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Faculty Senate Chronicle for September 6, 2007

Richard Stratton

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33 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

- **Election of Senator Sterns as chairman, Senator Rich as Vice Chairman, Senators Erickson and Lillie to the Executive Committee, and Dr. Rudy Fenwick as Ohio Faculty Council representative. page 14**

- **Motion to encourage the Retiree’s Association to designate a retiree representative as a liaison to the University Group Insurance Committee page 18**

Any comments concerning the contents in *The University of Akron Chronicle*
may be directed to the Secretary, Richard Stratton (x7440).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting held September 6, 2007 3

Appendices to Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting of September 6, 2007

- A. Report of the Senior Vice President and Provost 24
- B. President’s response to Action Memo 25
- C. Senate Committee list 27
- D. Senate Meeting Schedule 31
- E. Faculty Senate Membership List 32

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of September 6, 2007

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, September 6, 2007, in Room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education (BCCE). Senate Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Of the current roster of fifty-two Senators, 37 were present for this meeting. Senators Arter, Hallett, Hamed, Matney, Ofobike, Sancaktar, Wilburn and Williams were absent with notice. Senators Gerber, Gerlach, Gilliland, Ida, Taylor, Toliver and Zingale were absent without notice.

I. Approval of the Agenda – Chair Fenwick welcomed senators to another year of Faculty Senate at The University of Akron. The agenda for today’s meeting was approved (motion made by Senator Halter and seconded by Senator Rich).

II. Approval of the Minutes – Senator Rich offered a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3rd meeting minutes as published in the Chronicle (Senator Plummer and Senator Bohland co-second). There being no changes or corrections the motion was passed and the minutes approved as published.

III. Chairman’s Remarks & Special Announcements – Chair Fenwick began his remarks by recognizing colleagues who passed away over the summer. “Thelma Iris Borotkanics, passed away Monday, May 7, 2007. She had worked for The University of Akron and for Baldwin Wallace University. I don’t have any other available information, so if anyone has additional information please send it to Heather. William Dennis Jones passed away on May 10th. He worked as a Lecturer locally for Mt. Union and Wayne Colleges and was an Adjunct Professor of Management for The University of Akron. Fred L. Mullen, worked for Goodyear Aerospace and then as a professor for The University of Akron for 26 years, before retiring in 1993. Theresia Canterbury worked for thirteen years in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Carol Griffin passed away on May 24. Again no other information about what department on campus she worked. Robert Ferguson was a retired department chairman of Elementary Education, passed away June 2nd. And finally, Dr. Kwadwo Konadu-Agyemang from Geography and Planning passed away on July 27.”

Senator Sterns rose to “submit one other name, Evelyn Sutton. Mrs. Sutton for many years was the coordinator of the undergraduate certificate program in Gerontology, she was one of the principle investigators for the Kennedy Foundation Project and played a major role in the National Center for Aging that The University of Akron has been part of for many years. She also edited the national newsletter, Advantage that went out throughout the world on aging and developmental disabilities. She was a wonderful colleague and also the first graduate of our graduate certificate program back in 1978.”

Chair Fenwick thanked Senator Sterns and asked if any others had been overlooked. The Senate observed a moment of silence to honor our friends and colleagues.

Chair Fenwick continued his remarks by welcoming new Senators. He asked them to stand to be recognized and the Senate applauded. He noted that some were returning to the Senate after a hiatus. He also welcomed “Dr. Rex Ramsier, the new Associate Provost, replacing Dr. Tom Dukes. In his role, Rex will be presenting reports from APC and the Curriculum Review Committee. Welcome as well. And for all those who are new to the Senate, I’d like to introduce Heather Loughney, the Administrative Assistant to the Senate, and you’ll get to know her quite well. Most of the communication will come from her and most of your communications go to her and we absolutely depend upon her for the smooth running of this organization. So get to know her very well.

And now a comment on the house rules; I’ve gone back and looked at Chronicles from past Chairs and every one of them has said at every September meeting, including myself for the last three years, first of all please stand and state your name when you are addressing the Senate. Make sure you have your placard with your name, this is very important when we record the minutes and publish them. We want to give credit where credit is due. So please stand and state your name when addressing the Chair. Contact Heather if you know that you’re going to miss a Senate meeting so that you will be excused and you won’t be subject to the Senator Gerlach rule of three absences and you’re out. So, save yourself some trouble.

And finally, last year’s committee chairs, I would ask as soon as possible that you hold an organizational meeting and elect a Chair for that committee and as soon as you do that please notify Heather who that new Chair is so that if at all possible we’d like to get back to her before October. Also be careful of the mikes, throughout the room. If you are not addressing the Senate, be careful of the mikes because they can pick up the smallest sounds.

Welcome back everybody and I hope it was a very productive and at the same time relaxing summer for you. I had a very relaxing and productive summer myself and was in many ways sorry to see it end. I’m sure that most of you are aware, even if you were away, of certain happenings that occurred here over the summer. If you’ve read the headlines I’m sure that you are aware that The University of Akron has now entered into the hospitality and entertainment business, as we have purchased a hotel and we’re going to break ground with a new football stadium on campus. I just have to say I am happy we’re buying the hotel from Crowne Plaza and not Hilton because I’m afraid that Paris Hilton would come, and that’s just too much, even for me.

More seriously, there’ve been very important academic developments in the state and with the university and of course the President and the Provost will also address these. Again, as most of you probably know, the university signed a compact with the Governor and Chancellor earlier in the summer for increased funding in lieu of increased tuition, so we’ve frozen tuition for more state funding. Last month the Chancellor and Governor of Ohio announced the creation of the University System of Ohio as a way of encouraging more collaboration among Ohio universities. Our response has been to create a series of teams that look into what is called “academic alignment”.

That is, inventory the academic assets of the university in ways that align with the Governor's and Chancellor's priorities as they develop a ten-year plan for higher education in the state. And I know that again the President and the Provost will address these developments in more detail.

Another happening that is ongoing and will be ongoing throughout this year involves the governing structure of the university on two levels. First of all as the returning senators know, for the past two years we've been involved in a university council exploratory committee, looking at reforming and changing and making more efficient and more encompassing governance structure on this campus. The second thing involving governancy here is that in April the North Central Association will come to The University of Akron and do a focused visit on governance. This is five years after their last visit. At this time if you've looked at your schedule for the Senate meetings this year, there is a planned special meeting to discuss the University Exploratory Committee in two weeks, on the 20th. Depending on circumstances we may postpone that so be aware of that and keep in touch. We'll send out notifications whether the meeting is held on that day or whether it has to be postponed. The reason I bring these up is that our role as a Senate is that we play a vital and central role in both the implementation in any proposals that come out of the Academic Alignment Initiative as well as any proposals that come out of the University Exploratory Committee. By university by-laws these things must be come through the Faculty Senate. The role of the Senate is something that for the last three years I've tried to be a spokesperson for and this brings me to kind of a retrospective. And so for the last time as Chair of the Senate I would like to bring up my view of the role of the Faculty Senate in the life of and governance of the University.

