Minutes of the December 3 Meeting

I. President DiBiasio called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

II. Invocation was offered by Harold Putt.

III. Minutes from October 22, 2013 were approved as submitted.

IV. Unfinished Business: None.

V. Approval of Fall Term Graduates: Melanie Hough requested approval of the fall term graduates with the following additions: Aaron Daniel Craft, Jayde E. Culver and Shelby Nicole Langdon (College of Arts and Sciences); Austin Travis Price (College of Business Administration). (See Academic Affairs website under Faculty Agenda for the distributed list). Fall term graduates were approved.

VI. Honorary Degree Recommendations: Jon Smalley requested approval of the following four recipients for honorary degrees: Mark Evan Butler, John Genovese, Robert Kerscher and Nils Riess (See Attachment 1 on the agenda for further details). The honorary degree recipients were approved.

VII. Report from University Council: Jeff Allison shared that Council discussed the definition of a credit hour at the last meeting. Council also reviewed revisions to Appendix 14 of the faculty handbook regarding the selection, appointment and evaluation of department chairs. Recommendations included a term length of four years with the possibility to continue for an additional four years. At that point, a new chair will be selected. Please see your elected representatives for additional information, questions or concerns.

VIII. Reports from Constitutional Committees:

a. Budget and Appropriations: No report.

b. Academic Affairs: Firas Hassan urged faculty members to read the discussion surrounding the definition of a credit hour. The committee is currently working on a second draft. Please provide feedback via email.

c. Student Affairs: Jenny Walton announced that the committee met on October 29th and approved the following: The Northern Ski and Board Club and The ONU Law Students for Reproductive Justice.

d. Personnel: Michele Govekar announced that the committee met on November 19th to finalize review of sabbatical applications. The committee will meet again today (December 3rd) to begin review of pay recommendations that will be sent to the Budget & Appropriations committee by mid-December. The committee has also been working on a revision to Appendix 14 of the faculty handbook regarding department chair selection. The revision that was received from a SPFB working group states that the appointment is for four years, may be terminated during that period, and requires evaluation no less than every two years. The committee submitted its further revision to University Council on November 19th. One correction and a friendly amendment were made at that point.

e. Lisa Robeson commented that it was great to hear the committee report and inquired about obtaining minutes from the meeting. Julie Hurtig responded that minutes can be found on the Academic Affairs website. Jennifer Donley added that document revisions can be found attached to the agenda.

IX. Reports from Operational Committees:
a. **Athletic Events:** Tom Simmons announced that Nate Rosenbaum won the Elite 89 Award. This award recognizes the student athlete with the highest GPA competing in the NCAA championships of his or her sport. This is the third Elite 89 award that our student athletes have won this year.
b. **Cultural Events:** Laurie Bell announced that the committee will be meeting on Friday, December 6th at noon in McIntosh 202. Feel free to join the meeting.
c. **International Affairs:** Julie Hurtig announced that the committee has been actively pursuing additional agreements with study abroad partners and is also working on resurrecting old agreements that have become outdated. Please contact Brian Keas with any ideas for potential study abroad partners. Brian Keas added that the committee will meet this Friday (December 6th).
d. **Religious Affairs:** Chaplain David MacDonald announced that the committee is in the process of approving a new student group, Ohio Northern Christian Apologetics. The committee is also working with the President’s office to plan the Baccalaureate service for next semester. The Chaplain added that the deadline for submissions for the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest is January 6th, 2014. The essay contest is supported by the Martin Luther King, Jr. subcommittee of CASE.
e. **Information Technology:** Jeff Rieman announced that they are working on the technology training needs on campus. They will be rolling out a Moodle workshop for students and will be repeating the Moodle training sessions for faculty during the spring semester.

X. **Questions for the President:** President DiBiasio made a few announcements before opening the floor to questions.
   a. Forums will be held in the McIntosh ballroom on Monday and Tuesday of next week (December 9th and 10th) to discuss enrollment issues and finances, respectively. If you cannot attend the forums, the information will also be distributed online.
   b. President DiBiasio thanked the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for their excellent preview of the NMR equipment. The students did a great job supervising.
   c. In Lumosity’s recent rankings of the “smartest colleges in America,” Ohio Northern University ranked 80th out of 457. The ranking is based upon the scores of 60,000 students playing a battery of games on the Lumosity website that challenge five cognitive areas. These rankings all have limitations, but consistently appearing towards the top can have positive effects for the university.
   d. During the January or February faculty meeting, the SPFB working groups will discuss what they’ve been doing so everyone is aware of the work that has been occurring in those committees.
   e. The annual performance evaluation of the Provost and three year performance evaluation of the President will be on the agenda for next semester.
   f. Sarah Waters commented that she was happy with her health care coverage and asked if the university was moving to the Affordable Care Act. The President responded that the ACA impacts adjuncts and part-time employees, but does not affect the core of our health care coverage. Lou Lobenhofer added that the health care plans that were being terminated were plans that you probably would not want anyway.

XI. **Questions for the Provost:** None.

XII. **Other Reports:** None.
XIII. New Business: None.
XIV. Announcements:
   a. Alisa Agozzino announced that Jenny Walton was honored at the National
      Communication Association’s “Teachers on Teaching” program right before
      Thanksgiving break in Washington, D.C. As one of four selected from the entire nation,
      Jenny was recognized as one of the discipline’s most impressive and effective teachers.
   b. Russ Crawford announced that Phi Beta Delta will have three football players share their
      experiences traveling in Ireland. The event will be held in Dicke Forum on Wednesday,
      December 4th at 7 PM.
   c. Jennifer Donley announced that Heterick Library and the Ada Public Library will be
      conducting “Food and Feet for Fines” drives through the end of next week. Donated food
      will be given to the Ada Food Pantry, and donated shoes and socks will be given to the
      Helping Hands Charity in Kenton. She also announced that the sustainability work group
      will be sending out a survey in the near future to gather information about current
      sustainability/recycling efforts in the different departments across campus. The group is
      trying to gather as much feedback as possible.
   d. President DiBiasio announced that collections will also be made at the annual university
      holiday celebration to benefit the local community. Donated items will be given to
      ReStore and the Ada Food Pantry. A list of needed items accompanied the invitation that
      was distributed via email.
XV. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:26 AM.

Submitted by,

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Leslie A. Riley
Secretary