necessary to move forward, and the resolution is well written.

Senator Lillie expressed concern that President Scarborough may be cast as a scapegoat if the resolution passes. The problems of the University did not happen overnight. But without substantive governance by the faculty and staff of a University, then we may end up becoming similar to the K-12 education model where there is a principal who is a monarch and faculty, the teachers, will be forced to teach things that perhaps they don't necessarily agree with or think is correct. This seems to be a kind of vocationalization of the University.

In summary, Senator Lillie expressed support of the resolution with reservations.

Chair Rich: In response to Senator Lillie's question on procedure, Chair Rich pointed out that ordinarily we vote on motions by voice vote, with a division of the house only if the voice vote is too close to call. Chair Rich stated that this is how he believes we should proceed. If someone moves to vote by secret ballot, then that motion is in order and will require a second and the majority to be adopted. Chair Rich cautioned the Senate that any member could effectively defeat the motion even after it passes by calling for a roll call vote because, under Faculty Senate bylaws, any member of this body is entitled to a roll call vote.

Senator Matejkovic requested a roll call vote.

Chair Rich asked if there was further debate on the motion.

Senator Morath: Senator Morath said she will announce her vote, but she will be voting not as she would like, but as her constituents have asked her to vote. She is a non-tenure track faculty member of the Law School. She has heard from four faculty members, one asking her to vote yes on the resolution, and three asking her to vote no. She will vote no only for that reason.

Chair Rich asked if there was further debate on the motion. Hearing nothing, he asked Senator Schulze to conduct the roll call vote.

Senator Schulze: Senator Phil Allen

Senator Allen: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Allen vote yes. Senator Roland Arter.

Senator Arter: Yes.

Senator Schulze. Senator Arter votes yes. Senator Linda Barrett.

Senator Barrett: Yes.

Senator Schulze. Senator Barrett votes Yes. Senator Todd Blackledge.

Senator Schulze: Senator Blackledge votes yes. Senator Constance Bouchard.

SENATOR BOUCHARD: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Bouchard votes yes. Senator Minel Braun.

SENATOR BRAUN: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Braun votes yes. Senator Kathleen Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Clark votes yes. Senator Daniel Coffey.

SENATOR COFFEY: Yes

Senator Schulze: Senator Coffey votes yes. Senator Teresa Cutright.

SENATOR CUTRIGHT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Cutright votes yes. Senator Asoke Dey.

Senator Briyanna Elliott.

Senator Elizabeth Erickson.

SENATOR ERICKSON: Yes.

Senator Erickson votes yes. Senator Kevin Feldt.

SENATOR FELDT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Feldt votes yes. Senator Kathryn Feltey.

SENATOR FELTEY: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Feltey votes yes. Senator Jeffrey Franks.

SENATOR FRANKS: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Franks votes yes. Senator Robert Gandee.

SPEAKER GANDEE: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Gandee votes yes. Senator Dimitria Gatzia.

SENATOR GATZIA: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Gatzia votes yes. Senator Marc Haas.

SENATOR HASS: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Marc Haas votes yes. Senator Terry Hallett.

SENATOR HALLETT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Hallett votes yes. Senator Douglas Hausknecht.

SENATOR HAUSKNECHT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Hausknecht votes yes. Senator Gary Holliday.

Senator Heather Howley.

SENATOR HOWLEY: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Howley votes yes. Senator Travis Hreno.

SENATOR HRENO: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Hreno votes yes. Senator John Huss.

Senator Sukanya Kemp

SENATOR KEMP: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Kemp votes yes. Senator Lori Kidd.

SENATOR KIDD: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Kidd votes yes. Senator Janet Klein.

SENATOR KLEIN: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Klein votes yes. Senator William Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Landis votes yes. Senator Laurie Lashbrook.

SENATOR LASHBROOK: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Lashbrook votes yes. Senator Timothy Lillie.

SENATOR LILLIE: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Lillie votes yes. Senator Lynn McKnight.

SENATOR McKNIGHT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator McKnight votes yes. Senator Nidaa Makki.

SENATOR MAKKI: Yes. Senator Schulze: Senator Makki votes yes.

Senator John Matejkovic.

Senator Matejkovic: No.

Senator Schulze: Senator Matejkovic votes no. Senator Jon Miller

Senator Randall Mitchell.

SENATOR MITCHELL: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Mitchell votes yes. Senator Joe Minocchi.

SENATOR MINOCCHI: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Minocchi votes yes. Senator Morath.

SENATOR MORATH: No.

Senator Schulze: Senator Morath votes no. Senator E. Stewart Moritz.

Senator Stacy Nofziger.

SENATOR NOFZIGER: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Nofziger votes yes. Senator Colin Onita.

Senator Shannon Osorio.

Senator Ron Otterstetter.

SENATOR OTTERSTETTER: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Otterstetter votes yes. Senator Pechenuk.

SENATOR PECHENUK: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Pechenuk votes yes. Senator Robert Pope.

SENATOR POPE: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Pope votes yes. Senator Dane Quinn.

SENATOR QUINN: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Quinn votes yes. Senator Neal Raber.