When I came to the Senate in 2001, in September 2001 there was a great deal of uncertainty about the Senate and about governance at The University of Akron. Remember at that time for people who weren't on the Senate at that time, the unionization drive had just begun, there were proposed changes to the healthcare coverage that in fact prompted a special Senate meeting in September of 2001 which was my first meeting. This uncertainty has continued throughout the six years that I've been on the Senate. There have been other proposed changes to healthcare coverage which prompted a second meeting two years ago. There was uncertainty that continued throughout the contract negotiation process and has continued to some degree with the implementation process as well. There was uncertainty concerning proposed legislation in the statehouse that would required universities to monitor how faculty taught their students, so called State Bill 24 or the Mumper's amendment. By 2007 many of these uncertainties had been resolved; the contract has been signed; we're still working through the implementation process, implementation plod. There is a new benefits committee, implementations in healthcare, but at the same time new uncertainties have arisen. We don't know what the outcome of the university system will be for us and how it will align with the university system. There continue to be threats to academic freedom nationally and to governance nationally. And so that again raises the question of what role is the Senate going to play in the future? Many have questioned over the past six years and before here on campus and around the country, whether Faculty Senates are in fact ineffective and not influential. And whether on one hand there are many people who feel that Faculty Senates are too intrusive in the decision-making process. I would argue, as I've done for the past six years as a Senator, that we are neither ineffective nor intrusive. That the faculty voice is essential, not intrusive. The importance of shared governance is recognized by all parties. It's necessary for the university and for academic

freedom. In fact it's a strong pillar for academic freedom as tenure. If you look back at the essential statement on governance and universities, the statement of governance of colleges and universities which was jointly issued by the AAUP, the American Council on Education and the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities, one of the fundamental principles of university government is that there must be, to quote that document; "initiating capacity in decision making participation of all the institutional components". Administration, faculty, staff, students. Senates are important in this process. We're an essential feature of shared governance, not because we always win on every issue, but to paraphrase the Rolling Stones we may not get what we want, but sometimes we get what we need. We may not win every victory, but the process is just as important. And that process is that of all the decision making bodies on this campus we're the most widely representative of all constituencies here every constituency has a chance to get up and talk, to ask questions, to answer questions, we are an open public forum. So the questions and answers are public. They become part of the public record and through being an open public meeting and making available a public document every month, we hold all constituents, all parties accountable in the decision making process. And it's essential that that continue. That whatever reforms are made, that they continue to be widely representative, that they be open to all voices, that they are public and they publish a public record of the decision making and the process behind the decision making.

And finally, on a more personal note, for the last three years it's been my honor and privilege to serve you as Chair of the Senate and for the last six years it's been an honor and a privilege to serve on the Senate. It's something I never thought I would do, something I never saw as very important to tell you the truth until I was elected. And I was elected by my colleagues while I was on sabbatical. Let's face, it I thought kind of like student council, but this has been such an enlightening experience that we as I say are a public and open meeting and we're part of the official decision making process in the State of Ohio. That it's very important. Again we may not win every decision but the process is just as important. Why people decide, and I've enjoyed every minute of this. I can remember, somebody looks at me skeptically, I can say that 'cause Don's not here. I can remember in 2002 I was elected co-chair of the planning and budgeting committee and Terry Hickey was Provost at that time, and about a month into it he asked me if I was having fun yet. And I was so overwhelmed, here's somebody who's challenged balancing their own checkbook and is now co-chairing a committee that's trying to balance the university budget. I survived and what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. So here I am.

And I've a lot of people to thank. First and foremost, my colleagues in Social Sciences that elected me Senator two times, to the Senate who has elected me Chair two times, to almost too many individuals, this is a bit like an Academy Award speech. But in particular I'd like to thank Heather, Linda Bussey and Marilyn Quillen who served as Administrative Assistants and without whom this operation could not continue, it's absolutely true the staff run this place. So pay them honor because they are deserving. All the members of the EC with whom I've served, in particular the co-chairs or vice-chairs Liz Erickson, Helen Qammar who is moved on to administration, to the dark side as we like to call it. Hopefully she'll bring some light to the dark side. I'd also like to thank the committee chairs for all your service. I'd like to thank the President and Provost and their staffs and I think a wonderful working relationship over the past three years, and again I've enjoyed it and

enjoyed our discussions. I want to also thank Rose Marie Konet, Dick Stratton and Gary Conley. And I'd even like to thank John Case and Ted Mallo, in appreciation and a new Senator I see Amy Gilliland who served on the budgeting and planning committee as a resource, her expertise was very helpful. The most enjoyable part of this experience has been getting out of my office, getting out of Olin Hall, walking around campus, meeting people from around campus, administration, faculty, staff and students. Getting to know how many wonderful hard working people there are on campus, how many great units there are on campus, not just Sociology I found out, but there are other really good departments on campus and you're about to find that out in the results of the academic alignment. And so with that thank you very much and I'll turn it over to Dr. Stratton for the Executive Committee Report."

IV. Reports –

a. Executive Committee – Senator Stratton reported Executive Committee met independently three times on May 17th, June 18th and August 23rd and three times with the President and/or Provost to discuss issues of the University on May 17th, August 2nd and August 23rd. The Executive Committee is charged to act in the interest of the Faculty Senate over the summer. The Executive Committee report provides an of the activities, since the details of meetings may no longer be of relevance in the rapidly changing environment. Also, Chair Fenwick alluded to many of the events of the summer and both the President and Provost were expected to comment on others.

“During our executive sessions we talked about the Ohio Faculty Senate and Rudy kept us abreast of what was going at the state level there. Kyle Bohland who is the student senator kept us informed of what the student portion of IUC was up to. The EC also certified the election results of last spring for the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Nursing, Fine and Applied Arts and Summit College and also the College of Education. As of our last meeting however, the College of Engineering had not held their elections yet. They were planning to do so here in the fall term. We also drew up the committee assignments which were in the packet today and approved today’s agenda.

In our meetings with the President and the Provost we discussed both national and local issues that were current at the time. We talked about student financial aid and how the University was responding to the national information about fraud in student aid and found that we were not among those who were participating in the illegal activity. We talked the safety of student housing, we talked about updates on enrollment, the effectiveness of Summit College’s probationary admission system, the reorganization that has been under discussion for the last year between the College of Nursing and the College of Fine and Applied Arts. We talked about the ongoing status of the design principles and how they were being used in strategic planning. We talked about the upcoming focused visit on governance by the NCA and also about the impact the state may have on our budget and also on our alliances. We talked also about the renaming at least of and the reorganization of the Board of Regents in the state of Ohio, to a Chancellor that’s been appointed by the Governor and how that may in fact impact those issues that we had continually talked about here on campus. So those are the kinds of things that the Executive committee dealt with this summer and as I said it was a reasonably busy summer. That concludes my report. Are there any questions?”

There being no questions, the Senate proceeded.

b. Remarks from the President – President Proenza: “Thank you Mr. Chairman and let me begin by thanking you for some great leadership and great service to The University of Akron, you’re remarks are right on point and certainly on behalf of those of us who had the opportunity to work with you, we deeply appreciate your dedication and your service.

Well colleagues, that we live in interesting times is needless to say the understatement of our modern age and certainly applies to what’s going on nationally and within the state. Nationally, as I think you’re well aware, the national council of state legislatures issued a report earlier this year entitled “Transforming Higher Education”, focusing on higher public education and if you have not read it I think it is valuable for you to do so and I commend it to your reading. Also the new Commission on The Skills of The American Workforce issued another report which I think is worthy of examination. It’s entitled “Tough Choices for Tough Times” and it can be found on the web under that title, and it is quite remarkable in some of the far reaching recommendations that it makes. In other respects I’m sure you read about the ongoing discussions at Brown University regarding it’s governance and the election of trustees and at Harvard regarding the core curriculum. And let’s not be fazed by things that go on at Brown or at Harvard there are many things of this and similar and more complex nature going on at other institutions across the country.

Within the state as your Chairman advises, earlier this summer we saw the Governor calling a meeting of higher education leaders together with the Chancellor and changing the name of the Ohio Board of Regents to the University System of Ohio. I think that gives a new meaning to USO but that’s a story for another time. Quite simply it is that, it is a change in name. It is at this point not intended to be any other change than that which was authorized by the legislature in Senate Bill 2 earlier in the year. That change being that the Chancellor is now appointed by the Governor, reports to the Governor as a member of the Cabinet. Does not report to the Board of Regents itself which has now become an advisory body. The person of the Chancellor, the position of the Chancellor now embodies all of the authority previously resident in the Ohio Board of Regents.

