Minutes, October 21, 2014

Roll: (Absentees Underlined) President Daniel DiBiasio, VP David Crago, VP William Ballard, VP Ken Block, VP Larry Lesick, VP Adriane Thompson-Bradshaw, Dean Catherine Albrecht, Dean Eric Baumgartner, Dean Steve Martin, Dean James Fenton, Dean Richard Bales, Rev. David MacDonald, Dr. Alisa Agozzino, Dr. Khalid Al-Olimat, Dr. Jeffery Allison, Dr. Joanne Brant, Dr. Tevye Celius, Dr. Natalie DiPietro Mager, Prof. Jennifer Donley, Prof. Melissa Eddings, Dr. Kami Fox, Dr. Firas Hassan, Dr. Dong Hyun Kim, Prof. Kelly Kobiela, Dr. Kelly Reilly Kroustos, Dr. Heath LeBlanc, Dr. Lou Lobenhofer, Dr. Michelle Musser, Dr. Ronald Peterson, Dr. Ed Potkanowicz, Mr. Joseph Railey, Dr. Susan Schertzer, Dr. Jenny Walton

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

I. Minutes of September 16, 2014 meeting approved as distributed.

II. Reports from Constitutional Committees
   a. Budget & Appropriations: Most recent meeting discussed the budget that was proposed to the Board of Trustees.
   b. Academic Affairs: No report.
   c. Student Activities: No report.
   d. Personnel: Committee met on October 16 and is currently reviewing sabbatical applications.

III. Reports from Operational Committees
   a. Athletics: Committee has not met. The first ever ONU night football game will be this Saturday night.
   b. Information Technology: Committee will meet soon to discuss packet shaping and how and where wireless access is offered. There is new legislature out of the federal court that might guide how ONU, as an educational institution, offers wireless access.
   c. Cultural & Special Events: Committee will meet tomorrow at noon.
   d. International Affairs: Committee has not met. The recent study abroad fair was successful.
   e. Religious Affairs: Committee has not met. Everyone is invited to the “Living Both Faith and Science” event tomorrow evening, which will be held at the Chapel.
   f. General Education: Committee has finalized the DegreeWorks system to allow students to petition to have their Gen Eds marked as complete. Julie Hurtig will then review the student’s work in TaskStream and mark the Gen Eds as completed in DegreeWorks. Julie is in need of additional aesthetic reviewers to look at homework assignments and artifacts. Julie will help with the exception forms for Gen Eds, but advisors will be contacted for help with the exception forms for majors and minors.

IV. Other Reports
   a. Vice-Presidents
      i. Academic Affairs: Please see section VI for Provost Crago’s comments.
      iii. University Advancement: Campus Campaign is underway and Campaign breakfasts are being held across campus. Homecoming was a great success despite the weather. Alumni clips will be coming out in the next few weeks. Regional alumni visits are on their websites. The 20th anniversary of the Holiday Spectacular will include special plans to recognize the anniversary. The branding initiative has been rolled out to students, trustees, and advisory councils. Currently working on a mini-viewbook, website redesign, and college-specific materials.
   iv. Admissions and Financial Aid: Report submitted by Larry Lesick:
      1. Fall travel for admissions counselors is coming to a close. By mid-November high school visits and college fairs will be completed.
2. Raymond Orinoco, Director of International Admissions, has already met with over 1,000 international students in the Far East and the UK. He will finish a trip to South and Central America in early November. For the first time at ONU the focus is on first-time freshmen who have excellent English language ability, solid academic credentials and strong financial resources. Overall Raymond will have visited over 90 high schools in 16 different countries. He has also had contact with fourteen overseas agents. We have new contracts in place with them to recruit international students on behalf of ONU.

3. New materials for admissions have been printed and are being used as we visit high schools and attend college fairs. Already complete are a travel piece, a financial aid/ONP promise brochure and “The Tip of the Iceberg,” which contains fast facts about the university. A new view book will be completed for mailing to our inquiry pool in November.

4. Visits to campus last week went well, with numerous individual visits, an open house on Friday and a group visit to campus by over 30 students from the E-Prep Academy in Cleveland.

