

Student Engagement and Success

Minutes October 24, 2011, 2:30 p.m.

Meeting called by	Charles J. Fey
Note taker	Ginger Golz
Attendees	Fey,Charlie; Gannon,Debbie; Kline,John; Krovi,Ravi; Pleuss,Carol; Steer,David; Thorpe,Lauri
Regrets:	Herstich,Carolyn, Levy,Paul; Mothes,Holly; Pavlichich, Andrea; Yu,Jaimie;

Call to order:

Charlie Fey, co-chair/co-convener, called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. All present introduced themselves.

For background, Fey presented to the committee the ideas for possible discussion topics:

1. Freshmen housing requirement and the potential of a sophomore requirement – what are the advantages and disadvantages of this policy and should it be maintained (freshmen) or extended (sophomore as well) or eliminated?
2. Orientation programs should be evaluated to determine the most effective approach to transition our new students into the University. Discussion of offering several options (including a 2 day (overnight) option and other traditional and non-traditional options to meet various incoming student needs. Currently, group of administrators has designed a new orientation day and is looking at social networking, online and overnight stay options for parts of NSO. This should be reviewed and ratified or modified as appropriate.
3. Determine how to make DARS more widely accepted and understood as a means for both faculty and students to track student progress toward their degree and then train faculty to use this tool.
4. Collect appropriate data from sister and similar institutions about the funding and funding mechanisms for student activities and work to implement a best practice at the University of Akron so that more activities can be offered, including lecture series and social activities.
5. Evaluate all policies and practices that impact student organizations to determine if any impede student involvement or easy access to facilities, funding or other resources and therefore negatively impact such involvement. Consider other institutional examples of incorporating co-curricular activities into the general education curriculum for credit. Develop and recommend a proposal for including certain co-curricular activities as appropriate choices in the general education curriculum.
6. Evaluate the MAP-Works program as a tool for understanding students at-risk for failure and/or leaving the institution. Consider a proposal to closely involve all constituents needed to ensure the success of this tool in outreach to students. Constituents include faculty and staff across all colleges and administrative units.

Election of chair/co-convener, vice chair and secretary.

- John Kline was elected chair (nominated by Laurie Thorpe, seconded by Debbie Gannon).
- Laurie Thorpe was elected vice chair (nominated by John Kline, seconded by Debbie Gannon).
- Debbie Gannon volunteered to serve as secretary and was elected.

Meeting schedule:

Committee members agreed to meet monthly from 1-2 p.m. on Tuesdays, and the next meeting was scheduled for November 15 (Student Union 335).

Discussion topics suggested for possible consideration by committee:

- Current academic probation policy, how it is implemented, how to improve policy effectiveness.
- Experiential learning and career exploration/career development.
- Open space for student use.
- Relationship of students having completed college prep courses to on-time graduation
- Policy requiring freshmen students (and/or other levels) to live on campus

Topics selected:

- Academic probation (Fey, Mothes, Steers) [update 10/26/11 David Steers noted that “academic probation matters are already under review through the Academic Policies Committee of the Faculty Senate”]
- Policy requiring freshmen students (and/or other levels) to live on campus (Krovi, Gannon, Pavlichich)
- Experiential learning and career exploration (Kline, Thorpe, Pleuss)
- College Relationship of students having completed college prep courses to on-time graduation [update 11/2/11 John Kline reported that this topic is an academic matter that is the purview of the Faculty Senate.]

Meeting adjourned.

Committee members	Constituent Group	Email
Charlie Fey, Co-Chair/Co-Convener	VP	cfey@uakron.edu
Andrea Pavlichich	USG	amp89@zips.uakron.edu
Jaimie Yu	USG	jky2@zips.uakron.edu
Ravi Krovi	Deans	krovi@uakron.edu
Debbie Gannon, Secretary	SEAC	dgannon@uakron.edu
John Kline, Co-Chair/Co-Convener	SEAC	jk4@uakron.edu
Carol Pleuss	CPAC	cjpleus@uakron.edu
Lauri Thorpe, Vice Chair	CPAC	lauri@uakron.edu
Paul Levy	Chairs/School Directors	pelevy@uakron.edu
David Steer	Faculty Senate	steer@uakron.edu
VACANT	Faculty Senate	-

Holly Mothes	GSG	hm1@uakron.edu
Carolyn Herstich	GSG	cmh42@zips.uakron.edu
Ginger Golz	Administrative support	golz@uakron.edu

University Council documents are linked to Provost's webpage at:

<http://www.uakron.edu/provost/communication/UCEC.dot?folderPath=/provost/docs/ucec/2011/>

Future meeting dates:

Tuesday, November 15, 2011	1-2 p.m.	STUN Ballroom C
Tuesday, December 20, 2011	1-2 p.m.	STUN Ballroom C
Tuesday, January 24, 2012	1-2 p.m.	LH 413
Tuesday, February 21, 2012	1-2 p.m.	LH 413
Tuesday, March 27, 2012	1-2 p.m.	STUN 314
Tuesday, April 17, 2012	1-2 p.m.	STUN 314
Tuesday, May 15, 2012	1-2 p.m.	STUN 314
Tuesday, June 19, 2012	1-2 p.m.	STUN 314



University Council Student Engagement and Success

Minutes: December 13, 2011

Meeting called to order by John Kline 1:00 pm.

Attendees: Fey,Charlie; Gannon,Debbie; Kline,John; Levy,Paul; Mothes,Holly; Pavlichich, Andrea; Pleuss,Carol; Steer, David; Thorpe,Lauri; Yu,Jaimie

Absent: Herstich,Carolyn; Krovi,Ravi

Topic Reports: Guest Speaker, Dr. John Messina, Director Residence Life and Housing

John addressed questions that were sent to him by the committee regarding the on-campus residency requirement for freshmen and possibly sophomore students.

- **On-campus residency requirement** – there is a requirement in place however it is not strictly enforced because of space limitations. To enforce the requirement, UA would have to add approximately 2,200 bed spaces on campus to accommodate incoming freshmen. One of the major reasons why UA cannot enforce this requirement, even if there was additional bed space, is financial reasons for a student. If a student cannot afford to live on campus, we do not make them. On a plus side, by not enforcing this requirement our vandalism in the residence halls is significantly less than other universities who require students to live on campus. The conduct of the students in our residence halls is good and we hold students accountable for their actions.
- **Why are we hearing rumors about a written policy to make it mandatory for students to live on campus?** – Sasaki Group has been on campus which could be the reason for these rumors. Currently about 10% of our students live on campus in residence halls. Reasonable thought is having students live on campus if they would like to. There is a rumor that sophomores would be required to live on campus. That coincides with OSU having their sophomores live on campus. We have more part-time students than full-time on campus which means they cannot afford approximately \$11,000 to live on campus. Residence halls range from \$5,410 - \$8,484. If our demographic was different we could expect to require our freshmen to live on campus.
- **Benefits for students living on campus** – It is not just about a room, tile, carpet, it is about people checking on you, getting students involved, and student support.
- **Academic success for a first year student vs. a commuter** – Living and Learning communities on campus, very successful. One of the major factors for student success on campus is socioeconomic background and interest in learning.

New Topic – Public Policy on campus

- **Where, When, What** – Freedom/public speech on campus. Groups, students, etc., may be restricted to time, place, manner of speech on campus.
- If the person(s)/group have nothing to do with UA they would probably not be able to hold their public address on campus.
- Open Public Expression Document – Outside speakers cannot be an individual, but can be an organization.

Next meetings will be determined, time and place.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.