Now, it’s important for you to note that the naming change is potentially very salutary as it is also of concern. Salutary because the legislature has told us over and over again that they simply do not understand what it is that higher education represents within the state of Ohio because they don’t see any coherence, they don’t see any system, they don’t see any real coordination if you will. So just changing the name may not accomplish that but if the Chancellor can follow with an adequate description of what we have and the vision of what we should have perhaps we will have accomplished a great deal. Now as to the concern; many people rather than reading a small “s” in system, are reading a capital “S”. What does that mean? Across the country ladies and gentlemen there are small “s” systems and large “S” systems. Small “s” systems are coordinating boards such as we have in Ohio and sort of regulate and mediate but do not govern. Large “S” or capital “S” systems are those like the University of California, the University of North Carolina, the University of Georgia and many others in which the Board of Regents or the Central statewide authority governs. They are the final resident authority, they hire and fire the chancellors and or presidents of individual universities and there are no independent board of trustees other than the one single large board that oversees all of higher education in those states. There is therefore the concern that our state may have in mind a gradual transition towards a capital “S” type system. The Chancellor and

the Governor have repeatedly said that no, that is not what they have in mind, however that they do believe that there are issues that need to be addressed of cooperation and collaboration, efficiency, accountability, accessibility etcetera. And I think that they are right and that those are in many respects the topics of those reports that I mentioned earlier. Some other changes of course some of these occurred earlier; the Interuniversity Council now has the president, that president is Bruce Johnson, appointed in late December of last year. As you may recall, Bruce was the former Lieutenant Governor of the state, he's doing a tremendous job and about the time that he was appointed the legislature also created a commission for Northeast Ohio universities to study themselves and possible collaboration. That commission has been meeting for the past several months, will meet again later this month and it's divided itself into two subcommittees on academic issues and on administrative issues and again we'll provide you some detail of that. All of the public universities in Northeast Ohio four-year institutions meaning Cleveland State, Akron, Kent State, and Youngstown together with NEOUCOM, the medical school, are involved in that dialogue. I would be happy to answer any questions on that, that's sort of the perspective on that out there. It is sort of an interesting time it is full of possibilities and I think the work that the Provost will report to you in a little while is continuing to position your University of Akron exceptionally well to continue to thrive in this interesting environment.

A few highlights just to report some of the other progress that I think is important for our university. During this past fiscal year support for externally funded research reached 32.8 million dollars, two million dollars more than in previous years and more than twice the volume of research we were doing in 1999. Equally impressive is that private fundraising, giving by our alumni and friends of the university, reached it's highest annual total in our university's history with contributions exceeding 32 and a half million dollars, an increase of twenty-nine percent over the previous year. And we hope we can attain that yet again. Needless to say I'm sure you read about two of the prominent gifts earlier in the paper this week, related obviously to the proposed stadium on campus.

Most impressive in terms of the real success of the University is the continued enrollment gains that we're making. Let me report the most recent numbers reminding you however and for the record that they are tentative, they will official until the fourteenth day numbers are in, they are always changing during the first two weeks but as of September 4th, just a couple of days ago, graduate student enrollment for this academic year is up nearly five percent compared to last year and credit hours for graduate students are up by more than four percent. Undergraduate enrollment is up about five percent along with the nearly six percent increase in credit hours. Freshman headcount is up by about five percent and again final numbers will be available next week. Now clearly there are many vitally important reasons and varied reasons for this significant continued increase. Certainly many, if not most of our students, are here because of you or exceptional faculty and the stellar services provided by our staff and by the presence of strong leadership from our student government and the excitement and enthusiasm of students who are here already who felt the energy and direction of this university. Also obviously the physical improvements to our campus and all of our combined efforts to pursue academic excellence, and for that I want to thank each and every one of you for everything that you do and I look forward to further increasing our positive

momentum in years to come. It is palpable, it is substantial and it is quite simply making The University of Akron the place to be and the place that all our colleagues are increasingly envying and unfortunately are trying to not be so nice about so stand tall, be proud and thank you.

I'm sure Dr. Stroble will talk a little bit more about a new member of our staff, Dr. Charles Fey who joined us as Vice President for Student Affairs so I'll just note that. I'm sure she will also remind you but I will note and encourage you to attend Student Appreciation Day on September the 12th there are two times, one at 11:30 a.m. and another one at 4:30 in the afternoon each for a period of about two hours so please make plans to attend.

As Rudy indicated in his opening remarks, I think participation by every member of the university community is vitally important, that is the process of transparency and openness in our work that is so vitally important and which you of course espouse. I would note that we hopefully will have some software available to make increased participation by every member of the university family more readily accessible and I can't help but comment if you haven't read a book by Don Tapscott entitled "Wikinomics", a takeoff on Wikipedia, it's simply has to do with the power that new technologies have provided for mass collaboration, mass participation hopefully for good so let's always have a bold visions and indeed positive directions in which to follow. Thank you again, I'll be happy to take any questions you may have and again Chairman Fenwick thank you for your service."

There being no questions for the President, Chair Fenwick thanked him and proceeded with the agenda.

c. Remarks from the Provost –

Provost Stroble reported: "Well some topics on this outline you've already heard about so we can skim through. Yesterday we had a welcome for UA employees both returning and new and it was a ballroom full. So it was really a great event, we thought this fall that we would recast, particularly for this fall, how we do some of the opening events. You know that in the past occasionally we've done that welcome at the Fall Convocation, in fact traditionally so, but if you've been reading E-mail Digest you know that because the President plans an event in October to launch the comprehensive campaign we decided that this year we would do a separate welcome event and then following on its heels a Student Appreciation Day and at the end of my comments, with your permission, Victor Pinheiro will give us a talk about what he needs us to do to make Student Appreciation Day work this year.

So some great events that remind us I think as the President said, that really what makes this a great institution is its people and we're certainly already beginning to launch searches for employees that will come to us next year as well as students. The President gave you the data about how our enrollments looking, we hit record highs for research expenditures, we did quite well this past year with private giving and giving from foundations and individuals and we just expect that to continue. And we continue to invest in the people that it takes to deliver that so the sheer numbers of people we had in the list of new employees yesterday was stunning, particularly for those of us who

have remembered years when the new employee list was you know maybe twenty or so. So it's a sign of good times and we need to enjoy them and celebrate them because we've been doing the right things and I think students recognize that and we're glad for it.

We do have some new hires and appointments as Chair Fenwick noted when we toasted Tom Dukes and celebrated his return to the faculty in the spring that necessitate an appointment in his place and I'm grateful that Rex Ramsier moved from directing Institute for Teaching and Learning to the Tom Dukes role as Associate Provost and then that caused us to do a search and Dr. Helen Qammar has taken over Director for Institute for Teaching and Learning. And as you say, it's good when good people want to join the dark side. It's not all dark but it is good for us to have new blood and new thinking because it does really create that participative environment that I value greatly and I do want to add my thanks personally to Rudy Fenwick, what a great colleague and he has made the partnership with Faculty Senate work quite well from my viewpoint, so thank you.

Dr. Charles Fey will arrive at the end of September from Baltimore, Maryland. I will line up these individuals who are new to the campus community to come so I won't go into great detail about Dr. Fey right now, we'll come back to that when he's actually present with us. Steven Chang, a member of the faculty, through a national search has been appointed the Dean of the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering and from Tulsa, Oklahoma Mr. Martin Balski has assumed the title of Dean of the School of Law, he'll eventually join us in January but he is here on a pretty frequent basis even these days as the Dean-elect. And we've already started some searches or soon will be as we put some finishing details on search firms that will help us in putting together search committees, Chief Diversity Officer: you know I acquainted you with the fact last spring we had not been successful in making an appointment. We've identified a search firm that will help us and we plan to do this again with hopefully more community involvement this time by the way, hoping that that helps us to broaden our recruiting ability. The Dean of the College of Education: I've just about settled on a search firm to help us with that search and I'll soon start to use the appointed contractual process to appoint a search committee. Then University Press Director: we had a group that had been assembled last year to give advice about what should we do about a university press? We'd had quite a transition period for some time there, certainly financial challenges to all presses all over the country, not just ours you know it's hard to go up against big publishing houses and as library budgets are challenged everywhere the ability for libraries to purchase the kinds of monographs that are typically printed by university presses also puts them in a budget squeeze. So we really needed to think about how will we function, how will we operate, what will our editorial direction be, what do we do to make this actually work? And not just keep trying to limp along. I have a great report from that group, I've accepted their recommendations and so Andrew Borwick has agreed during the fall semester to serve as interim Press Director while we do a search so that will start soon.

