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Faculty Senate Chronicle September

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September 1, 2022

19 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

1. Ratified an action of the Executive Committee: Approval of the Summer graduation list.
2. Elected the following persons to the offices listed below: Faculty Senate Vice Chair: Dana Cole; Faculty Senate Executive Committee Members: Melissa Dreisbach for 1-year term, Joel Duff and Mahesh Srinivasan for 2-year terms. Graduate Council Representatives 1-year terms: Nita Sahai and Galen Karriker, Ohio Faculty Council Representative alternate Stacia Biddle 2-year term.

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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF

September 1, 2022

The meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, September 1, 2022 in Teams. Senate Chair Kathryn Budd called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

Of the current roster of 41 senators, 35 attended the meeting. Senator Weinstein was absent with notice. Senators Bixler, Brainard, Buldum and Mudrey-Camino were absent without notice.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Budd called for changes to the agenda; none were offered. With no objections, the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

II. Adoption of minutes of May 5, 2022 meeting

Chair Budd called for additions or corrections to the minutes; none were offered. With no objections, the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

III. Remarks of the Chair

Welcome to the 2022-23 academic year! I hope you all found at least a little time to rest and recharge over the summer months.

The Faculty Senate is the legislative body of the faculty at the University level. Its meetings are relatively formal and are conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order. Senators who wish to be recognized should type "request" into the chat window and wait for me to recognize you. Please be aware that both senate meetings and minutes are part of the public record, and members of the media are in attendance. I know that you will keep debate civil and respectful; address comments to the chair to de-personalize any contentious issues. If I mispronounce your name, let me know the correct

pronunciation so I can do better next time. To preserve bandwidth for all, turn off your mics and cameras until you are called on to speak.

I extend a warm welcome to all newly elected and re-elected senators. Thank you for your willingness to serve and thank you to the senators and non-senators who serve on our many committees - this body couldn't function without you. I want all senators to know that I have an open-door policy. Please contact me at any time with any questions or concerns you may have. My effectiveness in this position comes from understanding your needs, and the needs of the students, academic advisors and faculty you represent.

I welcome Michael J. Saxon, Trina M. Carter and Brooke Campbell of the University of Akron Board of Trustees. Board Chair Gingo will continue to meet with the Senate Executive Committee this year; I am very glad of the opportunity to continue to improve communications between senate and the Board of Trustees.

At this meeting, we will conduct elections for the Executive Committee (also known as the EC), representatives to the Graduate Council, and the Ohio Faculty Council. I hope you will consider running. The EC must also appoint a Senate representative to the University Council Talent Development and Human Resources Committee; contact me if you are interested in serving.

Last year we held a series of informal meetings to give senators the opportunity to speak with President Miller and Provost Wiencek in a more relaxed setting. The EC has decided to continue these meetings, but we are changing the format. At the University of Akron, we embrace multidisciplinary research and teaching as a way to "un-silo" the University. Senate - where students, academic advisors and faculty come together to represent our diverse populations - presents a natural opportunity to continue to connect with colleagues across campus, but the formality of senate meetings can get in the way. One of the most rewarding aspects of being senate chair is interacting with colleagues from other colleges and departments, I would like you all to have this opportunity, too. Therefore, we are organizing two senate retreats per semester where senators can socialize and connect with each other

informally, then discuss topics of interest to us all. The President, Provost and upper administrators from areas related to

discussion topics will be invited to join us. I invite you all to suggest topics going forward, but for our first retreat we've been given the opportunity to hear the new enrollment plan for the University. Please mark your calendars for September 22 at 3pm for our first retreat, when Dr. Stephen McKellips, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, will present the new plan and hear your input. Location information will be forthcoming, but this will be a face-to-face meeting to encourage open dialogue.

The opportunity for senate to give feedback on an initiative before it is finalized or announced publicly is a great example of the sea-change that has occurred in shared governance at our University in the past two years. This administration is working hard to include the faculty and staff perspective in the governance of the University. Toni Bisconti, President of the Akron-AAUP, Tonia Ferrell, Chair of University Council and myself were invited to participate in two cabinet-level leadership retreats in the past few months. Our feedback was solicited and it informed the decisions being made. We don't always agree, but we are always listened to. Knowing that faculty, staff and student input is being actively sought and listened to makes me optimistic about the future of the University – I hope it does you, too.

