

Undergraduate Academic Affairs Council (UAAC)
July 19, 2011

Attendees: Gigi Escoe, Vice Provost Undergraduate Affairs (Chair), Julie Burdick (Provost Office), Caroline Miller (Enrollment Management), Frank Bowen (Student Life), Terrell Finney (Associate Dean, CCM), Pam Person (FYE and Learning Communities), Tara Warden (Asst. Dean/Advising A&S), Doug Burgess (Registrar), Lillian Santa-Maria (Ombuds Office), Karen Hughes (Associate Dean, DAAP), Joanna Mitro (Associate Dean, A&S), Mimi Martin (Associate Dean, Nursing), Regina Sapona (Associate Dean, CECH), Marlene Miner (Associate Dean, RWC), Rich Harknett (Chair of University Faculty), Patricia Kucker (DAAP), Alan Hagerty (Student Government)

Absent: Debra Merchant (Student Services), Dawn Wilson (Housing), Raj Mehta (Honors Program), Kettil Cedercrutz (Co-op and Experiential Learning), Tina Whalen (Associate Dean, Allied Health), Mare Lewis (Associate Dean, CoB), Allen Arthur (Associate Dean, CEAS), Jennifer Krivickas (Libraries, DAAP), Afsaneh Ardehali (Faculty, CEAS and DAAP), Amberly Miller (Asst. Dean/Advising DAAP)

Welcome and Good Byes

The Council said good bye to Julie Burdick, who has accepted a position with the University of Akron, and Karen Hughes, who will be returning to a faculty position in DAAP. Welcome to Patricia Kucker, who will be the new associate dean for DAAP.

Capacity planning for the 2011 Freshman Class (Tara and Gigi)

Tara Warden described the work that Arts and Sciences is doing regarding capacity planning with the projected large fall enrollment. They are concentrating on high demand courses, such as English, Math, and Spanish. College administration is working closely with advisors to monitor capacity issues. Please contact Tara if there are capacity concerns.

A subcommittee has been formed with a scheduled meeting date in August to continue capacity planning for the fall. Conversations have begun about building a model/process for semester capacity planning that will focus on 30-40 key high demand courses and will include a process for dean feedback and for communication to the colleges.

Curricular Issues (Gigi)

Courses have been identified across colleges that may be redundant and not appropriate in a climate of reduced resources. The College of Business and Arts and Sciences have met to discuss Economics courses that may overlap and are working out best outcomes for students. Also, to be scheduled, are meetings between Engineering and Arts and Sciences regarding Math and Physics courses.

Size of 2011 Freshman Class (Caroline)

It is typical to have a certain percentage of incoming students withdraw (called freshman melt), but there is very little melt for fall 2011. Approximately 350 students are on waiting lists for housing. UC is currently negotiating with Sterling Manor for 70-120 beds, which will be billed through the UC system. It is important for bus transportation to be extended to late hours so students are not walking home late at night. UC is also negotiating with the Hampton Inn for additional housing.

The SEM (Strategic Enrollment Management) committee plans enrollment with an eye on UC2019►. The focus has been to increase the quality and diversity of students. The pool of prospective students

has been shrinking through the years, but the challenging economic environment has helped to increase enrollment for most public institutions. With that said, admission processes and criteria must be strategic to provide the targeted mix of students. Rolling admissions is used for most colleges, while pooling admissions is used for DAAP and CCM. The university may be increasing the use of pooled admissions as part of the UC2019► initiatives. Some colleges will be increasing admissions criteria beyond the UC minimums. Another projected change for enrollment will be semester conversion, where enrollment traditionally drops the first year. It is unknown whether the economic conditions which favor increased enrollments will offset a semester drop in enrollment.

UAAC Priorities and Mission

The Council reviewed the six priority topics discussed in May and discussed the importance of certain topics. Discussion centered on the UC Forward initiative which is in a pilot stage of development. The concept of UCForward began with creation of the Innovation Council during President Nancy Zimpher’s tenure. The general premise for the Council is that all students should experience courses that are interdisciplinary. The definition of innovation has evolved to include a variety of interdisciplinary topics taught by faculty from multiple colleges and groups of students completing different programs. Another important part of this type of course is that this “coming together” of different disciplines and perspectives has an understood end goal and that groups of students will work together to accomplish this goal. President Williams and Provost Ono are supportive of the Innovation Council’s work. Introductory courses have been developed and are growing across colleges. The courses are called transformational and can be designated a “T” in eCurriculum’s semester courses. ACC has approved the definition of transformational. The “transformational” student would have both breadth and depth in their academic program work which also aligns well with the GenEd core learning outcomes. Also, there is potential corporate funding for UCForward.

Discussion followed about the importance of transforming an initiative, such as UCForward, from its inception as a grass roots project to an institutional initiative. There are many stakeholders, such as Faculty Senate, administration, students, regional colleges, and external partners to consider. It is important to identify structures that are already in place that could support UCForward, such as Learning Communities.

UAAC Next Steps

1. The next steps with UCForward should include development of a white paper to provide a description and key outcomes and a communication vehicle, such as Blackboard and/or a website. Other ideas to be discussed further include a “faculty profile” database that includes the faculty’s research topics.
2. Subcommittee members volunteered as follows:

UC Forward	Experiential Learning	Enhancing Retention	Improving Coord./Admiss. Stds.
Pam Person	Frank Bowen	Marlene Miner	Terrell Finney
Joanna Mitro	Pam Person	Caroline Miller	Caroline Miller
Alan Hagerty	Mimi Martin	Joanna Mitro	Joanna Mitro
Lillian S	Joanna Mitro	Tara Warden	Tara Warden
Marlene Miner	Alan Hagerty	Doug Burgess	Mimi Martin
	Marlene Miner	Pam Person	Doug Burgess
		Regina Sapona	Pam Person
		Raj Mehta	Dawn Wilson
		Jennifer Krivickas	
		Kettil Cedercreutz	

3. The entire Council will be quarterly with the next meeting to be scheduled in September. Subcommittee members interested in chairing their committee should contact Gigi.