Minutes, September 17, 2013

Roll: (Absentees Underlined) President Daniel DiBiasio, VP David Crago, VP William Ballard, VP Ken Block, VP Larry Lesick, VP Adrianite Thompson-Bradshaw, Dean Catherine Albrecht, Dean Eric Baumgartner, Interim Dean Thomas Kier, Dean James Fenton, Dean Richard Bales, Chaplain David MacDonald, Dr. Alisa Agozzino, Dr. Jeffery Allison, Mr. Eric Ambos, Dr. Joanne Brant, Dr. Denise D’Arca, Prof. Jennifer Donley, Dr. Kami Fox, Dr. Paul Govekar, Dr. Firas Hassan, Dr. David Kisor, Prof. Kelly Kobiela, Dr. Lou Lobenhofer, Dr. David Mikesell, Dr. Sue Montenery, Dr. Michelle Musser, Dr. Brian Myers, Dr. Kristie Payment, Dr. Ronald Peterson, Dr. Susan Schertzer, Dr. Sandy Schroeder, Dr. Jenny Walton

Jeff Allison, Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in Dicke Hall 230.

I. Minutes of April 30, 2013 meeting approved as distributed.

II. Chair appointments and elections for University Council 2013-2014:
   a. Parliamentarian: Joanne Brant
   b. Vice-Chair: Lou Lobenhofer
   c. Secretary: Jenny Donley
   d. University Council Representative for the Assessment Committee: Alisa Agozzino

III. Reports from Constitutional Committees
   b. Academic Affairs: Committee met on September 9. They are currently discussing a consistent definition of a credit hour. This discussion is driven by Academic Affairs office and is related to accreditation. There is a need for a universal definition that will work with all types of courses.
   c. Student Activities: No report.
   d. Personnel: Two attached reports from the Grievance and Undergraduate Promotion and Tenure Appeals committees. The committee is currently working on a review of the Sexual Harassment Policy.

IV. Reports from Operational Committees
   a. Athletics: The turf process is going very well and should be done in 2.5 weeks, in time for the home game on October 5. The turf cam continues to scan the stadium. The turf will allow onu to offer varsity lacrosse sports for both men and women. Positions are posted on the HR website for coaches so that the recruitment can begin next fall, and competition can begin in the spring of 2015. Since he became VP, David Crago has appointed faculty representations that are not associated with athletics to the search committees for all head coach searches.
   b. Information Technology: An email about changes to the structure of emails lists went out today from Jeff Rieman. No additional report.
   c. Cultural & Special Events: There will be a meeting this Friday. No additional report.
   d. International Affairs: We have hit an all-time high for international students at the institution.
   e. Religious Affairs: The committee has not yet met. David MacDonald thanked everyone who attended and supported the 9/11 memorial. Religious Life is seeing an increase in general for all of their events.
   f. General Education: Committee will be doing the assessments for two of the eight outcomes in October over Fall Break. It’s time to get capstone courses tagged.

V. Other Reports
   a. Vice-Presidents
      i. Academic Affairs: In preparation for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit, the HLC steering committee met with Omer Minhas to review the progress that was made to create document libraries over the summer. Working groups are charged to begin their meetings.
Also spent time with deans and chairs to determine what hours are required for the various 4-year degree completions, to see if a 4-year completion agreement could be possible.


iii. University Advancement: On October 4 there will be a dinner to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the University in their lifetimes. Homecoming will be on October 19. Stewardship letters will be going out this week. In the past they did not go out until the spring. They are encouraging students to send thank you letters to the donors. Amy Prigge and the branding initiative: Met last week with the Brand Awareness Work Group, and they are assessing four different vendors for top-level services. They will keep moving forward with the process once they have picked a vendor.

iv. Admissions and Financial Aid: Wound up with about 616 new students and 72 transfer students, which is down from what they had wanted. The census just closed and they will have those numbers in a couple of days. The new recruiting season has begun. Applications are trailing about a week because of a timing issue. There are several new staff members in the department, and there is an opening for a Director of International Admissions. Much of the summer was spent on training. Have met with departments and colleges all over campus, and travel has started for the reps.

v. Student Affairs: New staff members in Student Affairs: Nicole Hamilton in Greek Life and Jamienne Scott as the International Services Coordinator. A student behavioral intervention email was sent out at the beginning of the school year. Asking for more eyes and ears on campus: if something seems wrong, there is a form to use to inform the department: http://www.onu.edu/node/35941. Family day is this weekend and 300 families have registered to attend. David MacDonald and Get Connected ONU: new online portal where students can connect with volunteer opportunities in Ada. David thanked Chris DiBiasio for the idea, and both Dan and Chris for their support.