Secretary Hartsock will report on the actions of the EC over the summer, but I wanted to give an update on the Academic Investment Committee and procedures. We have appointed eight faculty to the committee, thank you to everyone who volunteered and agreed to serve. We selected a diverse group who represent each of the colleges. At our May senate meeting, many of you expressed concerns about how the AIC process would work. The EC and Provost Wiencek had productive discussions over the summer about how to address those concerns, and the Provost suggested a plan that would streamline the process while giving faculty a voice in budget and academic investment, at the departmental and university levels. I've been working with the Provost, the senate EC and the Akron-AAUP to further refine the process and hope to be able to share more details with you soon.

Even as we continue to return to a new state of normalcy in the classroom, remember that students may still be experiencing difficulties with home and academic life due to the pandemic and other circumstances beyond their control. Don't forget that your early intervention makes the difference between a student dropping out or getting the support they need to be successful at the University. Faculty, contact students early if you see their attendance begin to slip. CC their academic advisor on your email. Filing a Help-a-Zip referral – the link is at the bottom of every Digest email - will connect them to professionals who will get them the resources they need.

The administration and staff have worked tirelessly through the year to recruit the best students from a wide catchment area. I know that many of you have helped with that effort, too, but as I consider the membership of this body, I think our superpower may be with retention. Academic advisors provide valuable support, continuity, and guidance. You keep students on track for graduation and help them navigate a system that can be bewildering. Adjunct and full-time faculty inspire, mentor and challenge students academically, doing everything they can to ensure their success. And students – you provide the community and peer support vital to a new student's sense of inclusion and belonging in our learning community. Let's all remember that every interaction with our new and returning students is an opportunity to let them know that we want them here, we believe in their success and that they belong at The University of Akron.

And finally, don't forget to take some time for yourselves when you need to. I know you are all working hard to do your best for our students, while pursuing an active research agenda, and serving your programs and university, but you can't do all of that well if you don't occasionally take time to recharge. Please take care of yourselves, and together, let's make this a great year.

IV. Special Announcements

Dennis K. Sullivan, professor emeritus, passed away after a brief illness. Denny served The University of Akron and his students for 37 years as professor of Manufacturing Engineering Technology. He cared deeply about student success and was a mentor to students and faculty. He served as an academic advisor for many years, in addition to his teaching duties and service on faculty

advisory committees. As an alum of the university and a lifelong Zip, he continued to support the University and its students through financial contributions and by establishing scholarships in Marketing and Music.

V. Report of the Executive Committee

Since our last meeting in May, the Executive Committee has met nine times.

The EC has approved or recommended assignments for the Senate committees, vacancies on UC committees, the ad hoc Academic Investment Committee (AIC), the Training Task Force, the First Year Experience Task Force, and a senate liaison to the Steering Committee for the Carnegie Research Community Engaged Campus Reclassification. The EC ratified election results from the colleges for senate appointments. The EC also approved the list of summer graduates which will be brought to the full senate for ratification today.

The EC continued efforts to formalize and operationalize Section B of the MOU on shared governance in preparation for the launch of the ad hoc Academic Investment Committee this academic year.

The EC discussed obstacles and solutions for the graduate admissions process. In August, the committee received an update from Vice Provost McKellips on the build out of a single stream application system that will go into place in August 2023. In the interim, applications are being processed through a single pathway and previous issues have been resolved.

At the request of the provost, the EC discussed the transfer credit process and interest in automation of the process to achieve faster processing of transfer credit. In the spirit of shared governance, the topic will be considered by APC to allow a recommendation to be brought to senate.

The EC met with Provost Wiencek and Wendy Lampner to discuss the UA-Coursera partnership.

The Senate-EC met twice with Provost Wiencek and Vice Provost McKellips to discuss enrollment and how faculty can get involved.

The EC met with Chair Gingo, President Miller, and Provost Wiencek for a wide-ranging discussion on the state of the university and future opportunities. These meetings were found to be productive by all and will continue this academic year.

The EC has also decided to continue the informal senate meetings for this academic year. We are planning for two meetings, which we are calling retreats, each semester. The president, provost, and other members of the administration will be invited. We are hoping to also allow for some time for socializing during these retreats.

For more information on these discussions, please contact Angela Hartsock.

Following the report, Chair Budd called for ratification of the Summer 2022 graduation list. Senator Franks motioned to ratify. Chair Budd called for discussion; none ensued. With no objections, the ratification passed unanimously.

VII. Remarks of the President

President Miller acknowledged Brooke Campbell (Student Trustee) and Michael Saxon (Board Member). He also acknowledged Dr. Paul Levy as his new Chief of Staff; he shared that Dr. Levy is doing a fantastic job with lots of work ahead. President Miller sees an advantage in Dr. Levy's great knowledge of faculty work and the university.

