Minutes of the February 25 Meeting

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

II. Invocation was offered by Jenny Walton.

III. Minutes from December 3, 2013 were approved as submitted. (January 28, 2014 meeting was cancelled due to weather).

IV. Unfinished Business: None.

V. Report from University Council: Jeff Allison shared that Council met on Tuesday and passed a policy to adopt a common university syllabus for courses. This common syllabus will be a skeleton version that you can alter to fit your courses. He also shared that representatives will be visiting colleges to find interested individuals to run for at-large positions. The list of individuals will be approved at the March meeting with voting at the April meeting.

VI. Reports from Constitutional Committees:
   a. Budget and Appropriations: Kathleen Baril reported that the January meeting was a joint meeting with the Personnel Committee. They were looking at faculty recommendations for salary adjustments.
   b. Academic Affairs: Julie Hurtig clarified that the student handbook has been updated and does not align with the faculty handbook with regards to travel. For now, reference the student handbook because it is the most up to date. The faculty handbook will be updated shortly. Also, definitions of different class types (e.g. lecture, laboratory) were released. Please look through the list and update your courses so the registrar can have this information prior to registration. Finally, an odd rule that allows incompletes on transcripts is being fixed.
   c. Student Affairs: Jenny Walton announced that Student Affairs will meet on Friday.
   d. Personnel: Michele Govekar announced that the Personnel Committee met with the Budget & Appropriations Committee in late January. The Personnel Committee also responded to two questions from faculty. The first question involved calculation of summer teaching compensation under the Northern Promise. The second question was related to faculty liability in performing their duties of teaching, intellectual contributions and discipline-related service.

VII. Reports from Operational Committees:
   a. Athletic Events: Tom Simmons announced that many have inquired about the opportunity to recreate in the Sports Center. We are nearing the end of the busy season and space should be opening up. There is a men’s and women’s basketball conference tournament doubleheader tonight and there will be thousands of visitors to ONU’s campus over spring break for the high school basketball tournament games.
   b. Cultural Events: No report.
   c. International Affairs: Julie Hurtig and Brian Keas announced that they are actively seeking nominations for the Karen Condenni Ambassador award. This new award recognizes an ONU student that has been influential in helping our international students. Applications and nominations are due March 12th. They are also seeking nominations for the Bruce Burton award that supports international students. Brian is also working with a number of academic units to insert placeholders into various curricula for students that would like to study abroad. Finally, Brian is also seeking self-nominations for the
Shuhaibar Scholarships for international students. Nominations are due to the deans’ offices by Friday, February 28th.

d. Religious Affairs: Chaplain David MacDonald announced that the committee has been working on baccalaureate for the Saturday of commencement weekend. The theme this year is “Breaking New Ground.” Abby Auman (Class of 2003) is a pastor at Greensburg United Methodist Church and will be the keynote speaker. The committee is currently looking for a student speaker, musicians and readers of scripture, prayers, or sacred poetry. The committee also met with a proposed campus group, Ohio Northern Christian Apologetics. There will be a service of remembrance and healing in honor of Tim McMullen. A group is currently meeting to make plans. If you know any students that are struggling with this tragic event, please let them know that the Chaplain and the Counseling Center are both available.

e. Information Technology: Jeff Rieman announced that IT will be arranging training on Blended Learning. The training will cover areas such as best practices, available tools and assessment. Dates will be announced soon.

VIII. Questions for the President: President DiBiasio made a few announcements before opening the floor to questions.

a. The March University Faculty Meeting is now scheduled for March 18th instead of March 25th.

b. President DiBiasio acknowledged the great sadness our campus experienced because of the death of Tim McMullen. The service for Tim will be in LaGrange, Ohio. A number of individuals on campus are working in conjunction with the McMullen family to have a memorial service on campus as well. During a crisis of that magnitude, the university worked with the best available information and will look to this situation to improve upon the university’s response in the future.

c. Provost Crago is making really good progress. He is working remotely from a rehabilitation center. We hope to have him back on campus a couple times a week by the end of March. President DiBiasio expressed his appreciation to all that have shared thoughts and prayers with him.

d. A number of items were covered at the last Board of Trustees meeting.

i. The Board accepted the proposals for promotion and tenure. The following individuals were granted tenure and were promoted to associate professor:

1. Benjamin Ayling (Getty College of Arts and Sciences)
2. Firas Hasan (Smull College of Engineering)
3. David McClough (Dicke College of Business Administration)
4. KofiNsia-Pepra (Getty College of Arts and Sciences)
5. Kelly Reilly-Kroustos (Raabe College of Pharmacy)
6. Sarah Waters (Getty College of Arts and Sciences)

ii. Ken Reid was promoted to full professor.

iii. Sue Montenery, Andrea Alexander and Brian Anderson were promoted to associate professor.

iv. Katherine Marshall was promoted to assistant professor.

v. The Board approved tuition and fee proposals related to Northern Promise.
vi. The University has decided to defer applying for USDA funding for a new engineering building. We will continue to plan and fundraise.

