



## The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present: See attached sign in sheet

**Guests:**

Dr. David R. Hopkins, Chair of Inter University Council and 6<sup>th</sup> President of Wright State University

Zach Waymer, Director of Experiential Learning and Outreach at the Ohio Board of Regents.

Chair Dan Krane called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM on November 8, 2013.

The meeting's agenda: was approved by unanimous voice vote.

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

**Guests:**

Dr. Hopkins presented provocative remarks with a key focus on the opportunities for higher education in Ohio. Dr. Hopkins stressed the importance for ALL voices to be heard. There are 88 institutions of higher education in Ohio and each has a voice. Governor Kasich has given higher education the opportunity to explore our future. Our current Chancellor is a listener. Now is a time for higher education to speak. Dr. Hopkins and Dr. Krane will be drafting a number of Op-Ed articles to provoke more voice. Publication of these Op-Ed articles will be targeted to key media outlets across Ohio. The next Op-Ed piece will focus on College debt. Recently all universities in Ohio submitted their 6 Year Capital Plan....Governor Kasich is supportive of capital funding. Another recent action by the Governor was the appointment of Gordon Gee to head the Commission on Quality and Value in Higher Education. This commission is due to have a report in the summer of 2014. Currently Dr. Gee and the chancellor are conducting a listening tour...They want to hear Voices....the goal is to create a 21<sup>st</sup> century vision of quality and value in Ohio's Higher Education institutions.

Dr. Hopkins shared his personal view that the role of higher education is evolving. Further, higher education needs to focus on a multidimensional model. Today a curriculum must be designed that meets today's student population. The curricula must reflect the changing demographic. Dr. Hopkins commented that quality of higher

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education cannot be judged by inputs alone. There must be quality in Input, Quality in Experiences within programs, and Quality in Outcomes.

Ohio Faculty Council members and Dr. Hopkins discussed fallacies and truisms specific to graduation rates. The newly devised SSI formula in Ohio was explained with differentiation between 2 year, 4 year, and regional campuses being addressed. Dr. Hopkins also shared data relative to college debt. He shared that 46% of students attending public universities graduate with no debt. Further, less than 4% of students attending public universities have >\$100,000 debt, less than 30% of the debt that students have is related to tuition and fees, and lastly not all college loans are used for college expenses. Dr. Hopkins ended his remarks with encouraging all to attend the listening tour being conducted by the chancellor and Dr. Gee. He encouraged all to attend and share their voice. His parting comment was 'Be Part of this...Let Your Voice Be Heard'. The presentation was well received by all present.

Mr. Waymer began his comments with encouraging all to check out the Quality and Value in Higher Education Commission website on the Ohio Board of Regents site at [http://ohiohighered.org/content/quality\\_value\\_higher\\_education](http://ohiohighered.org/content/quality_value_higher_education) . He shared that an individual can submit comments or ideas on the site and encouraged members to do so, as appropriate. The focus of Mr. Waymer's remarks was on Internships and Coops. Information can be found on the OBR site under Agency Initiatives. Three key goals of this initiative include: 1) Promote systemic approaches to Coops and Internships in Ohio, 2) Disseminate Best Practices through learning communities, etc. and 3) Assure effective grants management, specifically with a focus on a) sustainability, and b) relevancy One of the goals is to invest more money in campus capability and capacity to expand and enhance their co-op and internship programs while making them highly relevant to the workforce needs of students and businesses. Mr. Waymer shared that currently funded institutions can be found on the website. He encouraged members to review the websites: <https://ohiohighered.org/grants> and [www.OhioMeansInternships.com](http://www.OhioMeansInternships.com). He shared that the state would like to have more students students and businesses participating in co-ops and internships while, involving students earlier in their academic career, have more faculty engaged and more campuses with co-op and internship programs in place

Op-Ed Pieces: Dan Krane shared the he and President Hopkins are writing a variety of such pieces. He will sign them not only as head of WSU faculty, but also as Chair of OFC. If anyone has a concern, please let him know.