And then as you heard, we're busily at work with NCA self study. I think next week's Provost Perspective is co-authored by our two chairs, Rex and Rudy and so they have already met with the group once; we've decided we'll use a case study approach. We've picked several topics that we think are really illustrative of both the challenges and the opportunities when you try to do things in a shared governing environment. And what works well and what causes you to stumble and how

you recover. So you know that's the story that we'll tell. We're writing case studies this fall and then we'll put the self study together, we'll put the document room together in the spring and hope to have a visit next spring that we think accurately represents who we are right now.

And then finally, you've heard a lot about academic alignment. When it became clear to several of us over the summer both in interactions with the Chancellor as well as things we were hearing in the Northeast Ohio Study Commission and various networks that we're a part of that something was getting ready to happen that was big and it wasn't clear what. It really wasn't until we understood that this University System of Ohio was going to be publicly announced and then they work out the details that that was the big piece. Now there had been lots of big pieces leading up to that, there'd been the Chancellor becoming an appointee and a cabinet level position. There been the compact, where finances were thought about differently, we froze tuition in exchange for more funding. There were strategic investments, there's a lot of money on the table in Columbus right now around Ohio research scholars, around STEM internships, a whole host of strategic initiatives that we'll want to be competitive for and we're trying to get ourselves geared up to write well to those opportunities. There'd been a number of things going on that clearly signaled that higher education in the state of Ohio was going to change, but it was that single announcement of we're now a system-whatever that means and the Chancellor will roll out by end of fall semester a ten-year plan that then will govern his budget proposal in the next biennium that it became quite serious. We knew that we couldn't afford to wait until last week to get ready. That we had to move quickly if we were going to be able to describe well to all the publics that need to hear that description what it is that's really wonderful about The University of Akron and how we're prepared to be a real major player in the University System of Ohio. As we read the Chancellor's remarks and the Governor's remarks, it's pretty clear that there are two big priorities: academic and economic development is the big umbrella. Underneath that are two priorities: generating knowledge through research that has an academic and economic link and then educating a workforce for specific regional needs. And you can imagine we think we have a lot to do with both of those. Maybe not every program has something to do with both of those but we really believe that The University of Akron has been paying attention to those but sometimes we can't describe it very well to ourselves and we certainly can't describe it well to outsiders. So again and again if you ask people out in the community what do they know about The University of Akron, there's some signature pieces that they know quite well. And polymers almost always comes to the surface in that conversation. We know that we're about polymers but we're about much more. But then if you try to go to the extreme of well we have this college and this college and these five programs and we do this and we do that then we just kind of blur the message and don't describe ourselves well enough that anybody including us can remember it.

The challenge it seemed to us was how can we describe ourselves particularly as we look at the data about ourselves and how we line up against our competition, how do we describe ourselves in a smaller number of topics that really captured the essence of what we're about from Associate degrees all the way up through Doctoral degrees. So these were the things that we've assembled teams to work on: materials and polymer science, STEM education (STEM meaning science, technology, engineering and mathematics), globalization, improving life and health, undergraduate enrichment, and law. And for the most part, law you can sort of see is the exception, we tried to avoid having a

name of a team that is exactly the same name as a particular academic unit or entity. Because what we really want to do is to talk about how these themes or topics cut across our institution and that there are people in every unit that have something to do with one of these topics and even the law group has been challenged I think to think outside of the School of Law and to think about how there are programs across other units that have law related topics and themes. So that's what we've been about and we've done it in very short order and I really appreciated Faculty Senate Executive Committee's help in putting those teams together. We knew as Rudy said that this was an academic enterprise we were talking about and Faculty Senate leadership had to be right at the heart of it. So a number of the members of those six teams are Faculty Senators and people that the Executive Committee recommended. Then we sent out calls to Deans and Chairs and we just broadcast it and said you know, please nominate yourself if you want to. We had 160 names that came in and we selected from those about 70. So tomorrow afternoon those teams will present to a smaller group of some VPs, some Deans, you know show some individuals across campus their PowerPoints and their proposals and we will use that feedback to make some revisions. We've been working on them and revising them all along but we'll make another round of revisions after tomorrow then we're going to invite some people from the outside community in, some business and industry leaders, some governmental agencies folks, some alums to say alright listen to this story and have we done a good job. Do you believe us? If we say we're good at this and we think we're better at this than the competition can you really believe that as a result of our presentation? Because if we can't be credible to the people that already kind of know us and like us, then we will not be credible in a larger political venue. So we're really trying to vete these appropriately so when we get ready to go quite public about this we will have done our very best job and I think we're on track but I'm anxious to see the products tomorrow afternoon, because I've just seen bits and pieces of this as the teams have been working and as soon as we think it's kind of ready for primetime we'll be glad to share it as broadly as is necessary. We just don't want to embarrass ourselves yet and so the teams have kind of been keeping it close to the vest until we getting a little bit of vetting done and then I think the teams and I will both feel like it's ready to go out to broader audience not only for feedback but for just the ability to say here's what we think are accurate descriptions, hope you agree. Alright, Victor and Student Success and Student Appreciation as a part of student success."

Chair Fenwick ask if there were any objection to having Dr. Pinheiro speak about Student Success. There being none, he invited Dr. Pinheiro to address the Senate.

Dr. Pinheiro: "Chair Fenwick and dear Senators, if you recollect last time when we came here as a committee we presented to you the initiative that the committee had decided, we made some thirty-six recommendations and one of the elements initially was student engagement in which I'm heading that part of it. We going to have the second annual Student Appreciation Day and I think some of you have already got the sheet of paper which has the names and themes on it. I've talked to many of you and you're already signed up to be in those booths. If you have not done that, do that as soon as possible because if you don't do that you're going to miss out on this beautiful t-shirt that the volunteers will be getting. Order right size. So do it fast. This year we'll be having ten thousand, we'll be catering for ten thousand students and that's a big number and I'm hoping for the volunteer number of 500-600 faculty and staff. We have right now about 550 so we're very close to that. So please remember it's all about students and one important element of research indicated

that outside the classroom the social interaction, the social environment is a very important variable for student success and that is what we're trying to produce. I hope to see you on the 12th. Any questions, comments?"

Dr. Pinheiro was asked if there are different colors. He responded that this is the color for this year, but if you submit your recommendation they will consider it for next year. He again encouraged senators and friends to make this a fun time.

There being no further questions for Dr. Pinheiro or the Provost, the Senate proceeded to election of officers.

d. Senate elections

Chair Fenwick asked for nominations for new Chair.

Senator Erickson nominated Senator Sterns, who accepted the nomination.

There being no other nominations, Senator Lenavitt made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Senator Halter. The motion passed.

Since there was only one person standing for the position of Chair, Senator Lenavitt moved to approve the election of Dr. Sterns by acclamation. The motion passed without objection and Senator Sterns was duly elected.

Chair Fenwick congratulated Senator Sterns and passed him the gavel.

Chair Sterns and the Senate recognized the leadership Dr. Fenwick has provided with another round of applause.

Dr. Fenwick thanked the Senate and bid his adieu.

Chair Sterns asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Senator Lenavitt nominated Senator Rich who accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Senator Lillie move to approve the election of Senator Rich as Vice Chair by acclamation. It was seconded by Senator Elman and passed without objections.

Chair Sterns reminded the senator to rise and state their name when making a motion or offering a second and when addressing the assembly.

Chair Sterns asked for nominations for the two vacant seats on the Executive Committee.

Senator Hajjafar nominated Senator Erickson who accepted the nomination (Senator Bohland provided a second).

Senator Erickson nominated Senator Lillie who accepted the nomination (Senator Bohland provided a second).

There being no further nominations and having two nominations for two positions, Senator Lenavitt moved Senators Erickson and Lillie be elected to the Executive Committee by acclamation. The motion passed without objection.