SENATOR RABER: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Raber votes yes. Senator Jeffrey Riedl.

SENATOR RIEDL: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Riedl votes yes. Senator Jeanne‐Helene Roy.

SENATOR ROY: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Roy votes yes. Senator Linda Saliga

SENATOR SALIGA: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Saliga votes yes. Senator Anthony Samangy

SENATOR SAMANGY: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Samangy votes yes. Senator Shivakumar Sastry.

SENATOR SASTRY: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Sastry votes yes. Senator Marnie Saunders.

SENATOR SAUNDERS: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Saunders votes yes. Senator Leann Schaeffer.

Senator Pamela Schulze

Senator Pamela Schulze votes yes. Senator Robert C. Schwartz.

Senator Robert M. Schwartz.

SENATOR SCHWARTZ: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Schwartz votes yes. Senator Carrie Scotto.

SENATOR SCOTTO: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Scotto votes yes. Senator Cassaundra Spaeder.

SENATOR SPAEDER: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Spaeder votes yes. Senator T.S. Srivatsan.

SENATOR SRIVATSAN: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Srivatsan votes yes. Senator Harvey Sterns.

SENATOR STERNS: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Sterns votes yes. Senator Taylor Swift.

SENATOR SWIFT: Yes.

Senator Schulze: Senator Swift votes yes. Senator Rebecca Willits.

SENATOR WILLITS: Yes.

The motion was adopted by a vote of 50 in favor and two opposed .

VI. Faculty Senate Representatives to the Graduate Council

Senator Allen reported that the main issue was covered in earlier discussion.

VII. Report from Faculty Senate Representatives to University Council

Senator Lillie reported that there was no meeting last month. There should be a meeting on Tuesday.

VIII. New Business

Senator Quinn said that he respected Senator Matejkovic's comments; no one won in this vote. Going forward, we still have a job to do. We have to work with the administration. We should all do our best to work on shared governance.

VIX. Good of the Order

None.

X. Adjournment

Chairman Rich adjourned the meeting at 5:18 pm.

Any comments concerning the contents in The University of Akron Chronicle may be directed to the Secretary, Pamela A. Schulze (x7725). facultysenate@uakron.edu

Appendix A

DRAFT – FOR CONSIDERATION ONLY
University of Akron
Faculty Senate
February 2, 2016
Proposed Resolution

NO CONFIDENCE IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNIVERSITY OF AKRON PRESIDENT SCOTT SCARBOROUGH
Whereas the University of Akron is chartered by the state of Ohio to provide affordable higher education to students and produce scientific and cultural research for the benefit of Ohio and its citizens;

Whereas President Scott Scarborough was charged by the Board of Trustees to increase the standing of the University of Akron within the state University system, to increase student enrollment of the University of Akron, and to stabilize the finances of the University of Akron;1

Whereas shared governance is a fundamental principle of American public universities that connects faculty and administration together, defined by the Association of Governing Boards as that which, "should align the faculty, board, and administration in common directions for decision-making regarding institutional direction, supported by a system of checks and balances for non-directional decisions. This tradition of both academic freedom and constituent participation is strikingly different from that of business and more akin to that of other peer-review professions, such as law and medicine";2

Whereas the reputation and operation of the University has been negatively impacted over the past year, as evidenced by
1. Declining enrollment under the tenure of President Scott Scarborough: preliminary Fall 2016 enrollment data for incoming freshman indicate a decrease of over 30% as compared to similar data for Fall 2015, although other Ohio state universities are experiencing enrollment increases;3

2. The miscommunication by the President of the budget deficit, as the President repeatedly told the public that the University had a "$60 million budget problem," although this figure included estimates for deferred maintenance and discretionary spending;4

3. The reductions of key services on campus, such as IT, Distance Learning, and Admissions, as a result of the elimination of staff positions over the summer of 2015. These reductions brought widespread protests, from within both the University and the community;

4. Declining donations by 42% over the summer of 2015, with major donors suspending their financial support from the University; 5

5. Discord among faculty, students, alumni, and community members arising from the actions and miscommunication of the President, as evidenced by numerous letters to local news organizations stating opposition to the policies of the President;6

6. The majority (72%) of faculty in a fall 2015 survey indicating they did not have confidence in the ability of the President to lead the University and 80% of faculty stating that the University was in "worse shape" than when the President took office;7

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1 Scott Scarborough, "More than Harvard: Building a Great Public University in Northeast Ohio," City Club of Cleveland, The Mandel Forum on the State of Higher Education in America, May 15, 2015. Scarborough recalled he was told by a Board member that he was hired to "move the University of Akron from the left-hand side of the napkin to the right-hand side of the napkin with Ohio State, Miami, and Cincinnati."

2 Bahls, Steve. 2015. "What Is Shared Governance?" Association of Governing Boards, December 21, 2015.

3 WKBN Staff. 2016. "Enrollment up at Youngstown State University," WKBN, January 26, 2016; McCray, Vanessa. 2016. "BGSU, UT see gains in spring enrollment," Toledo Blade, January 27, 2016; Pompili, Dan. 2015. "Kent State enrollment nears 30,000", Record-Courier September 17, 2015.