### **Old Business**

a. As a follow up to Stephanie Davidson's invitation for the OFC members to attend the Trustee Conference in October, Dan Krane attended. He reported that over 300 trustees were in attendance. He shared that the Governor spoke for over an hour and was very proud of the new SSI formula. The Governor then introduced Dr. Gee as being the head of the Quality and Value in Higher Education Commission. The Chancellor spoke also. In addition, the trustees are required to take an ethics class every two years...so many

attended the offered class. The priority topic at this year's conference was At Risk Students and How to Care for Them.

b. Best Practices Reports:

b1. Adrienne Lane, UC, thanked everyone for responding to her request concerning how membership on the OFC was determined at each institution. Based on the information received, Adrienne created a chart which she distributed. She requested that each person review the chart for accuracy and get any changes or corrections to her prior to our next meeting. Adrienne verbalized that from collecting the data it became apparent to her that there may not be a "best practice"; instead the process is dependent upon the university's governance structure, the faculty involvement in governance, and the university norms. She will update her chart and report at the next meeting.

b2. Dan Krane, WSU, shared that a recurring theme related to Faculty Roles in Commencement is that there is not a lot of faculty engagement in the actual planning of the ceremony. Further, it is common that faculty have no role in awarding of honorary degrees. More discussion will be held on these points at the next OFC meeting.

b3. Andy Feight, SSU, reported that he is continuing to gather information from OFC members regarding faculty role in budget and priorities. He shared that some universities have a separate budget and priorities committee. Further discussion will be held in December.

9. New Business:

**New Business**

a. Dan Krane encouraged everyone to review the most recent Op-Ed article. He will target major newspapers in Ohio plus smaller papers in the WSU 'Raider country'.

b. Stephanie Davidson suggested Dan Krane as the OFC Chair may wish to reach out to the private universities for dialogue. Dan is planning to do so.

c. The OFC agenda is posted on the OBR website. Our meetings are open, public meetings.

**Campus Reports**

[Akron University](#)

- The AAUP and UA administration agreed on a new two year contract, retroactively from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015. The contract includes a 2% raise for bargaining unit faculty for the 2013-14 year, 1.5% across the board and .5% merit. Any salary adjustment for 2014-15 would likely be bargained retroactively during negotiations for the next contract starting in 2015. There were no major changes to other contract provisions.
- Bill Rich and I are on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees Search Committee for the next President of UA.

[Bowling Green State University](#)

- BGSU's administration is in the process of creating a policy describing faculty workload. They have created a rough draft, have asked department chairs for

existing policies and held an open forum to discuss the issues. Faculty Senate has created an ad hoc committee to help the administration. In short, there have been a lot of conversations university-wide regarding faculty workload and how this workload policy may impact our ability to offer high quality instruction.

- The new state share of instruction is negatively affecting our university. We may be facing more layoffs after losing 76 faculty members this year.
- Faculty Senate and the Union (BGSU-FA) have been working together to create a positive and sustainable pattern of interaction as part of shared governance. Our mutual goal is a strong union and a strong faculty senate. We will be looking to our colleagues at other universities to share strategies for making this happen.
- BGSU has been working towards a goal of sustainability for many years. However we are currently revitalizing our efforts in hopes of making progress in three main areas: Greening the practices and policies of the university, Improving the design and efficiency of our facilities, and strengthening a culture of environmental stewardship for the entire university community.
- Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, our Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences recently became Dean of our new Honors College. Yesterday he officially resigned as our Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences so the university will soon be looking for a new dean.
- Dr. Marie Huff (from Western Carolina University) was hired to be dean of the College of Health and Human Services effective January 1, 2014.

### Central State University

- Faculty vacancy lines are not being filled currently
- New student center is going up. Students complained it doesn't have basketball courts and a bowling alley.
- New Provost is going around and meeting with students, faculty, and staff to see what challenges they are facing.

### Cleveland State University

- We welcomed our largest ever incoming freshman class of around 1,750 students this year. The new privately run housing that took up three parking lots is at 95% occupancy and the school-owned dorms are also at capacity with waiting lists. This is changing the face of CSU considerably. Ensuring the success of all of our students, but particularly freshmen, who are in the most vulnerable year in terms of dropping out, is the mantra from the President, and while there are many more supports for students now than when I first joined CSU 14 years ago, the major influence on a student's decision is still the experience they have in our classes. We had 7 faculty and 10 visiting positions unfilled at the beginning of this year, and we have had more than 30 new searches authorized for this year, which means we are nearly all on a search committee! Our numbers have been falling

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consistently since 2007, from a high of 450 to the current number of 360, a 20% reduction while our enrolment is way up in undergrad (but less in graduate) and unless we can fill all our searches this year, the strain on the established faculty to pick up the teaching and service loads for unfilled faculty lines grows every day.