The president thanked the alumni affairs group and recapped the Lock 3 event noting participation from CEPS, the Myers School of Art, and the "Ohio's Pride" Marching Band.

The cabinet leadership had a retreat and invited Tonia Ferrell (UC Chair), Kate Budd (Senate Chair), and Toni Bisconti (Akron-AAUP President). The president stated his commitment to shared governance and a focus on enrollment in the coming years. He expressed confidence in the plan and asked for cooperation and collaboration.

President Miller shared his sentiments surrounding events in the Akron area over the summer and his perspective that as a public university there is an obligation to convene conversations around race. The administration has engaged with the Akron Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, Love Akron, and board members. UA has hosted a discussion with major community leaders and will be hosting a series of discussions in the future. President Miller found these discussions useful and illuminating and see opportunities for involvement from the campus community. He expressed his appreciation for support going forward.

President Miller shared the news of a generous \$5 million dollar endowment from Joe and Linda Gingo to fund the position of Dean of the School of Law. This is the first endowed dean position at UA and an example of the Gingo's commitment to the university and how much the UA School of Law meant to his success.

President Miller updated the senate on the upcoming visit from the HLC. Provost Wiencek and Interim Vice Provost Urgo are preparing for the visit; he acknowledged the many contributors to the preparation of a great report and a fair representation of the current state of UA.

In September, the Knight Foundation Board, long-time supporter of UA, meets in Akron and UA will have an opportunity to showcase the university.

There is a change in IUC leadership with the retirement of Bruce Johnson. There is a search underway for a new president; President Miller is serving on that committee. He noted the importance of hiring someone with political skills and a deep commitment to the values of higher education.

President Miller echoed Chair Budd's sentiments that everyone needs to take care of themselves and brought awareness to the ongoing high level of mental health issues. The cabinet completed the incognito training to aid in identifying students with mental health challenges and connecting them with resources. He encouraged everyone to take the weekend to refresh.

President Miller ended by expressing his excitement for the coming year and the need for changes in how UA operates. He restated his commitment to shared governance and his goal to put UA in a position to offer as many people as possible an opportunity for education at UA. He extended his thanks and his hopes to return to in-person meetings and the informal senate meetings.

President Miller invited questions.

Senator Sterns asked for the president's perspective on the current discussion on student loans and costs.

President Miller acknowledged that the forgiveness of student loans will help some at UA. He emphasized that UA has always been an affordable option and Provost Wiencek and VP McKellips have ideas for scholarship strategies that circumvent debt.

Senator Levin asked for information on faculty hiring, specifically diversity hiring.

President Miller directed the question toward the provost but noted success in the last year in minority hiring for BCAS.

Provost Wiencek pointed to the decentralized budget and the discretion deans have with their budget; he suggested asking the deans.

President Miller confirmed that the administration is trying to get the decision closer to the faculty.

Senator Levin, building on President Miller's remarks on racial tensions, emphasized that additional diverse faculty hires will be beneficial.

President Miller agreed and pointed to suggestions in the Diversity Roadmap that are being implemented.

VII. Remarks of the Provost

Enrollment: Provost Wiencek expressed his pride in our commitment to enrollment. The application target was 9,600 which was exceeded resulting in a freshman class that is flat (exact numbers pending census data on day 14). The provost noted excitement around strong international enrollment, however, visa processing is slowing things down. Some students might not be enrolled by census, but he encouraged faculty to accommodate international students who may be registering late, especially for online courses. He noted while we can claim some victory on enrollment we cannot rest on our laurels, the referenced numbers are new students on campus whereas for total enrollment we do have a decline. He stated a flat freshman enrollment won't negate the previous four years but flat or slightly up enrollment over the next four or five years will be a good sign and could represent a turning point.

VP McKellips is already engaging future classes and will be pushing out new enrollment targets. VP McKellips joined UA and hit the ground running with a deep understanding of enrollment and of the academy and strong philosophies on how faculty can help. The provost encouraged senators to reach out to have VP McKellips meet with your department. The draft enrollment plan will be shared with relevant groups and includes ten to twenty specific actions to implement right away to impact next year's numbers. The provost shared a quote from VP McKellips stating, "We're in really good shape."

Provost Wiencek expressed optimism and encouraged everyone to continue the good work; he urged everyone to be open to some changes, to avoid past mistakes and think through consequences,

to enact change and have conversations in parallel, and to iterate quickly and correct course. He believes patience and communication will help us make better decisions.

