

OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes, October 7, 2008

Roll: (Absentees underlined) President Kendall Baker, Dr. Anne Lippert, Dr. Robert Ruble, Mr. Thomas Stevick, Dean Karen Condeni, Ms. Adriane Thompson-Bradshaw, Interim Dean Lisa Robeson, Dean Eric Baumgartner, Dean Jon Sprague, Dean James Fenton, Dean David Crago, Rev. Vernon LaSala, Dr. Julie Adams, Dr. Jeffery Allison, Dr. Toni Clarke, Dr. Pat Croskery, Mr. Trevor Eagle, Prof. Randy Ewing, Dr. Errol Katayama, Dr. Brian Keas, Dr. John Lomax, Dr. David Mikesell, Dr. Michael Milks, Prof. Traci Moritz, Dr. Kelly Shields, Dr. Amy Stockert, Dr. Jon Smalley, Dr. David Smith, Dr. Marjorie Walker, Dr. Bob Ward, Dr. Bryan Ward, Mr. Scott Wills, Dr. Sunny Zank, Dr. Kay Zekany.

Dr. Sunny Zank, Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

- I. Minutes of September 23, 2008 were approved as distributed.
- II. Reports from Constitutional Committees:
 - a. Academic Affairs: Dr. Lomax reported that the committee is working on the annual calendar under the semester system and the weekly meeting of classes. The Committee's next meeting is Wednesday morning and the objective is to bring the results of their work to the Council on October 21st.
 - b. Athletics: Dr. Lippert reported that the OAC is currently looking at a 5-year plan regarding sports travel to both reduce the cost of travel and reduce the time student athletes take away from their classes.
 - c. Cultural & Special Events: Dr. Allison reported that the Committee has begun its work and is currently establishing working subcommittees.
 - d. Religious Affairs: Reverend LaSala reported that the Committee has received very favorable reviews on the new Faith Lift program. Minor improvements will be implemented based on comments received. In addition, the Religious Affairs Committee will be submitting its Committee report regarding the protected hours under the semester system. Dr. Lomax informed Council that the Academic Affairs Committee is proposing the hour between 11AM and noon on Thursday as one protected hour for chapel. LaSala noted that the Religious Affairs Committee report is asking for more protected time than one hour per week.
- III. Planning Council: Dr. Baker reported that the Planning Council met last week for its final review of the revised University "Strategic Plan". The document will be reviewed by Communications and Marketing before being presented to the Faculty.
- IV. Other Reports:
 - a. Dr. Lippert reported that the Dean of Arts & Sciences and the Registrar searches are proceeding. The search profile for the Dean position will be posted on the ONU website shortly. And, the Registrar search committee is at the stage of deciding who to invite for interviews.
 - b. VP Condeni reported that last weekend's first-ever Business and Engineering Open House events brought 50 potential students and their families to campus. She expressed her appreciation to the participants. She also announced two upcoming admissions events: the Experience ONU Day (October 13) and the Fine Arts Open House this weekend.
 - c. VP Condeni also reported that the search process for the VP of Academic Affairs is progressing in that the search profile is currently being developed.
 - d. Dr. Ruble announced that the Inn at Ohio Northern University is now open. The Inn began its "soft opening" last weekend and has hosted guests throughout this week in order to tests its systems and get ready to welcome the public. The official grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for this Friday at 1PM.
 - e. Dean Baumgartner reported that representatives from the ABET (engineering accrediting body will be on campus November 9-11 to evaluate all five programs offered by the Smull College of Engineering.

- f. Dean Robeson reported that the Nursing program received accreditation and had its initial class of graduates. Also, the Exercise Physiology major received accreditation and is only one of 14 such accredited programs in the U.S. and the only one in Ohio. She also reported on two recent successes in the dance program. First, a \$10,000 NEA grant was just received. And, second, the University will welcome in the spring a Fulbright Scholar who is in Dance and from Mexico.
- g. Dean Sprague announced that Dr. Pierstorf will bring a group of Cleveland area retired pharmacists and high school students to the College tomorrow. He also announced that the Pharmacy Job Fair is scheduled for October 20.
- h. Mr. Eagle reported that Student Senate has been very active on campus. At the opening of the school year they hosted Welcome Fest to record-breaking numbers of participants. During the second week of classes they held Senate Awareness week with activities intended to promote Student Senate. The programming included Dorm Storming, their 2nd Annual Student Senate Picnic, an outdoor General Assembly meeting that ended with a raffle and an Ice Cream Social. Student Senate also worked on a new parking policy, held elections for Housing Representatives (who will be installed this week) and is preparing to hold elections to the Student Judicial Board. As a reminder to Faculty Advisors, the due date for application for Student Senate Funding is this Friday at 3PM. Further details are available on Student Senate's newly launched website. Student Political Debates, being hosted by ONU Democrats and Republicans will be held in the Dicke Forum the Thursday and October 22nd at 7PM.