4 Akron AAUP. 2015. "Analysis of the University of Akron Financial Status," September 22, 2015; Armon, Rick. 2015. "University of Akron squeezed by building boom, falling enrollment and flat state revenue," Akron Beacon Journal, September 19, 2015.

5 Burg, Eileen. 2015, "Not Donating to UA," Akron Beacon Journal, October 28, 2015; Buchtelite Staff. 2015. "How Many Times Must We Ask for Transparency?" University of Akron Buchtelite, December 3, 2015; Miller, Marylin, 2015. "Prominent women's affiliate of University of Akron lashes out over rebranding and cuts donations," Akron Beacon Journal, September 11, 2015; Armon, Rick. 2015, "University of Akron sees donations fall," Akron Beacon Journal, October 23, 2015.

7. The attempt by the President to increase student fees for the 2015-2016 academic year, only to be later rescinded, in part because of vocal opposition by the University community and prohibitions by the state legislature;8

Whereas the President and current administration appear to be directing fundamental changes in the approach of the University to education, embarking on these with little to no faculty involvement, on accelerated timetables, and without regard to shared governance, including

1. The "rebranding" of the University as a polytechnic institution with minimal input from faculty or students; 9

2. Implementation of policies that interfere with the graduate education and research mission of the University, including reductions in the number of tenure track faculty, proposed changes to graduate funding, and changes to the distribution and access of research funds;

3. Hiring of significant numbers of non-tenure track faculty, in direct opposition to the strategic plans of the various colleges of the University;

4. Hiring of deans and directors despite the serious concerns and objections of faculty and search committees;10

5. Outsourcing of fundamental University responsibilities to outside, for-profit, and out-of-state vendors, abruptly and with little or no consultation with the University community; 11

Whereas the Ad Hoc Committee charged by the Faculty Senate of the University of Akron to examine the present state of progress of the University and the interrelations existing between the University President and administration and the University faculty has concluded that 1) the reputation and operation of the University has been negatively impacted over the past year, and that 2) there have been severe violations of the principles of shared governance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Akron has no confidence in the policies of the current administration and the ability of President Scott L. Scarborough to lead The University of Akron.12 3

[6] Cleveland Plain Dealer Editorial Board, "University of Akron President Scott Scarborough has to do a better job explaining his actions," September 22, 2016; Letter to the Editor, "University of Akron president wrong to imply media is a scourge," Cleveland Plain Dealer, November 2, 2016; Letter to the Editor, "Scott Scarborough failing to serve University of Akron properly," Cleveland Plain Dealer, August 4, 2015; Letter to the Editor, "Time for New Leadership at UA," Akron Beacon Journal, December 1, 2015; Bond, Jane. 2016. "Why so many oppose the direction at UA," Akron Beacon Journal, January 5, 2016; Douglas, Michael. 2015. "This time, leave the PowerPoint home," October 31, 2015; The Association of The University of Akron Retirees, Letter to Board of Trustees, September 12, 2015.

[7] Farkas, Karen. 2015. "University of Akron faculty deeply concerned about President Scott Scarborough's leadership," Cleveland Plain Dealer, September 28, 2015; Blue, Lauren. 2015. "University of Akron faculty express overwhelming dissatisfaction with the administration," WKSU, September 28, 2015.

[8] Farkas Karen. 2015, "University of Akron juniors and seniors angry about fee increase for courses, student leaders say," Cleveland Plain Dealer, July 9, 2015; Nethers, Dave. 2015. "University of Akron credit hour fee hike angers many." Fox8 Cleveland, July 14, 2015.

[9] Farkas, Karen.2015, "Changing the University of Akron Name Draws Strong Opposition," Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 1, 2015; State Impact Ohio. 2015. "Faculty, Students Not Behind Proposed University of Akron Name Change," May 4, 2015; Horne, Chris. "Scarborough email contradicts earlier 'no name change' claims," The Devil's Strip, December 4, 2015; Verstraete, Mary. "UA engineering faculty opposed to name changes," West Side Leader, October 29, 2015 (letter sent on behalf of 42 College of Engineering faculty).

[10] Horne, Chris. 2015. "The King's Ransom: Why some faculty think Scarborough is hand-picking (and overpaying) his unqualified friends to lead U of Akron," The Devil's Strip, August 15, 2015.

[11] Pelzer, Jeremy. 2015. "Founder of non-profit running University of Akron's 'success coaching' program faces fraud allegations," Cleveland Plain Dealer, October 27, 2015; Niedermier, Kevin. 2015. "University of Akron success coaching program moving forward; New student retention effort has sparked criticism because of university layoffs," WKSU, Friday, August 21, 2015; Lederman, Doug. 2015. "Casting Its Lot with a Start-Up," Inside Higher Education, August 7, 2015; Horne, Chris. 2015. "A Tale of Two Proposals: Sorting out TrustNavigator's pitch for UA's student success coaching job," The Devil's Strip, August 1, 2015; Farkas, Karen. 2015. "University of Akron Outsources Dining Services," Cleveland Plain Dealer, August 25, 2015.