Academic Investment Committee (AIC): The administration continues to work on the launch of the AIC. The provost emphasized this idea as originating with the union negotiating team with the goal of getting faculty ideas on investment connected to the people making the decisions. The original avenue pursued had faculty submitting ideas to the provost; Provost Wiencek considered that might be redundant and outside the mainline process of budget development. He acknowledged this is not a clear process, but that CFO Grundy is attempting to clarify the budget development process. The provost is encouraging a process where the faculty senate can weigh in on budget recommendations as they are being made, essentially embedding senate in the mainline process and ensuring input occurs before the budget has been allocated. This requires input in fall and early spring for actionable impact on the next fiscal year budget. This will require a timeline that ensures all stakeholders are incorporated in the process at the right time; a draft grid with major milestones will be shared and discussed with the AIC. The provost anticipates clarifying the process and sharing it widely in the next month.

Workday: The Workday implementation continues; the provost noted some missed deadlines and an extended timeline which will add some cost. The implementation team is keenly focused on meeting new deadlines with a philosophy to do it right rather than quickly.

Akron-AAUP: The administration continues efforts on workload policies and updates to the MOU on shared governance. In the provost's perspective, things are going very well with continued progress.

HLC: The provost reminded senate of the upcoming HLC visit on September 12th and 13th. He considers the campus to be well prepared and he anticipates a good visit.

Leadership searches: The Senior Vice Provost position has been posted and is moving quickly with the goal of a new hire to start by January 2023. The searches for a Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences and the Director of the School of Nursing will continue this year with the goal of first hiring the dean who can then weigh in on the director hire.

Provost Wiencek invited ideas and questions from senators.

Senator Elbuluk asked about IDC accounts and noted the history of faculty accounts being swept a few years ago. The IDC accounts were restored with promises of not being swept again. The senator asked for clarification on whether this was still a valid assurance considering recent IDC sweeps.

Provost Wiencek acknowledged the IDC accounts should have been discussed around carryover as the university develops a distributed budgeting system. For this year, the generalized policy was to sweep about half of the carryover; the IDC got included in this sweep. The issue fell off the radar; funds will be moving back into the colleges. The provost noted VP Bausch is assembling a group which will provide advice on carryover of IDC. The provost stated that IDC, expenditure on graduate assistants, and waivers all impact university revenue; our current process is not consistent with most other universities, and we need to evaluate best practices. The provost also encouraged a larger discussion around waivers, but he looks to VP Bausch to lead that discussion.

VP Suzanne Bausch shared her intent within the next week to distribute a memo to deans that should be shared with faculty. The faculty task force will look at incentives and investments for supporting research along with prioritizing communication between research-based units and colleges. There will also be a research council that will include research units, deans, and associate deans. She plans to share more details this semester.

Senator Sterns requested clarification on faculty involvement in the Coursera partnership.

Provost Wiencek stated the partnership is focused on certification and non-credit training activity which do not normally require faculty involvement. He noted the partnership was discussed with the Senate-EC and though it is not directly related to curriculum, the administration would like to see faculty involved. He feels that some of the certificates would be things that could be awarded credit (he referenced PLA) and could be promoted to students and then bundled with our courses. He shared that the partnership has Akron branding and UA is working with local businesses who may be interested in credentials for workers. The provost sees this as an opportunity for faculty and a way to make modest revenue and increase enrollment. He expressed appreciation for the comment and feels faculty involvement would be great. Within departments faculty could work on having offerings in multiple formats (alternate between online and face-to-face) so students at different stages of life and learning styles could access courses. UA could also have cohorts starting more frequently.

Senator Evans returned to the IDC topic and pointed to two issues. First, most pressing, faculty IDC accounts were swept, and funds are not available. He sought clarification on whether those funds

would be restored back to those individual accounts. Second, related to the discussion about future IDC, who will be involved in those discussions.

VP Bausch shared that on August 5th, 50% of carryover from IDC accounts was swept; that money will be returned to the colleges. The memo will explain this more and faculty should contact deans with questions. For the future, the task force for incentivization of research and the research council will be involved in those conversations

Provost Wiencek said that the so-called summer salary tax will be included in those discussions; everything is valid for discussion. He stated UA is not in a position to give all these things away and realistic financial decision-making is required. UA didn't have a good system in place to incentivize and reward faculty, but systems can be put in place. He wants to see these conversations play out and VP Bausch is integral to this.