vii. The Board met members of working groups and steering committees involved with master planning for the University. The same individuals will be involved in Open Forums in March to get feedback from faculty and staff. The report should be finished by October.

viii. The university endowment has improved. In December 2012, 121 funds were underwater. Now, only 71 funds are underwater. These numbers equate to $5.9 million in underwater funds in 2012. Now, only $3.5 million is underwater and makes more money available for spending during the 2014 – 2015 school year.

ix. President DiBiasio expressed his appreciation to the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry for their excellent lunch presentation and to David Kosmyna for the evening Jazz Combo. These events showcased our student and faculty excellence.

e. The branding initiative for the University has been launched. We will be working with a firm from Philadelphia that has recently worked with a few other Ohio schools, including the University of Dayton.

f. Evaluations of the Provost and the President will be coming up shortly.

g. Terry Keiser provided an update from the Sustainability Working Group. The committee has been meeting often and has come up with a list of potential campus plans, projects and initiatives. Some examples are as follows:

i. Seven-year campus sustainability plan to identify priorities

ii. Creation of a solar field (The committee is currently in discussions with potential providers).

iii. Assessment of interior and exterior lighting

iv. The use of plastic and Styrofoam on campus

v. In conjunction with Mike Rush from Healthwise, exploring the possibility of becoming a smoke-free, tobacco-free campus

vi. Student projects and competitions in sustainability

vii. Assessment of food waste

viii. Seeking out external funding

ix. Creation of a sustainability house (The university will receive $25,000 to establish the house on campus. A small number of students will live in it).

x. Hybrid vehicles for campus security

xi. Replacing high maintenance lawns in some areas of campus with native prairie grasses

xii. Student faculty forums to elicit more ideas

xiii. Opportunities for community service with Ada schools

xiv. Auditing of different buildings (The committee is meeting with the energy auditing company tomorrow).

xv. Surveys were sent to department heads today. The committee encourages your participation. The campus is currently doing quite well with recycling. This has environmental and economic benefits. The committee still needs input from individuals to prioritize these initiatives.
h. President DiBiasio added that minutes from the Sustainability Working Group meetings can be found on the Strategic Planning website.

i. There were no questions for the President.

IX. Questions for the Provost: Acting Provost Julie Hurtig expressed her appreciation for the patience of the faculty during a very busy time and with Provost Crago’s absence.

a. There will be three commencements this year. On May 11, commencement for the College of Pharmacy will begin at 9 AM and undergraduate commencement will start at 2 PM. Commencement for the College of Law will occur at 2 PM on the following Sunday (May 18th). The University will not use tickets this year.

b. Women’s and men’s lacrosse will be added during the 2015 – 2016 school year. Both head coaches have been hired and will be joining us in May to begin recruiting.

c. The HERI (Higher Education Research Institute) survey was distributed recently. Your participation is appreciated.

d. Finalists were on campus this week for the Dean of Pharmacy search. It appears that we are on schedule to fill that position. Thanks to the search committee.

e. The Health Science Initiative Report was distributed to the Cabinet and the Deans in December. This report includes recommendations to add a B.S. in Public Health, a program in Bioinformatics and an online RN/BSN program.

f. Degree Works is being implemented and will be used to keep track of student progress toward graduation. The program will be very helpful once it is implemented. The program will track majors, concentrations, general education requirements, tags, outcomes, etc. You can access it from Self-Service Banner. The College of Engineering has been validated. The College of Pharmacy is close to being validated and will be followed by the College of Business and then the College of Arts and Sciences. The goal is to have the implementation finished by the conclusion of the school year. There is a great “What If?” button that allows a student to map out the courses they would need if they switched majors. It also has a “Fall Through” bucket that shows the courses that would not count if the major was switched. Kris Shoemaker is the lead point person in the registrar’s office for Degree Works.

X. President DiBiasio thanked the members of the Health Science Initiative for all their hard work. He also thanked Brian Keas and Julie Hurtig for keeping the Office of Academic Affairs running smoothly.

XI. Other Reports: None.

XII. New Business: None.

XIII. Announcements:

a. Mary Dryczimski-Finn encouraged students to register for the Student Research Colloquium. Registration can be accessed online at http://www.onu.edu/research/colloquium. The deadline is Friday, March 21st. Undergraduate and graduate students can submit oral papers or posters and group or individual projects. The Colloquium is scheduled for Friday, April 25th. She also encouraged students to participate in Posters at the Capitol: Undergraduate Research in Northwest Ohio on Tuesday, April 8th. Registration can be accessed online at http://www.onu.edu/node/50097. The deadline is Friday, March 21st. This event is for undergraduates presenting posters of their research. Individuals and groups are welcome.
There is no fee and transportation and lunch are provided. There will also be opportunities to take tours of the statehouse.

b. Tom Hunt announced that the Wind Orchestra will be collaborating with ONU dancers to present music of Spain and New Spain on Thursday, February 27th at 7:30 PM in the Freed Center.

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Submitted by,

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Leslie A. Riley
Secretary