



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present: See attached sign in sheet

Guests: Dr. Gordon Gee, Quality and Value Initiative Listening Tour

Chair Dan Krane called the meeting to order at 12:31 PM on December 13, 2013.

Approval of the agenda: was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes: November 10, 2013. Rudy Fenwick moved approval as distributed, seconded by Paul Farrell. Unanimously approved.

Dr. Gee reported that the funding formulas have us working on lean budgets. Non-funding of the formulas leads to bad policy. Gov. Kasich came in with an \$8 billion deficit. He wanted to keep Higher Ed a priority. Capital Bill at \$400 million. Gov. lobbied IUC for how to spend the funding. All 13 institutions and all community colleges unanimously approved a proposal. The proposal is based on completion. Community colleges rewarded on course completion and university is 50% on graduation. Still working on details. The process has been to build trust between institutions and government. A more pugilistic approach was used previously. Higher ed are the darlings of state budget and we are currently in a strong position. Across the nation, there is a \$17 trillion budget deficit and \$1 trillion is in student loans. If defaulting goes up we can be responsible for a problem much like housing. The 'for profit' universities are a greater problem than state institutions but we will be part of the fallout.

We need to do a better job defending ourselves as to the value provided by higher education. In order to increase quality we have to come up with unique responses that are individualized by institution. The current federal administration is very regulatory, not rewarded for risk taking. We need to decide what is the business of our business? Teaching and learning should be our priority. Are we in the parking, golf course or airport businesses? Everyone has different sites of opportunity and so approaches have to be individualized. Trustees need to be educated on the needs of the faculty and institutions. Two main things in the institution are talent and culture. Talent is there but culture is lacking and a problem. Biggest problem is complacency "endowed by God to do things the way we do them." No curiosity on how to fundamentally improve how we function and provide services to students. We need to find a way to fix this process

ourselves or they will be imposed on us by the State. Need to keep our best people here attract the best we can and provide the best education at an attractive affordable price.

Faculty need to be recruited to be a creative force for change. They are often treated as if they cannot be the agents of change. A constructive relationship is necessary for change.

Q&A:

With impending mass faculty retirement how do we factor this in?

We lose talent but it is an opportunity to recruit new talent in. We need a reward and recognition system that allows young and ambitious to strike out in new paths based on a different viewpoint.

As people retire those replacing may not be tenure track

Dr. Gee stated that it is both good and bad. If we change the reward structure different statuses may be viable. Don't believe in adjuncts believe in different statuses that are treated equally. Tenure system dates back to agrarian society with summer off to plant and tenure to protect academic freedom. All laws currently protect academic freedom but none address academic responsibilities.

No tax credit to cover room and board but only on tuition.

Recommendations to legislature this type of issue will be addressed.

At UT an issue or concern is to try to understand the funding formula. Is there a site to access for this?

One of the reasons for the lack of clarity is still trying to figure it out so that everyone can win. The old formula had winners and losers. Still trying to figure the system out to provide a fairness factor.

What can we do to assist in defending ourselves?

Do what you do and do it very well. Big budget cuts elsewhere but we've been protected by comparison. Faculty and administration engaged with community will help.

Any hope of lower bureaucracy at the Federal and state level?

Almost all increases in administrative costs at OSU were due to regulatory requirements from government and even at the institutional level. Many caused by an overreaction to problems that result in the creation of oversight regulations. The State is actually improving in this regard right now. John Carey is currently very supportive.

Any comparison in the role of faculty between state and private institutions?

The politics of change are at the smaller institution. Public institutions are more over regulated but great people. He likes public institutions and doesn't think they are any more difficult to manage.

The committee had further discussion following our guest's departure concerning our role in these issues.

Old Business

WHITE PAPERS ON: SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE OFC, FACULTY ROLES IN COMMENCEMENT, BUDGET PRIORITY COMMITTEES (drafts to be distributed at the meeting)
Law passed that would enable the University's BOT to award voting privileges if they choose.

We need a couple of sentences that summarize faculty's input to the BOT.

We need to document the consequences of decisions that result in very high student to faculty ratios: such as reduced retention and completion rates.

New Business

WHAT SHOULD WE BE REPORTING IN CAMPUS REPORTS?