Senator Evans clarified that he considers it to be a mistake to take the funds from individual faculty, who acquired the funds, and put them in the hands of the deans.

Senator Sahai concurred with Senator Evans; she expressed faculty felt a huge shock to lose money that was budgeted for and that funds cannot be described as returned since they went back to the college not the faculty. She stressed the unpredictability of research, the impact of equipment breakdowns, and the need to support PhD students throughout their program. A promise was made by the administration that those funds would not be touched. She continued, emphasizing that IDC is used to cover contingencies both now and in the future; she expressed her understanding of budget concerns, but this shows a lack of dedication to research.

Provost Wiencek expressed his understanding of the strong feelings related to this topic. He acknowledged that sweeping the accounts doesn't work and UA has to get money back in faculty hands to satisfy commitments and immediate and/or emergency needs. He stated the need to have shared responsibility around start up funds for new faculty if UA wants to grow research productivity. In the long term, there needs to be a better understanding of how money is moved around, in the current circumstance it is taking a step in the direction of sharing resources at the college level to meet start up needs and equipment repair.

Senator Sahai noted that fallback mechanisms are supposed to be in place that provide money needed for hiring, seed proposals, and general support of research.

Provost Wiencek acknowledged it was a mistake to sweep the IDC accounts and they are moving fast to fix it while trying to balance future needs. He feels resources are needed at the college level that PIs can turn to; UA can mimic R1 institutions. UA has been generous in the past (early 2000's) from the general fund but is now back in line with national averages but maybe went too far.

VP Bausch urged senators not to assume the IDC has all been taken away; the conversation has already started with the provost.

Provost Wiencek wished to make clear that IDC is going to be moved back toward colleges and PIs. UA needs multiple stakeholders involved due to the last decade of financial pressures that have resulted in decisions that disincentivized research. He wishes to see a better ecosystem. He apologized to all faculty and thanked VP Bausch for bringing it to his attention. He wants everyone to focus on the task force and fix things moving forward so commitments can be honored.

Chair Budd encouraged senators to bring important issues to the Senate-EC.

Senator Makki thanked the provost for addressing the senate and recognizing the mistake. She pointed to two separate issues of concern. First, moving forward what needs to be done with IDC; Senator Makki recognized the role of the task force here. Second, looking backwards, faculty made plans based on money that was there, she sought clarification on whether faculty will have to request that money from the deans.

Provost Wiencek feels that isn't clear yet. He emphasized IDC as money given to the general fund as a reimbursement of expenses already made. The return of IDC is the university recognizing that research is part of the mission. The intention is for the money to continue to promote research. What the administration doesn't want is large amounts of money being carried over and not reinvested in growing research. The administration wants to have that discussion.

VIII. Senate Elections

Executive Committee 4 members: vice-chair (1-year term), at-large three (2-year terms)

Representatives to Graduate Council: 2 representatives, (1-year terms)

Ohio Faculty Council: 1 alternate (2-year term)

Vice-chair (1-year term):

Senator Hartsock nominated Senator Dana Cole.

With no further nominations, Senator Franks motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Cole. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Cole was elected by acclamation.

EC Members at-large, three (2-year terms)

First Position:

Senator Hartsock nominated Senator Joel Duff.

With no further nominations, Senator Makki motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Duff. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Duff was elected by acclamation.

Second Position:

Senator Cole nominated Senator Mahesh Srinivasan.

With no further nominations, Senator Franks motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Srinivasan. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Srinivasan was elected by acclamation.

Third Position:

Senator Biddle nominated Senator Melissa Dreisbach.

With no further nominations, Senator Srinivasan motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Dreisbach. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Dreisbach was elected by acclamation.

Representatives to Graduate Council: 2 representatives, (1-year terms)

First Position:

Senator Hartsock nominated Senator Nita Sahai.

With no further nominations, Senator Stoyhoff motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Sahai. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Sahai was elected by acclamation.

Second Position:

Senator Hartsock nominated Senator Galen Karriker.

With no further nominations, Senator Biddle motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Karriker. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Karriker was elected by acclamation.

Ohio Faculty Council: 1 alternate (2-year term)

Senator Biddle self-nominated. With no further nominations, Senator Levin motioned to close nominations and elect Senator Biddle. With no objections and no apparent dissent, Senator Biddle was elected by acclamation.

Committee Reports

CCTC – Workday Steering committee report (Appendix A)

Senator Randby shared that all systems that interface with Peoplesoft are in need of consideration. The committee finds six systems important to faculty.