Senator Lillie then nominated Rudy Fenwick as representative to the Ohio Faculty Council (Senator Bohland provided a second). Dr. Fenwick had indicated his willingness to serve in this capacity. There being no further nominations Senator Lenavitt moved Dr. Fenwick be elected as representative to the Ohio Faculty Council by acclamation. The motion passed without objections.

e. Ad Hoc Facilities Planning Committee report – Chair Sterns reported for the Ad Hoc Facilities Planning Committee. “I think everyone has had an opportunity or should take the opportunity to look at the preliminary recommendations of the Parking Study Task Force which were put up on the University website on August 14th. As you know there were four major areas of recommendation and specific recommendations and this would be the time to have comments to the committee that we can bring forward to the actual committee. And Vice President Case do you have anything that you’d like to say, can I invite you to say a few words?”

Vice President Case addressed the Senate. “Thank you Harvey and congratulations. First of all I just want to say thanks in particular to the faculty representatives. Harvey has been particularly instrumental in the parking taskforce in terms of his representation, Susan Ramlo also has been very instrumental in our recommendations obviously read the committee roster, there’s about 17-18 people on it so it has been a very vetted discussion and we’ve had a good time in terms of developing the recommendations. From our standpoint we’ve looked at many different aspects of those four questions and we’ve wanted to go out and get more improvements on that and we will have another meeting to kind of go over any additional comments or thoughts. Some of what we see so far in the comments have been already discussed in the committee, we’ll walk through those and then kind of go through the process to see if we can improve the recommendations and then move it forward to the President for his next steps. Any questions for me? And for the new Senators, I’m John Case, I’m the Vice President for Finance and Administration and I chaired the Taskforce.”

Senator Huff rose to ask a related question. “A related issue to parking, it’s a situation that’s developed as some of the parking around campus has changed. I teach in Folk Hall outside of Exchange Street with the new residence hall we lost quite a few parking spaces. The new residents on the south side of Exchange Street all need to cross to get back over to the main campus. The number of pedestrians crossing at the Exchange Street and Grant Street intersection has probably tripled. It was always a dangerous intersection, there have been accidents in the past and recognized to be dangerous but it’s complicated. Currently there are no crosswalks painted on the road, there are no crossing signals or signs. There are arrows that direct the traffic to turn at the same time that the students are crossing the street, it looks bad. And something needs to be done to address that situation soon. I just wanted to bring that up.”

Vice President Case responded: “Thank you Senator Huff. From my perspective, there was a recommendation that was actually brought forth early to the President which was to create a task force, you can see it when you read the recommendations to create a joint task force actually with the City of Akron to move forward quickly in terms of many topics we have to discuss and one in particular was the crossing at Exchange Street with the opening of the Exchange Street Residence Hall. We have moved forward with that. The issue here is that that is a City of Akron street, so we are kind of at the mercy of the city. They are getting their team together we’re going to sit down as soon as possible, we have contacted them quite a few times. The Mayor’s looking into who he wants to appoint and then the first topic of discussion will be the crossing at Exchange Street and Exchange Street in general now that the University expands more to that side of the street. But thank you, that has been recommended.”

Chair Sterns agreed “that was a major discussion point about that impending large numbers of people having to cross. I think if you haven’t looked at the recommendations I think there was one area that I especially wanted input from the Senate and that is the issue that presently the task force is not recommending any sort of tier-fee approach. That there would be some kind of central area that would be the “gold” parking area where people would pay a premium to be close in to the center of campus. In conversations with faculty and the committee and outreach through the campus very few people wanted to pay more for their parking, so we have found virtually no support for that. So I have gotten one or two e-mails raising that issue and I must say that when I go to pursue it I don’t find a lot of support. So, have most of you had a chance to look at the recommendations?”

Senator Stratton stated that “somebody had asked me a question and it has to do with the new stadium and it’s a question that had come up last year as well and that is there a plan to build additional parking before the stadium is erected because the traffic in that part of campus with a 30,000 seat stadium, people are thinking there needs to be some other way to get cars on and off campus and someplace for them to park.”

Vice President Case responded. “The task force thanks you. Both the task force and other management as we’ve worked through the recommendation to the Board of Trustees for the stadium this has been a topic that’s been discussed. There are two separate topics here; one is the fact that we will lose parking once the stadium construction begins. Many people say we need to move forward with the stadium so the assumption is we will not have a parking deck built before the stadium is started to be erected, therefore we have to have a solution even just in the interim when we start the stadium to displace about 600-700 spots over there. We will work on that as quickly as we can and we will try to find a solution that is at least tolerable. I will recommend that. In the short term we have 10,000 parking spots on this campus, in the short term we have tried many different ways to make that 10,000 one hundred, two hundred, five hundred just even from outlying organizations we try to lease from etcetera. So the initial answer on that is that before construction we’re going to be trying find at least that many spots or somewhat close to it to erect the stadium. As far as once the stadium is built, the idea is that for the most part, the big days will be game days and those are, for the most part, five to six games a year and probably five out of those six are on the weekend. So with 10,000 spots across campus and when we looked at the report from the consultants who worked on the project in terms of the stadium site, they said 10,000, if you take a thousand out for overnight

parkers or whatever 9,000 spots are pretty close to what a stadium will need for a game day event. The other opportunity here is that you will have private people in the community who on Exchange Street on any street they have will give up their lawn for football stadium parking and make some money on that too so you can't discount the private sector in this discussion of game day and any other day activities where parking becomes a premium, you can look at the frat houses and sororities would love five- or ten-dollars a car they can park on those nice lawns and kind of make some money too. So there's going to be opportunities as that day approaches and we'll be planning ahead when the stadium opens and we'll have implementation committees working as the first game comes onboard, what the campus is going to look like and do on game day they'll be different activities we'll be looking at that, we'll be looking at parking, security, etcetera. So hopefully there were two answers there to both aspects of that."

Senator Leigh asked "a question regarding the Exchange Street crossing. One of the big problems I see parking there (in the Exchange deck) is that when I'm pulling in and out even though students can cross, they cross into a lane of traffic. There is no sidewalk there and I understand that the street is the city's but can't the campus get security or volunteers that stand with flags that keep the students from walking three and four across in the lanes of traffic there causing a problem. Maybe set up something where they just guide the student along the side before it's solved."

Vice President Case responded. "Thank you very much. I will probably move that forward quickly as far as some sort of helpful crossing guards of some sort that will at least in the meantime help in some way shape or form. I think we all wanted to be proactive in that event of the opening of the Exchange Street Residence Hall and I think we can move that forward quickly and see what it would cost to man it from a certain time to a certain time to make sure we at least put an effort of safety across that street, thank you."

Chair Sterns indicated he is "still getting a lot of faculty comments on the ability of faculty to come onto campus, do what they need to do and come back especially if they're supervising students off campus as we have a very strong outreach into the community, this is a very big issue. As you'll see in the plan there is a number of recommendations for people who are not moving their cars a lot during the day to get out in to the peripheral lots. I think our intention of the task force was to move faster but I think there are so many different issues here that need to be weighed, for instance the task force was quite willing to suggest that the people who live in dorms park out but administration's feeling was that we can't do this until students are made aware that this is going to be a possibility. Our student representatives on the committee have certainly been aware of this and discussed this but it's that kind of an issue, if we're going to introduce a shuttle system there really support of the use of peripheral areas. So I think we have a number of those kind of issues that we want to do rather than to close the deliberations before the semester started we wanted to carry over a little longer so that was the added opportunity for input, at least that's my perception."

Vice President Case wanted to make one clarification to the Chair's comment. The administration did not make the decision not to change the policy. In deliberations among the committee members it was decided that we just can't change the residence hall parking policy (or make a new policy)

within a couple days of the beginning of classes. We can't change students' expectations in a couple days. So to clarify, it was the task force, not the administration that made the decision. Once we have the recommendations, the task force will move forward whatever may be proposed.

Chair Sterns agreed the clarification was quite fair. There being no further questions, the senate proceed to unfinished business.

e. Unfinished Business - Chair Sterns asked senators to consult the first resolution printed on the back of the agenda. This resolution, from the March 2007 meeting of the Faculty Senate, requested changes to the membership of the University Group Insurance and Benefits Committee. Senators were also provided copies of Dr. Case's response. Chair Sterns asked if the Senate wished to respond or comment.