- Meanwhile, administrative bloat continues unabated. Here are some sobering figures compiled by our AAUP chapter. The table below shows the numbers of administrative positions in 04-05 and 11-12 and the increase.

	Vice President	Vice Provost	Dean	Assoc. Dean	Asst. Dean	Dir.	Assoc. Dir	Asst. Dir
04-05	9	4	8	13	5	45	9	5
11-12	16	4	8	14	5	62	6	19
Change	7	0	0	1	0	17	-3	14

- We are in the midst of changing our entire undergraduate curriculum from a predominantly 4-credit model to a predominantly 3-credit model. The real work did not begin last year until after the Board passed their resolution in March that was in opposition to the recommendation of the University Curriculum Committee. This was followed at the next Senate meeting by the Vote of No Confidence in the Administration. The day before the Senate meeting there had been a open forum which was supposed to be for faculty, however someone got a lot of rowdy students to come to it and take over the meeting by shouting at the president and those on stage, including the chairman of the Board and another Trustee, that they didn't want their degree to be longer or more expensive, which is what they had been told by "someone". This had a sobering effect on the administration, but did not change the resolve of the BOT to implement the change for the 14-15 academic year, less than one year from now. A new time-block grid will be introduced at the same time, which has been the source of more frustration about faculty voices being left out.
- The curriculum conversion really ramped up over the summer, and some faculty got small summer stipends to work on it, but one of the biggest problems that has come to light recently is that the lack of time has caused a lot of issues with coordinating across departments and colleges.
- The next major stumbling block in this implementation process likely to be how to ensure that thorough advising of students in transition is completed in the Spring Given the complexity of the changes we are implementing, there is no easy way of doing this, other than face-to-face appointments. Our advising staff and faculty advisors are already managing huge case loads, so it the university administration working with faculty and staff do some strategic thinking and planning around this issue.

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

- No report

### Miami University

- No report

### Ohio State University

- No report

### Ohio University

- No report

### Shawnee State University

- An expedited national search for a new Dean of the College of Professional Studies has begun, with hopes of having the new hire in place in time for the spring semester. The Faculty Senate is considering a resolution in support of a reform of the university's General Education Program. The faculty are also considering proposed changes to the faculty senate constitution, amendments which were triggered by the recent realignment of colleges and departments.

University of Cincinnati

- AAUP-UC negotiations with administration are continuing. The momentum has picked up.
- We currently have just one dean search open; this is for College of Engineering and Applied Science. Our university administration is stable at this time. Our President continues to be very popular with students as well as faculty.
- As a faculty senate cabinet, we are continuing to monitor spending for athletics.
- The new Provost, who came from Purdue University, is faculty friendly and, among many things, is looking at 5 year enrollment and related faculty needs.

University of Toledo

- No report

Wright State University

- Dr. Steve Berberich, chair of the department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, has been named Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs. Campus interviews are underway for a VP of Enrollment and Marketing and a new director of Disability Services.
- 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,
  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.
- The Faculty Senate Executive Committee is also recommending that the administration proceed expeditiously with the recruitment of a new VP-level position -- a chief information officer.

Youngstown State University

- YSU had the official installation of President Dunn on Friday, November 1. Chancellor Carey was in attendance
- The details of the budget changes are starting to roll out and it was announced that the Instructional Technology Center will be closed on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Associate Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, Ken Schindler reported that the majority of the services will be picked up in other formats across campus so it is expected that minimal disruption of services will be experienced.

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- YSU also changed its enrollment policy. President Dunn announced that YSU will no longer accept any applicant who applies. Each applicant will be considered on a case-by-case basis but applicant with very low ACT scores (6-12) will likely not be admitted as they are not college ready. It is not expected to affect that many students.

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, November 13, 2013 at 12:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.