1-The law school application system which will be interfaced with Workday.

2-Brightspace must be interfaced with Workday and not replaced by Workday.

3-The classroom evaluation/survey system.

4-Qualtrics, which is important to many faculty, needs to be interfaced with Workday.

5-Courseleaf, the curriculum proposal system, needs to be discussed since much effort went into standardizing this system.

6-The “homegrown” student evaluations of teaching system. Two years ago, CCTC found that the system is low cost and can continue to be supported and doesn’t consider it necessary to replace it with Workday.

He noted that decisions haven’t been finalized yet and the steering committee is meant to make decisions around scope of the project. The committee will advocate that we interface all these systems with Workday to avoid disruption; he again stressed that in the committee’s view, UA shouldn’t abandon CourseLeaf and the student evaluation system in favor of Workday. He invited comments and opinions.

Chair Budd invited questions or input; none was provided. She invited senators to read the report and get in touch with Senator Randby with comments.

IX. Akron-AAUP report— Toni Bisconti

Senator Bisconti shared four major things the Akron-AAUP has been working on:

1-Workload: Progress is being made and the LMPC and administration are working closely. They have reached the point where workload letter and policies are coming out and she is happy with the progress.

2-The national AAUP became an affiliate of the National Federation of Teachers. She sees this as a strong move due to the large membership and will better position the AAUP to protect academic freedom.

3-UA has reinstated two faculty from the reduction in force.

4-Akron-AAUP is starting a membership drive.

XI. Graduate Council report

No report.

XII. GSG report—Senator Swanson

Senator Swanson provided updates on recruitment for open senate positions, alumni outreach efforts, and regular meetings with Dr. Usher and Dr. Messina. GSG is planning to become a more active and visible organization and improve networking resources. They are receiving applications for the professional enrichment grants and are also working on updating the GSG webpage.

XIII. USG report—Senator Garchar

Senator Garchar reported a productive summer. USG kicked off the year by helping students become acclimated to campus. He wanted to encourage everyone to be kind and courteous to students

as they settle back into classrooms, considering mental health issues and ongoing COVID. USG funded the installation of the Aunt Flow machines in the Student Union. USG also took a prominent role in orientation. USG is continuing the Zips Heartbeat platform to focus on mental health and wellness.

XVI. Report of University Council Representatives – Senator Evans

Senator Evans reported the UC was busy over the summer. UC reviewed committee descriptions and tasks moving forward, supported the food truck event on campus, and continued with strategic planning efforts. With the appointment of three faculty fellows for strategic planning, Senator Evans is hopeful to see progress this academic year. He also encouraged senators to use the UC website topic submission button to bring topics to be reviewed and sent to appropriate people.

XVII. *New Business*

No new business.

XVIII. *Good of the Order*

None.

XIX. *Adjournment*

Chair Budd adjourned the meeting at 4:39 pm.

—Angela Hartsock, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to ahartsock1@uakron.edu.

APPENDIX A

Workday Steering Committee Faculty Senate Report

The Workday ERP replacement project missed several targets during the summer. The result is that the “go live” date of the Workday Platform part of the project was extended to April 2023. The cost of this extension is estimated to be over \$400,000. The source of the money needed to pay for the extension has not been divulged by the administration despite the inquiries of the author of this report. The systems that interact with PeopleSoft (the current ERP) must be evaluated to determine if they will be replaced by Workday or interfaced with Workday. A system is eligible for replacement if it is determined that Workday contains the full functionality of the system.

The systems that are most critical to faculty are these:

- (1) the system that handles applications for admission to the School of Law,
- (2) Brightspace,
- (3) the classroom evaluations system (used to survey classes),
- (4) Qualtrics,
- (5) CourseLeaf (the curriculum proposal system), and
- (6) the system that handles student evaluations of teaching. It is clear that Workday does not contain the full functionality of any of these systems. There are also many important factors not related to Workday’s functionality which indicate that these systems should be interfaced with Workday instead of replaced by it. The author of this report was told in one discussion that is probable that all of these systems will be interfaced with Workday, but final determinations have not yet been made.

The main function of a steering committee is to make decisions about issues that have escalated to the steering committee level. If a proposal is made to replace any of the aforementioned systems with Workday, then that proposal will most certainly be considered by the Steering Committee. The author of this report views his job as working to ensure that any such proposal is rejected by the committee.

Scott Randby
Workday Steering Committee Faculty Representative