Senator Gandee: "On the letter to Rudy related to the determinations on the request for a motion of the Senate in the fourth paragraph under the bottom where it says that if the retirees would like to designate a person the Chairman will contact and so on, I would like to move that the Senate encourage Retiree Association to designate a retiree to represent the retirees' dependents on the university group insurance and that this person be given the opportunity to speak before the committee representing particularly the issues retiree dependents."

Chair Sterns asked what action Senator Gandee would like the Senate to take.

Senator Gandee responded he "would like to have the body move that to encourage the Retirees Association to designate that individual."

Dr. Erickson provided a second to the motion and then rose to voice her support. "This particular motion came from the Wellbeing Committee to the Senate and as we don't have a wellbeing committee anymore, I would like to speak to the motion because in fact we were at that time concerned with those retiree dependents. That's what our motion said. It said that we wanted a voting representative for retiree dependents to the University Group Insurance Committee, for retiree dependents. Reading this resolution Vice President Case suggests that they could at least have a person who could be called on. Well I think what we are asking here is that the retiree association appoint somebody. It was not mentioned in the letter that the retirees indeed do not have a much affected by common employee benefits, there is a large group of retiree dependents that are. There was a significant constituency in the whole of the insurance coverage and for those of you who were employed before 1990; it's your dependents that are involved. Because that promise for the university to cover retiree dependents is for all faculty and staff members of the university that were employed before 1991, I think. So if you're one of those and represent faculty or staff that is in that position then the retiree dependent issue is important. Vice President Case has not agreed to have voting representation has suggested it this way: he said that they would call on them. Well I think is what we should ask, and what this motion says, that they should ask to speak to that group, not just wait to be called on because I think it is important that when this whole issue is discussed and I can say that after many years of experience on this issue, that the issues of retiree dependents are not same

as those of working employees and Linda Sugarman did an excellent job in presenting that position as the retiree representative on wellbeing. For example, if you are a retired person your dependents may not be anywhere near this area and so whether you've got the coverage, whether you can find doctors, all those things matter. Also what kind of plans are offered etcetera, etcetera. And so I think that is my reason for supporting the motion."

Chair Sterns asked for further discussion. The chair asked for and the Senate approved permission for Vice President Case to address the issue.

Vice President Case thanked the Senate for its indulgence. "I just want to further clarify that I have no problem with a person I think as the response states being a representative when the time comes that we're talking about this issue have them brought in and they can talk or comment and give a presentation etcetera. That's how open we left it, I just want to clarify that if you want to appoint someone and say at the next meeting they come and address it, we could be talking about three or four things before when the person could talk and then we probably wouldn't be involved in that topic at that time therefore we wouldn't be discussing it for three or four meetings. Now in the next three days we talking about we're bringing in vendors for healthcare benefits, there's no reason to have them come, my invitation is that anytime that a retiree needs to address a topic that affects retirees we invite them. So having a person come at the wrong time is not what we're looking for, we're looking for a person to come at the right time therefore we appoint a person I will make it my duty obviously as Chair that when there's a retiree benefit on the agenda we bring the person in and they go through that. That's the reason for the best part is the appointment of a representative which is great then I can have contact with them and that prevents them from wasting a lot of their time in terms of non-retiree issues."

Chair Sterns asked for further comments. There was a request to have the motion restated. After some confusion, Senator Gandee restated the motion: "The Senate encourages the Retiree's Association to designate a retiree representative to address issues of the retiree's dependents before the University Group Insurance Committee and ask that the representative be given an opportunity to address the committee on retiree dependent benefits."

Chair Sterns called for a vote on the motion. The motions passed.

Senator Lillie asked if Dr. Case, or somebody else, would explain the form that the consensus process of this committee takes.

Vice President Case explained. "Just like not only this committee but the parking committee and Harvey can talk to the consensus building in terms of the benefits committee have had about 4-5 meetings, we've actually taken about twenty RFP responses to all the benefits here and talked about all the responses and went around the room pros and cons and just build consensus. The four teams we've chosen to bring in are all based on consensus, no vote was needed and unless people have heard of complaints it's worked just fine. That parking committee works two hours every Monday almost for four months straight, every other Monday on other months and the exact same model

was used, we built consensus around every discussion and every recommendation, it wasn't a hundred percent in terms of everybody wanting that but everybody gave, changed a little bit and in the end we came up with the recommendations so on both parts it has worked."

Senator Lillie clarified his question. "May I just say that I think that consensus is good way to do things? I've had experience with it. I like consensus. What I was requesting was information on actual form decisions took. After you reach consensus and make decision, how do you record that decision? Do you record it in the form of a minute, do you record it the form or I mean what is the form in which you say that you've done it?"

Vice President Case responded: "On both committees, but specifically the benefits committee, every meeting has summary minutes, there not verbatim word-for-word but they have the main points and any decisions made, actions taken are clearly highlighted in the document, not specifically word-by-word minutes but a document that we distribute."

Chair Sterns observed: "I would think that if there were major points of contention it would not be inappropriate to have a motion in those committees, it just hasn't happened. We really have kind of operated on that. So I don't think it precludes the opportunity for someone to make a motion and a second and a formal resolution in that context that would be recorded in the minutes."

Senator Lillie responded: "Well that does raise the point here under Dr. Case memo he says that the university group insurance committee does not operate as a voting committee. So that would seem to indicate that this committee would have to achieve it's decisions by a form of consensus which I know is possible but that seems different from what you just said and so I thought that we could get that clear."

Again Vice President Case responded: "You know what if someone wanted to raise their hand and make a motion and second it and we had a vote that would be wonderful. I'm trying to make sure that people understand, it goes through a couple of things. First of all it goes to the issue we talked about even last year at the Senate, we need to build trust on this campus and I think it's important. I'm going to say because of that type of kind of thought process, we'll take a vote if we need to. But for the most part we're trying to in ninety-nine percent of our deliberations reach consensus. And that's where we have come from. So I hope we can stay with that, I think it's worked well. When you get the parking committees representative of almost about ten constituencies, you talk about students a lot of students, faculty, SEAC, CPAC you're talking some very different constituencies and actually it's worked very well, so that's kind of my answer if someone raised their hand and said let's take a vote someday it'd be fine but for the most part I think we still operate on consensus and the trust is one part. Maybe at the beginning of this academic year I'll throw this out to be honest with you to hear, sometimes in jest and I know it is at times, the dark side is not really a dark side. We are trying to work as a team. I will tell you that, it seems we have good debates I think there are obviously academic issues, administration issues, student issues and to be honest with you we could eliminate that from the vocabulary of this institution I'd be thrilled. But, just my thought process while I got my stance up here by being questioned. So, thanks I hope they help. Thank you."

Chair Sterns observed: “The thing the issue is always the recommendations out of committees like this are always recommendations. I think that’s part of what this discussion is about. Things are brought forward as a recommendation which are then weighed by the decision making individuals and again that’s the structure that we have. I think though that what I would like to emphasize what Senator Fenwick said it’s extremely important that we have an approach that provide for the highest level of faculty and staff participation in providing input into decision making to the highest degree it helps us making good decisions. As we know, the only way that can be accomplished is by a very active and involved Senate. And that means that we have to be very involved and very focused in terms of our tasks that we are assigned that we must do our work in a way that would provide very strong input and I must say to you that in many years of working on various committees on this campus that the good faith relationship is critical. The good faith relationship is critical because the recommendations of these have to be reviewed and ultimately most of the major decisions that we are involved in are approved by the Board of Trustees. So part of that is the important input that we have. I try to give you an example from years now having chaired what was first the Facilities Planning Committee and now the ad hoc Facilities Planning Committee without the appropriate input and information provided by Jim Haskell and vice president for physical facilities careful cannot take place. Recommendations can not take place. And having good information is critical. Also I think in this last year Provost Stroble was extremely gracious in getting that process going again, so that there could be faculty input into discussions regarding physical facilities. And so to me one of the most important things is to rebuild the decision making approaches so that faculty have a say into those areas which are critical for academics but also for the daily life of the university and promoting a very active campus where faculty and students are really working together in a unique and positive way. So that’s certainly what I want to see us accomplish in this next period of time.