b. Deans

i. Arts and Sciences: Aaron Wright has started as the new Coordinator of Non-Traditional Studies, and his programs of focus have a healthy enrollment for fall. Dancing at Lughnasa will be this Thursday-Sunday at the Freed Center. Dr. Sharon Norton, from the Mathile Institute for Advancement of Human Nutrition, will be the Keiser Lecturer this year on October 8. The Elzay Gallery is hosting an international exhibit of miniature books.

ii. Engineering: This is the self-study year for the accreditation that will happen in fall of 2014. Reached out to faculty for their syllabi to complete an institutional summary report for each engineering program accreditation. They will have their first graduate this year for Engineering Education. Ranked 33rd in the nation in a peer assessment of engineering undergraduate colleges.

iii. Pharmacy: A dean search committee has been formed and a search firm has been contracted. The firm will be on campus September 27 to determine what to look for in dean candidates.

iv. Business Administration: This is will be the 7th year of student-employer networking events through the help of our alumni. There will be about four of them this year in major metropolitan areas. These help with job placement and internship opportunities for the college. Last year they had about 15 CPA firms, including the big 4, to interact with 40-50 of our accounting majors, including the graduate students.

(Report submitted by James Fenton):

The Dicke College and the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants are sponsoring and hosting select Accounting faculty from Kansas State University’s business school who will be delivering a three day training program called The Accounting Pilot and Bridging Program – a program that trains high school teachers to teach high school students the first course in Accounting at the college level. Kansas State’s program is modeled after the College Board’s successful Advanced Placement (AP) program. Our combined objective is to be able to submit a proposal to the College Board for the Board to adopt Accounting as part of its AP curriculum.

Our three day training program will train 20 Ohio high school teachers. It will occur during the ONU fall break, October 13-15 in Dicke Hall. This training will be provided free of
charge to the 20 teachers. The real purpose for the Dicke College to engage in this initiative is to interact with the high school teachers, and additional teachers like them in the future, and to attempt to influence them to send their promising students to the Dicke College and ONU to major in Accounting. This is an admissions strategy for us.

v. Law: This is the site inspection year. Team members will be coming to campus this Sunday-Wednesday.

c. Student Senate: The Budget Appropriations season is here, and applications are open until this Friday. If you chair a group, encourage them to go through the process. Senate’s housing representative elections are being held online this Monday through Wednesday.

d. Health Services Advisory Committee: There will be forums for open enrollment in the near future.

VI. Chair/Faculty Comments: Jeff Allison encouraged the members of Council to reach out to younger/new faculty to let them know that they are the reps to Council.

VII. President Comments/Questions: Rebecca Yeh is a third year Pharmacy major and she competed in the 2014 Miss America pageant on Sunday, which included a stunning violin performance. In regards to the calendar, this was the second year for Convocation and Civic Engagement Day. Good feedback has been received for Convocation, and Civic Engagement Day had 300 students and 29 projects around the community. Good feedback as well for the first year of the Common Reading Experience program. There will be a separate Pharmacy commencement starting this year, on the same day as the undergraduate commencement. This will allow for more family members to attend the events in King Horn. Strategic Planning is in the implementation phase. The operational agenda was put together with action steps related to the Strategic Plan. All of the related documents will be online on Friday for the community to see. There are separate pages for the working groups, and an invitation for the community to make suggestions to the working groups on those pages. The groups that have not yet met will start meeting soon, and some that met over the past year will be providing reports in the near future. The USDA will be on campus soon to continue conversations about financing opportunities, which include finding out if ONU is eligible for the financing of capital improvement projects like the renovation of the Engineering building. October 4-5 will be the first Board meeting of the year. This year they will begin discussing tuition in October, as opposed to waiting until the winter meeting. Focus will be on the price point, and looking at the model for a reduction in tuition. There is no simple solution due to the varying tuitions across the colleges. Two recent articles on this subject that the President suggests: Inside Higher Ed’s article, “Small private colleges steeply cut their sticker price, but will it drive down college costs?” and Chronicle of Higher Educations’s article, “In Admissions, old playbook is being revised.” Both were published this week, and will most likely be shared with the Board in October.

VIII. Unfinished Business: None.

IX. New Business: None.

X. Announcements: Larry Lesick announced that Engineering will have an open house this weekend for prospective students.

XI. Adjournment at: 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donley, Secretary