

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**September 19, 2018**  
**Leaders Conference Room**

Present: Ball, Berardini, Cossentino, Howell, King, Licata, Mosca, Pallante (for Blair), Paul, Pintar, Steelant, Torres, Ward

Guests: Hillary Fuhrman, Alison Kaufmann, Patrick Williams

**Noel Levitz Final Recommendations**

Hillary Fuhrman and Alison Kaufman distributed two documents (Analysis of Dissemination Strategies for Campus and Noel Levitz Survey 2017 Executive Summary) and presented a short summary about the analysis of the survey data. Concerns reflected in the survey include minority students reporting they are not as comfortable on campus as non-minority students, and students expressing concerns about having to wait weeks to get an appointment to see an academic advisor. Ms. Fuhrman asked Council what will happen after the data are shared with the deans and chairs. Is there a way to follow up to make sure data are being used? A discussion ensued. Provost Mosca stated there does not appear to be a mechanism in place to ensure the data are used for future planning. He asked Council members to take the information back to their areas, to consider how this information can be useful for future programming, and to share those ideas with him.

**Veteran-Friendly Advisors Assigned to Colleges**

Rick Williams introduced himself to Council, noting he is starting his sixth year as manager of the Veterans Resource Center. He asked Council for feedback about having a veteran champion in each college to help veterans deal with obstacles that are unique to their experience. Mr. Williams noted that most veterans are non-traditional students, and some have disabilities from their service. He also said many individuals cannot imagine a veteran's point of view. The idea of a "veteran champion" was suggested to him by the YSU student-veterans who attended the Student Veterans of American annual conference in San Antonino this year. Mr. Williams stated he reviewed a model used at the University of Michigan, and he talked to UM officials. Individuals wishing to become a veteran champion would need to attend a training program consisting of two 20-minute videos and participate in a two-hour training that Mr. Williams would conduct. There was consensus from Council to create this program and to allow academic advisors, faculty, and staff who are interested in participating to do so. Mr. Williams stated he can start the training sessions during spring semester, 2019.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Dean Howell made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2018, meeting. Ms. Torres seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

**Roundtable**

Ms. Ward reported she is working feverishly to get the part-time dollars transferred to academic department accounts, but she cannot do so until all of the work plans are received.

Dr. Cossentino stated 503 honors contracts have been processed through the new online system. There are still some faculty members who refuse to use the electronic version, so she is working with the faculty member's department chairpersons to resolve the issue. Dr. Cossentino reported there are 1,133 honors students as of the 14<sup>th</sup> day enrollment report. Of this number, 322 are freshmen. Dr. Cossentino stated she will be putting together her comprehensive report, and chairpersons will receive information on the honors contracts.

Dr. Cossentino reported that YSU is just shy of \$30,000 in pledges for the United Way campaign. An email announcement will be distributed on Tuesday, September 25. The campaign ends on October 1.

Associate Provost Ball asked the deans to share with him the names of faculty members who are members of the department and/or college curriculum and program committees so the permissions can be given to those individuals to access the curriculum management system. Names need to be sent to Dr. Ball as soon as possible.

Dean Howell reminded Council of the Higher Education Leadership conference on October 15. He will forward the information to Jodi Clowes to forward to Council.

Dean King stated she recently had issues with three students with severe mental issues. One student was arrested, and one student was escorted off campus. Dr. King is trying to work with the last student. She asked if there is training available that would help faculty and staff know how to work effectively with students and individuals with these types of problems. Provost Mosca stated the Academic Affairs office will explore options and report back to Council. Dr. Pallante reminded Council that secretaries and administrative assistants often meet with these individuals first, and training should also be offered to staff members.

Ms. Torres shared the following events for Hispanic Heritage month:

- September 20, Art Opening: The opening for Gaby Berglund Cardenas' "Life While You Wait Exhibit" will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. in Bliss Hall's Judith Rae Solomon Gallery.
- October 6, Hispanic Heritage Celebration: Music, entertainment, and dance performances by groups such as the Labra Brothers, Samuel Andrade, and Alma De Mexico will highlight a celebration from noon to 3 p.m., Kilcawley Center.
- October 11, Massacre Panel: A panel of YSU faculty will discuss the 50th anniversary of a massacre of students and faculty by military and police in Mexico City on Oct. 2, 1968. The discussion will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to be brought before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jodi Clowes, recorder*