Now I can tell you that there are lots of pitfalls in this and there are ample opportunities to have lots of issues and I’m sure we’re going to have some existentially rich experiences of the next period of time. But I hope, I hope that we will have an active Senate, with strong participation that we’ll get our committees actively functioning and that we will really do what we need to do to show that The University of Akron has strong faculty governance as you know that was one of the area where we will be looked at very carefully as part of North Central is our governance structure. And as you also know that there’s also a discussion regarding refinements to governance. We know that there was to be a full discussion of those suggestions at a specially called Faculty Senate, it does not appear that the deliberations will be far enough that we will use that date.”

Senator Erickson: “I can speak to that. I and Senator Lillie is co-chairs and I am one of the two faculty members of this Senate created this version of it at beginning of last year, so the spring before so we’re going back two academic years so there hasn’t been those who know about yet but we’ve been looking at the whole issue of effective university governance and we are representing the faculty on the committee that’s looking at this the exploratory committee. We have not met over the summer, because we sent our draft our representative document which was presented this body last spring that went to, we’re waiting for the input from the Vice Presidents and the Deans. We have not yet got that. It has taken longer than expected to get that and I guess we’re not sure whether the meeting which was originally going to be on the 13th of September when we’re expecting to get

that document so that we could as a committee discuss it. This committee by the way has representatives, two representatives from the faculty, two from the contract professionals, two from the staff, two from the students, two from Vice presidents well for the moment has two from the Vice Presidents and Deans together just how it is. We put together, put the original document together and then it has to go out to the constituencies it has to go out to the faculty and we talked about that in the last year in this body and now we're on to the second stage to get some interaction but the meeting was to be the 13th which would have given us time to have input for the 20th but we're not sure whether the change in time for our meeting, the exploratory committees meeting to the morning of the 20th is going to continue if so then we will indeed have to reschedule the special meeting of this group to discuss it because clearly just getting it in the morning and then having it in the afternoon is just not enough time for us to be able digest what they've said and then to pass it on to you people effectively. If anybody has any questions..."

Senator Lillie asked to follow up on what Senator Erickson said. "When I actually reported to this body last December we had no agreed upon written document from the committee so my report was very general and just about process. A week or two after the Senate meeting we actually agreed by consensus to a particular document that everybody in the room said yes, we will pass this document on. I think everybody in the room also had reservations of their own about the document some of which came out of the debate in this body that I read when I was on sabbatical in the spring."

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Sterns mentioned that new senators can get copies of the past documents by contacting the Senate office. Senator Gandee made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Senator Lyons.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Verbatim transcript prepared by Heather Loughney

*Transcript edited by Richard Stratton,
Secretary of the Senate*

APPENDICES TO MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2007

APPENDIX A

REPORT OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

Faculty Senate

September 6, 2007

- Fall Events
 - Yesterday's Welcome Event for UA Employees

 - Next Week's Student Appreciation Day/Evening—More about this from Victor Pinheiro

- Updates
 - Enrollment Data

 - Research Expenditures

 - Record Giving Levels

 - New Hires and Appointments
 - Dr. Rex Ramsier, Associate Provost
 - Dr. Helen Qammar, Director Institute for Teaching and Learning
 - Dr. Charles Fey, Vice President Student Affairs
 - Dr. Stephen Cheng, Dean Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering
 - Mr. Martin Belsky, Dean School of Law

 - Searches Starting
 - Chief Diversity Officer
 - Dean College of Education
 - University Press Director

 - NCA Self-Study: Fenwick and Ramsier

- A Defining Moment for Higher Education in Ohio and UA's Response: The Academic Alignment Project

APPENDIX B

August 20, 2007

Rudy Fenwick, Chair
Office of the Faculty Senate
The University of Akron
+7111

In anticipation, Rudy . . .

. . . of the resumption of regular Faculty Senate meetings in September, I am responding to two action items that you kindly brought to my attention at the end of the academic year.

In accordance with Faculty Senate bylaws, I referred the March 1 resolutions relating to a wellbeing committee to the appropriate vice president for consideration and response. The response from CFO F. John Case is attached.

In regard to the April 5 motion on the name of the nutrition center, I am pleased to advise you that The Board of Trustees on June 13, 2007 approved the recommended name of *The Nutrition Center of the University of Akron*.

I look forward to another productive year working with you and our colleagues throughout the University. Thank you for your continued service and dedication.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. John Case". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with large loops and a prominent initial "F".

DATE: August 20, 2007

TO: Rudy Fenwick, Chair, Faculty Senate
CC: Luis M. Proenza, President

FROM: F. John Case, Vice President for Business and Finance/CFO

SUBJECT: Response to March and April 2007 Faculty Senate Items

I have reviewed and carefully considered the Faculty Senate resolutions of March 1 regarding a well-being committee, and I offer the following responses:

Resolution language addressing voting:

As I have stated previously, the University Group Insurance Committee does not operate as a voting committee. The committee will debate and work toward building consensus. Committee members are expected to represent their constituencies to the best of their ability at each meeting, using the knowledge gathered from them.

First resolution, part 1 – representative from Wayne College:

The administration believes that there is sufficient knowledge within Human Resources and, therefore, the current committee regarding any concerns about health care providers for those persons at the Wayne College campus. The faculty and other groups have the opportunity to utilize an appointee from Wayne College, should they desire. Further, the administration appointed the dean of Wayne College, Jack Kristofco, as a member of the committee.

First resolution, part 2 – retiree member:

The University Group Insurance and Benefits Committee has only as part of its charge the consideration of health insurance and benefits; its broader charge addresses the benefits provided to employees across campus. Retirees in general are no longer employees and are not affected by common employee benefits. The retirees are listed as advisory to the committee and, according to item II – Review of the Committee Charter – section (b), “Advisory groups will be consulted and address the group as necessary.” The retirees can be advised of all meeting times, locations and agenda items; just let me know. If the retirees would like to designate a person, the chairman will contact them when necessary to address the group.

Second resolution – “. . . one voting administrator on the Committee.”

This issue is addressed in the response to the overall issue of voting. Because this committee will reach decisions through debate and consensus, language concerning voting is irrelevant.

Third resolution – “. . . report . . . reasons for not making these changes”

I believe the points above sufficiently address this item and the issues contained in the resolutions.

I urge our colleagues throughout the University to give this committee a chance to show what we can do by working together toward a consensus. I believe that the experience will be beneficial and worthwhile for the University community as a whole.

APPENDIX C

The University of Akron Senate Committees 2007-2008 (subject to revision)

* denotes Senator
Chairs in **bold**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Harvey Sterns – Chair 2009*
William Rich – Vice Chair 2009*
Richard Stratton – Secretary 2009*
Kyle Bohland 2008*
Elizabeth Erickson 2010*
James Lenavitt 2009*
Tim Lillie 2010*

CURRICULUM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Stephen Brooks – 2008
Enoch Damson – 2008
Cheryl Elman – 2008*
Annabelle Foos - 2010
Ali Hajjafar – 2010*
Annette James – 2010
Dwayne Jones – 2010
Pamela Kelyka – 2008*
Suzanne Kiewit - 2009
Stacey Moore - 2009
Hillary Nunn – 2010
Richard Steiner – 2009
Richard Yoder - 2010

Ex-officio member,
Senior VP & Provost or designee,
Rex Ramsier - Chair

Ex-officio member, University Registrar

ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Kyle Bohland – 2008*
Lesley Gordon – 2008
Debra Hayes – 2010
Debra Keller – 2010
Susan Kushner-Benson – 2008
Gwen Jones – 2008
John Lanshe – 2010
William Lyons – 2008*
Cindy Mako-Robinson – 2008
Tim Matney – 2009*
Charles Monroe – 2008
Emeka Ofobike – 2008*
Ruth Oswald – 2010*
Peggy Richards – 2010
James Slowiak – 2009*
Laura Vinnedge – 2009*
Ex-officio member,
Senior VP & Provost or designee,
Rex Ramsier – Chair