Campus Reports

Akron University

- 10 years of program reviews waiting to be dealt with
- Knight foundation report

Bowling Green State University

- 30 - 40 layoffs coming for non-tenure track faculty this year.
- More may be on the way but the number has not been finalized
- No tuition increase for next year
- Retention has increased for this past fall from spring

Central State University

- Nothing major is going on at this time.
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Cleveland State University

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Kent State University

- Searches are proceeding for a new President, and for Deans of Nursing and Podiatric Medicine.
- Official openings of the Kent State Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Kent, and the University Esplanade connecting the university and downtown. The latter will be named the Lester A. Lefton Esplanade by the Board of Trustees at its

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December meeting to honor the current Kent State President and his role in the fostering the new era of town-gown collaboration.

- Pilot of student assessment instruction of Work has commenced on a new building for the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology and is planned this year on renovations and extensions to other buildings the science corridor.
- Fall 2013 Semester, Kent State University has set a new record, attracting the biggest and highest-achieving freshman class at the Kent Campus in the university's 103-year history. With the release of the university's official 15th day census data for the Fall 2013 Semester, Kent State reports the total number of first-time, full-time freshmen enrolled at the Kent Campus is 4,314. This exceeds last year's freshman class count of 4,076 by 5.8 percent. It also surpasses the record set in 2011 of 4,284. The average GPA of our new freshmen is 3.3, which is terrific. More than 75 percent of our incoming freshmen have GPAs of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment at the Kent campus in Fall 2013 increased by 1.1 percent. Total enrollment across the university's eight campuses is now 41,891 students. Enrollment of international students is up 10.37 percent at 2,447 total international students.
- Kent State is conducting a pilot study on online in-class administration of Student Surveys of Instruction in the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 semester to determine if this can achieve comparable response rates to those of paper surveys.
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NEOMED

- Accredited through 2023.
- Celebrated 40 years
- New buildings will be available next year.

Miami University

- No report

Ohio State University

- We are continuing our search for a new president, and we remain hopeful that the Board of Trustees will be ready to appoint a new president by the end of this academic year.
- In addition, there has been some debate among the faculty about a new Human Resources policy regarding our health plans. In particular, the new policy required faculty to complete a Personal Health Assessment in order to save money and receive a variety of health plan options. However HR administrators, including the Vice-President, were quite receptive to our concerns and we are working to make the process more useful and effective for faculty members.
- Our Senate Steering committee has also created a committee to review the current budget model, and they are scheduled to provide their assessment next semester. Lastly, as of January 1, 2014, OSU will become a tobacco free campus.

Ohio University

- No report

Shawnee State University

- The president of Shawnee State University announced that an additional \$2 million in cuts to the Academic Affairs Division are being planned for next year's budget. The College of Professional Studies is wrapping up a search for a new dean in hopes of having the new hire in place by the start of spring semester. Our provost is retiring at the end of this academic year and the administration has yet to announce its plans for a search committee. The Faculty Senate gave its approval to a new admissions policy aimed at maintaining our status as an open access university, while also assisting in improving our retention and completion rates. The Senate also adopted a resolution in support of a reform of the university's general education program. Departments in all colleges are currently completing special internal programmatic reviews, made at the request of our Board of Trustees.

University of Cincinnati

- We are continuing with our contract negotiations. Faculty action has begun: silent march to BoT meeting last Tuesday. Key issue now is increased cost of healthcare.
- Last football game has been played in Nippert Stadium; renovation has begun. It will be 24/7 renovation.
- Currently seeking Dean for Engineering and Applied Science. Dean of Allied Health and Dean of Graduate School will be retiring in 2014. Dean of A & S stepped down, Sr. Vice Provost is Interim Dean. An interim Vice Provost is being appointed.
- UC did well with SSI. Our enrollments are projected to increase next year.
- Faculty are actively involved Prior Learning Assessment and Complete College Ohio OBR initiatives.
- Faculty are most interested in faculty and non-faculty role and ownership in courses offered online.
- AAUP-UC negotiations are continuing. The momentum has picked up.

University of Toledo

- In year 3 of no contract
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Wright State University

- The Faculty Senate has created an ad hoc committee as a result of concerns about the language skills of foreign students entering WSU this year. The charge to the committee (The International Program Oversight Committee) is:
- Review all existing and proposed undergraduate and graduate international programs so as to give a report and make recommendations to the Senate Executive Committee prior to its meeting on January 6, 2014 regarding:
 1. Admissions requirements,
 2. Articulation agreements,

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3. Academic program requirements, and
 4. English and foreign language requirements.
- Where appropriate, the University's infrastructure and support for these programs should also be evaluated in terms of their ability to assure that the educational experience of the students in these programs are of uniformly high quality.

Youngstown State University

- Interim report was recently published stating that the budgetary adjustments that have been made re getting YSU on track
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The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, January 10, 2014 at 12:30 PM.

Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.