

Minutes – November 16, 2016

The meeting was convened at approximately 2:30 p.m. by Charles Garbini.

Members present:

Member	District	Member	District
Charles Garbini	#2	Krzysztof Bakowski	#8
Madelyn Mickle	#3	Doris Miklitz	#Library
Robin Harbaugh	#4	Stefanie Baxter	#13
Michael Popovich	#5	Alex Keen	#14
Cheryl Rodriguez	#7		

Members absent: Mary Cleveland #1, Glenn Loller #6, Vacant Seat #9, Susan Williams #10, and Krista Urbaniak #12

Others Present: Tom LaPenta

Minutes

Many thanks to Susan Williams for setting up a tour of the athletic facilities at Bob Carpenter Center. Susan coordinated with Frantzer LeBlanc to arrange the group tour, and Scott Alderbridge was a wonderful tour guide!

Michael Popovich, District 5, enthusiastically volunteered to attend and represent ACES at faculty senate meetings. This position is not a voting position, but participates in discussions.

The UD 403b retirement plans are still being reviewed, and transition is expected to be completed by July, 2017. Movement is being made toward 14 investment vehicles and a reduction in investment fees. Communications teams are working together to keep employees informed. Being added to the retirement plan is a Roth 403b – more information will be forthcoming.

There was discussion regarding whether or not the Time Off view is the official accounting of vacation and sick leave. Many representatives indicated that office staff are still keeping track because there are still glitches in the software. It was requested Anna Block be invited to attend the next ACES meeting to provide an update on the UD Time accounting system.

Old Business

- Doris Miklitz is going to continue looking into having an upcoming council meeting at the Morris Library.
- We need to run a new constituent list for representatives. Scarlett will ask to have a new one made with different parameters.

- The width of several parking places in several locations has been documented to be only 8-ft wide. The industry standard is 8.5 ft. This issue has been confirmed and is being looked into by Parking Services.

New Business

Constituent Concerns

District #2

- Skateboards belonging to UD students and UD employees need to be registered. With electronic systems, this is possible, if UD has the resolve to bring this issue under better control. A few years ago, while I was still driving a car on campus, a skateboarder lost control and his skateboard became air-bound, and struck my car. Before I could safely stop and respond, the person quickly gathered up their skateboard and ran off. Paint damage was minimal, and I repaired it myself. This was on Academy Street, next to the Maintenance Center.
- There is a crosswalk on Academy Street, connecting Perkins and Rodney, where it is not uncommon for car traffic to get really backed up during busy times of day. It would be great if there could be a traffic signal installed there or if a crossing guard could be put in place during rush hour times.
- There is a crosswalk at the intersection of Delaware and Haines Streets, but cars never, ever stop for pedestrians. It is a very dangerous situation. Can a flashing light be installed there, similar to the one near the Galleria on Main Street?
- Can you look into Campus and Public Safety doing a bike ‘rules of the road’ outreach campaign on Academy Street from Spencer to Perkins crosswalk? I travel that area multiple times a day and see instances where bikes do not obey the stop signs, ride on the sidewalk instead of using the bike lanes and ride against traffic daily. It’s so bad I have almost been hit by a bike twice in the past four months. **A:** An ACES rep will check with the Newark Bike Project.
- There are no stripes on Academy St. delineating traffic lanes. Do you happen to know when these will be replaced?
- The buses that idle in front of Perkins and Rodney block the road for traffic. Sometimes they are parked on both sides of the road causing a pinch point for traffic to get around them. Can Public Safety address this or is it something that should be addressed to the Transportation Dept?

District #4

- I would like to ask if Human Resources could look into the possibility of developing a partnership with and offering tuition assistance at a nearby college or university or online program that offers master's and doctoral degrees in Higher Education Administration (HEA). A degree in that field is not currently offered at UD, and many, many employees who are in higher education administration jobs at UD are not able to utilize the UD tuition benefit, nor are they able to advance in their careers due to the inability to obtain an advanced

degree in HEA. Being able to offer tuition benefits for an HEA program would help the university attract the best and brightest professionals and retain those already working here.

- Tom: No. UD offers the most progressive employee tuition benefits in the country. It is not possible to expand those benefits.

District #5

- The parking lot behind Townsend Hall is still difficult for pedestrians and drivers. I was almost hit by a car in the crosswalk over to Fischer Greenhouse last week. Cars do not stop or slide through way back from the cross walk, driving north. On Sunday I was in, driving through the parking lot on the driving lane, and a car careened through diagonally across the parking lot, not stopping anywhere.
- Backing out from the row by the Fischer Greenhouse/Farm, cannot back out safely. Cars go by 30 mph, and blow their horn as you attempt to inch out. Can't see over larger vehicles. I don't like them, but maybe speed bumps would help? I have suggested re-painting the crosswalk, re-painting the stop sign on the pavement and moving it closer. Don't know what else to do.
- Prune branches by the 15 minute parking spot so sign is visible. There is no place for large farm trucks to park to drop off samples.
- **Lot No. 50 (Vicinity to ISE Lab):**
I'd like to express my concern about the recent change in Lot #50. This lot previously had 11 Gray spaces where I frequently parked, but 5 of those spaces were converted to parking meters. I'll assume they are used during the day, but they are usually empty in the morning. This lot now has 7 handicapped spots, 2 reserved, 8 parking meters and only 6 Gray spots. I'm just requesting that the use of these spaces be carefully evaluated to justify the inconvenience to employees.

District #11

- Can we go back to using the terms Professional and Salaried staff?
 - A: The University switched to Exempt/Non-Exempt to be consistent with the classifications used in the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

District #13

- Do all employee enrichment seminars/classes/workshop require an email be sent to the employee's supervisor indicating that they have signed up? I was surprised when I signed up for what I thought was a "personal" seminar and noticed that my supervisor was included on the confirmation email.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm by Charles Garbini.