AD HOC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Amy Shriver Dreusin – 2010
J. Feerasta – 2010
Peggy Halter – 2009*
John Luthern – 2009
Neil Sapienza – 2009

ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Susan Ashby - 2010
Francis Broadway – 2008*
Stacey Buser – 2010
Irina Chernikova – 2008
Jerry Drummund - 2009
Sherry Gamble – 2009*
Robert Gandee – 2008*
John Hawes – 2010
Lala Krishna – 2010
Tim Lillie – 2010*
Lonnie Lowery – 2010
Patricia Millhoff - 2008
John Sahl – 2009
Dan Sheffer – 2009

Ex-officio members,
Mr. Dean Carro,

NCAA Faculty Representative
Mr. Mack Rhodes, Athletic Director or
designee

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Diana Chlebek – 2010
Lindgren Chyi - 2008
Virginia Gunn – 2008
Gary Hamed – 2009*
Sukanya Kemp – 2010
Merlen Levering – 2010
Hillary Nunn – 2008
Larry Shubat - 2008
Eric Sotnak – 2008*
Brooks Toliver – 2008*

Ex-Officio members, Dean of University
Libraries, or designee

Mr. Paul Richert, Law Librarian

Ex-officio, non-voting member, Director
Information Services

AD HOC BUDGET COMMITTEE

Julia Beckett – 2010
Raymond Cox – 2009
Kathy DuBose – 2009
Rudy Fenwick – 2010
S. I. Hariharan – 2009
Phil Hoffman – 2009
Chuck Kunsman – 2009
Nancy Roadruck – 2009
Susan Pope - 2010
William Thelin – 2009

FACULTY RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Steve Aby – 2010
Maria Adamowicz-Hariasz – 2008
Alfred Anderson – 2010
Constance Bouchard – 2010
Steven Chuang – 2009
Zhong-Hui Duan – 2010
Jim Egan – 2009?
R. Ray Gehani – 2008*
Laura Gelfand – 2010
Margaret Huff – 2009
Elizabeth Kennedy – 2010
Sharon Kruse – 2008
Lonnie Lowery – 2010
Sergei Lyuksyutov – 2010
Suzanne McDonald – 2009
Ernian Pan – 2009
Erol Sancaktar – 2008*
Julia Spiker – 2008
David Steer – 2008
Victor Wilburn – 2008*
Matt Wyszynski – 2009
Baomei Zhao – 2010
Nick Zingale – 2008*

Ex-Officio member, Associate Provost
for Research or designee

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Kyle Bohland – 2007*
Charlotte Burrell – 2010
Andrew Carroll – 2009*
Colleen Curry – 2008
Sherry Gamble – 2008*
Nathan Ida – 2008*
Don Laconi – 2009
Sheree Thomas Pritchard – 2010
Vicki Rostedt – 2009
Tim Vierheller – 2008*
Laura Vinnedge – 2009*

Ex-officio members, Dr. Doug McNutt,
Director – Student Financial Aid
VP - Student Affairs, Dr. Karla Mugler,
Dean-University College

REFERENCE COMMITTEE

Susan Clark - 2010
Don Gerlach – 2008*
Amy Goodson-Beal – 2009
Paul John – 2008
William Rich – 2009*
Elizabeth Mancke – 2009
Frederic Marich – 2008
John Vollmer – 2010*
Mike Wyszynski – 2010

Ex-Officio member, Secretary – Faculty
Senate

Ex-officio, non-voting member,
Mike Sermersheim,
Deputy General Counsel

**COMPUTING &
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Roland Arter – 2008
John Boal – 2008*
Frank Bove – 2008*
Jeannette Carson - 2009
Lori Fielding - 2008
Terry Hallett – 2009*
Mary Hardin – 2008
Phil Hoffman – 2008
Douglas Hubert – 2010
Michael Johanyek – 2008
Eric Kreider – 2008
James Lenavitt – 2009*
Gaurab Mahapatra – 2010
Herb Matheny – 2008
E. Stewart Moritz – 2008*
Jim Shuster - 2008
Richard Stratton – 2009*
Bruce Taylor – 2008*
Del Williams – 2010

Ex-Officio member, Director – Network Services
or designee

**AD HOC FACILITIES
PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

Kenneth Dunning – 2008
Elizabeth Erickson – 2008*
James Frampton – 2008
Virginia Gunn – 2008
Margaret Halter – 2009*
Robert Huff – 2010*
Robert Jeantet – 2008
Paul John – 2008
John Kline – 2008
Rose Marie Konet – 2008
Craig Menzemer – 2008
Phyllis O'Connor – 2008
Sue Rasor-Greenhalgh – 2008
David Ritchey – 2008
Neil Sapienza – 2008
Harvey Sterns - 2009*
John Vollmer – 2010*

APPENDIX D

Faculty Senate Meeting Schedule

2007-2008 Academic Year

2007

Thursday, September 6	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, September 20	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201 CANCELED
-Special meeting to discuss UC proposal		
Thursday, October 4	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, November 1	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, December 6	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201

2008

Thursday, January 3	~~ no meeting ~~	
Thursday, February 7	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, March 6	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, April 3	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201
Thursday, May 1	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	BCCE 201

Please note:

If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled meetings, please contact Heather Loughney in the Faculty Senate Office. Her email is: hl@uakron.edu; the office phone number is 330-972-7896.

If the need should arise for a special meeting, a detailed notice will be sent out via the Senate list serve and/or campus mail.

APPENDIX E

Faculty Senate Membership

(file updated: 8-31-2007)

Newly elected senators in **bold**

College of Arts & Sciences (16)

Brian Bagatto – 2010

Cheryl Elman – 2008

Elizabeth Erickson – 2010

Ali Hajjafar – 2010 (2nd term)

William Lyons – 2008

Tim Matney – 2008

Eric Sotnak – 2010

Harvey Sterns – 2009

Richard Stratton - 2009

(7 TBA)

Summit College (5)

Roland Arter – 2010

Sherry Gamble – 2008

David Licate – 2010

Jeffrey Schantz – 2010 (2nd term)

Mary Williams – 2010

College of Education (4)

Francis Broadway – 2008

Susan Clark – 2008

Timothy Lillie – 2010 (2nd term)

Ruth Oswald – 2010

College of Engineering (4)

no results from 07 election yet

Nathan Ida – 2008

Bruce Taylor – 2008

College of

Fine & Applied Arts (8)

Andrew Carroll – 2009

Terry Hallett – 2009

Robert Huff – 2010

James Lenavitt – 2009

Brooks Toliver – 2008

Laura Vinnedge – 2009

John Vollmer – 2010 (2nd term)

Victor Wilburn – 2008

School of Law (2)

E. Steward Moritz – 2008

William Rich – 2009

College of

Business Administration (4)

Steven Ash – 2010

Ray Gehani – 2008

Pamela Keltyka – 2008

Emeka Ofobike – 2008

University Libraries (2)

Frank Bove – 2008

Karen Plummer – 2009

SEAC (2)

Lissia Gerber - 2009

Mary Tabatcher - 2009

Students (3)

Kyle Bohland (ASG) – 2008

Kristen Bowman (ASG) - 2008

Alyison Leigh (GSG) – 2008

Part-Time Faculty (2)

Contract Professionals (2)

Amy Gilliland 2008

Wayne College (2)

Tim Vierheller – 2008

Nick Zingale – 2008

Polymer Science/Engineering (2)

Gary Hamed – 2008

Erol Sancaktar – 2008

College of Nursing (3)

Margaret Halter – 2009

Linda Shanks – 2010

Cheryl Sadler – 2009

Assoc of UA Retirees (2)

Robert Gandee – 2008

Don R. Gerlach – 2008

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***NOTE:** *The UA Chronicle* is always available online through the Faculty Senate web page: <http://www.uakron.edu/facultysenate>.



New or updated information:

Name: _____

• **Department name & Zip+4:** _____

• **Is this a new Zip+4?** _____

____ **I am currently *not* on the mailing list; please add my name.**

____ **Please drop my name from your mailing list.**