VI. Announcements: none

VII. Questions of the President:

- a. Dr. Baker remarked on the impact of our current economic environment of world uncertainty on the University. He first reassured Council that the University is attentive to the changing situation in the financial markets and being advised by very good investment advisors. The University continues to think positively and that the Becoming ONU agenda continues. With that said, ONU cannot ignore the reality. We are being impacted. The University had \$10,000,000 invested in the Common Fund at Wachovia. One third of that amount has been retrieved. By the end of the year we expect to have retrieved half of that amount. And, we will be working to retrieve the final 50% after the first of the year. We commonly invest in various kinds of short-term vehicles and borrow funds on a short-term basis as needed. We will continue to do so. While the University's credit is excellent, we have to be a bit concerned, but not overly concerned. And, we cannot ignore the fact that the general decline in the markets is affecting our endowment. Dr. Baker reported the situation with prudence. Dr. Baker also reported some good signs for our budget in the area of fuel costs, which are not as high presently as they were expected to be several months ago. The University is continuing to develop contingency plans as the environment changes.
- b. Rev. LaSala asked Dr. Baker how we should advise a student who is unable to borrow money for tuition. Dr. Baker asked us to direct the students to the Financial Aid Office. The University is willing to look into options that might be able to help the student continue his or her education.
- c. Dr. Keas asked about semester calendar issues surrounding labs and saving energy costs. Dr. Lomax commented on the current views of Academic Affairs. Dr. Baker commented on the University's current efforts to find energy savings. Chairwoman Zank asked that we postpone this discussion until a calendar resolution is formally brought to Council from the Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Lomax reminded Council that Academic Affairs is meeting in the morning and encouraged attendance.

VIII. Unfinished Business: Presidential Speakers Series Proposal was brought to Council for a vote. Motion carried with no opposition. (see attached)

IX. New Business: Proposed wording change regarding salary for sabbatical leave:

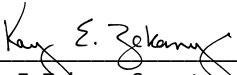
Dr. Allison, presented the first reading of the motion from the Personnel Committee intended to clarify the wording, but not change the policy. Floor discussion centered on three main points: first, the revised language is still confusing; second, compensation for a 2-quarter sabbatical is inequitable; and third, a new policy will only be in effect for two years. After that point, the University will be on semesters. Dr. Allison

will bring the motion back to committee for further consideration.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Zank adjourned the meeting at 6:22PM. Council will next meet on October 21st at 5:30PM in the Dicke Forum.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay E. Zekany, Secretary

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL					
Attendance and Voting Record for October 7, 2008					
Council Attendance	Attendance		Presidential Speaker Series VOTE		
			yes	no	abstain
President Kendall Baker	x				
VP Anne Lippert	x		x		
Dr. Bob Ruble	x				
VP Thomas Stevick					
VP Karen Condeni	x				
VP Adriane Thompson-Bradshaw					
Interim Dean Lisa Robeson	x		x		
Dean Eric Baumgartner	x		x		
Dean Jon Sprague	x				
Dean James Fenton					
Dean David Crago			x		
Rev. Vernon LaSala	x				
Dr. Julie Adams					
Dr. Jeffery Allison	x		x		
Dr. Toni Clarke	x		x		
Dr. Pat Croskery	x		x		
Mr. Trevor Eagle	x		x		
Prof. Randy Ewing	x		x		
Dr. Errol Katayama	x		x		
Dr. Brian Keas	x		x		
Dr. John Lomax	x		x		
Dr. David Mikesell	x		x		
Dr. Michael Milks	x		x		
Prof. Traci Moritz	x		x		
Dr. Kelly Shields					
Dr. Amy Stockert					
Dr. Jon Smalley	x		x		
Dr. David Smith	x		x		
Dr. Marjorie Walker					
Dr. Bob Ward	x		x		
Dr. Bryan Ward					
Mr. Scott Wills					
Dr. Sunny Zank	x				
Dr. Kay Zekany	x		x		
TOTALS			19	0	0
Denotes non-voting member					