5. Additional names have been purchased and the first of a series of communications has been sent via our search consultant, the Parish Group. We have just started to receive reports regarding response rates.

v. Student Affairs: Health screening days are coming up, and this year the Saturday screening will be held prior to the weekday screening. Preregistration is available online and flu vaccinations will be available both days. The International Services Coordinator is looking for holiday host volunteers for Thanksgiving. Polar Careers and Residence Life have extended hours on Monday and Wednesday to make services available for students who are off campus during business hours for internships, etc. In an effort to improve programming and local services, a sexual assault prevention consultant (also a 2011 ONU grad) spoke to Student Affairs this morning about additional things that could be done on campus. New requirements for the Campus SaVE Act will go into effect in 2015.

b. Deans
i. Arts and Sciences: There have been lots of high school students coming to campus recently, and the Mathematics High School Shoot-Out will be held at ONU next Tuesday. The All Ohio Choral Day will be November 1st. On November 9th, ONU will host a high school Model UN competition. The fall musical is Sondheim’s Company. The Wind Orchestra will be performing Russian music on Sunday.

ii. Engineering: No report.

iii. Pharmacy: No report.


v. Law: No report.

c. Student Senate: In addition to the report included in the Agenda, the Student Senate will be working with Julie Hurtig to review the HLC self-study.

d. Health Services Advisory Committee: Committee has met several times and is working hard to keep healthcare costs at a minimum. There has been some concern that Plan A is out-of-balance with the other two plans. Trying to reach a 75/25 split for how much ONU pays versus employees, but increases towards that ratio will be incremental.

V. Chair/Faculty Comments: Statement submitted by Jeff Allison:
The Board of Trustees meeting went well. The university is still trying to keep its balance through the current turbulent economic waters. Efforts to strengthen the university's financial infrastructure have improved our long-term outlook. Thanks to Dan and Bill Ballard's work to reserve money throughout this past year's short fall correction, a modest, but significant, monetary amount was saved to invest in the university's most valuable asset, the faculty and staff. The Board of Trustees supports this investment and would like to continue future investment in us.

VI. President Comments/Questions: (Due to the President’s absence, Provost Crago spoke to Council during this time.) The Board of Trustees met a week ago. They also met with the college advisory committees, meetings
which only take place every two years. Julie Hurtig and Brian Keas discussed the HLC reaccreditation with the advisory groups. Joe Railey and Jeff Allison sit on the Board, and Melissa Eddings, as vice-chair of Council, sits on the Finance Committee. The Campus Master Plan was presented and accepted by the Board to be used by ONU as a guide for future plans and fundraising efforts. The budget was the biggest conversation of the weekend, and the Board approved an extra $2 million draw from the endowment. The draw will go towards salary adjustments and operating expenses. The Deans and VPs were sent an email today concerning merit-based adjustments. Salary adjustments will happen in mid-November and will be retroactive to September 1, 2014. Ron Peterson asked how the $2 million draw will affect next year’s budget. It is expected that several programmatic changes will help, such as the new lacrosse program, expanding the funnel and having more students apply, and the RN to BSN program. This year ONU is still working through the effects of the Northern Promise and having not increased tuition for anyone last year. Susan Schertzer asked if there would be any further staff reductions this year, and the answer was no because the budget has been adopted. Melissa Eddings reported that the Finance Committee had an informative discussion as well, and that the Board is concerned but passionate about positioning ONU in a way that is beneficial to everyone.

The search committee that was formed due to Larry Lesick’s upcoming retirement will do some screening interviews in the near future, and will hopefully hold official interviews in the middle of November. Faculty searches that were pending the budget’s approval will start to move. The New American Colleges and Universities (NAC&U) group will meet once a month. Brian Keas is the campus faculty liaison for the group and the person to contact for information about programs that the NAC&U has to offer. October 31st will be the deadline for turning in HLC comments and concerns. Julie Hurtig discussed the HLC student surveys as well as the HLC request for 3rd party comments. Announcements will be made through WLIO, newspapers, radio, and other means in order to inform the community about the HLC reaccreditation and to ask for comments and concerns that can be shared directly with the HLC. Students will be sent invitations to participate in the HLC survey on November 10th. The HLC will follow up with a thorough review on campus in February. Joe Railey suggested that communications explaining the upcoming survey be sent to students prior to November 10th.

VII. Unfinished Business: None.

VIII. New Business: None.

IX. Announcements: Jenny Walton announced that the Northern Review is now available online and very impressive. The URL for the new format is: http://www.northern-review.com

X. Adjournment at 6:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donley, Secretary