Dr. Hopkins

Ohio House Bill 48


- As of today a concealed handgun may not be carried on the University premises or any property that the University leases or owns. Those with a license for a concealed weapon may have it locked in their car, but they may not bring it onto Wright State properties in any other way.
- Ohio House Bill 48 was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on November 17th, and has since been introduced to the Ohio Senate. The bill provides an exception to the prohibition regarding higher education premises if an institution’s Board of Trustees takes an active stance to permit concealed weapons on campus.
- Talks with State Senators appear to indicate that the bill will pass the Senate and then probably be approved by the Governor.
- Dr. Hopkins also spoke with the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and expressed that it is not in the University’s best interest to take action and allow concealed weapons on campus.

General Council Search

- The search for a new Vice President of Legal Affairs / General Counsel is nearing completion. Dr. Hopkins has spoken to the two finalists suggested by the search committee and hopes to make an announcement within the next two weeks.

November 12th Student March

- On November 12th a group of African-American students organized a march on campus to show solidarity with students at the University of Missouri. Dr. Hopkins and his leadership team met with the students on November 19th to discuss their concerns and demands regarding the following:
  - Space for the promotion of Black Culture – the University will work with the students to re-examine the Bolinga Black Cultural Center and how it could be improved.
  - Enrollment & retention strategies to attract more African-American students to campus and help them succeed
  - Student engagement in the recruitment of black students, especially recruitment from Dayton Public Schools
The University’s success rate in increasing black faculty and administration
• Effectiveness of mentoring programs
• Better public review of the distribution of student organization funding
• Availability of diversity training on campus
• Ensure that African-American history was truly an intimate part of American History courses and General Education CORE History courses.
• Development of a Minor in Social Justice
• A request that Dr. Hopkins be more public in support of black student issues

Dr. Hopkins concluded that the meeting was a healthy and educational experience for all members of the conversation, and that he looks forward to working with the students to address their concerns.

Ron Wine Consulting update

• In 2005 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base gained considerable assets from across the country via the government’s Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) initiative, and the Department of Defense pledged to create the World’s Center of Excellence on Human Performance Research at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.
• Between 2005 and 2011, the government spent more than $350million in military construction projects at Wright-Patterson to house the Human Performance Wing.
• The Air Force Research Lab has performed $4-5billion of research per year, however there has been a longstanding complaint that less than 5% of that money stays in Ohio when research projects are commercialized despite the research being conducted in Ohio.
• In 2007 Wright State made a decision to take an aggressive approach by creating the Wright State Research Institute with its main purpose to leverage applied and use-inspired research by building a new relationship with the Air Force Research Lab to create a new paradigm of cooperation where Wright State would be the catalyst in bringing together the State of Ohio, local companies, the Air Force, and the federal government together with other state research institutions in an attempt to keep more of those dollars in Ohio.
• In 2008 the State of Ohio was especially anxious for public universities to address the Great Recession. Many state institutions created tremendous infrastructure around new Vice President for Economic Development positions. Instead of using SSI dollars or raising tuition, Wright State identified an outsourced method to bring expertise to the university in order to accomplish what other universities were doing with their Vice Presidents for Economic Development without the associated costs. Wright State accomplished this by hiring the Ron Wine Consulting Group on a monthly retainer. The firm was chosen because Ron Wine was the first president of the Dayton Development Coalition which is the main economic development partnership the region.
• After initial success, the State of Ohio funded a pilot program around the Human Performance Resource Wing which later led to the development of the Ohio Federal Research Network, a collaboration between state research universities, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, NASA Glenn Research Center, and private sector companies.
Between 2009 and 2015, Wright State would have spent $3.6 million if it had created infrastructure to support a new Vice President for Economic Development. During that same time period, Wright State has payed Ron Wine Consulting $1.9 million, $1.6 million of which has come from State of Ohio casino licensing fees earmarked for economic development. Slightly over $900k of this money was paid in 2014 since most of the efforts centered on the development of the Ohio Federal Research Network took place in that year. Throughout this process Wright State did not ask Ron Wine or his firm to act as a lobbyist.

From 2011-2015, the Wright State & Ron Wine Consulting Group’s efforts led to $165 million in research development grants around Human Performance for Ohio institutions, $150 million in private investment to the state through the consortium involved in the Ohio Federal Research Network, and 575 jobs were created with a total income of $47.2 million.

Dr. Hopkins concluded that he welcomes the Attorney General’s probe of the contract with Ron Wine Consulting Group, and that he is proud of Wright State’s efforts in developing the Ohio Federal Research Network and having the State of Ohio pay most of the costs.

Comments

- Senator Dan Krane, Chair of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC), encouraged President Hopkins to consider how the IUC could work with the OFC to address House Bill 48.
- Senator Barry Milligan, charged by his constituents, raised a question regarding the perception that a number of consultants are hired by the University at considerable cost, and whether or not there is an institutional policy in place to govern and assess the effective use of consultants.
  - Dr. Hopkins stated that the use of consultants has increased over time and are often hired when the university doesn’t have enough expertise to complete a project internally, and that there is room for improvement in the areas of oversight and assessment. Dr. Hopkins then committed to working with the Faculty Senate to review and improve the policies and procedures governing consultants.

Dr. Sudkamp

- The University will be forming a task force, comprised of faculty and members of the university’s business team for the implementation of the legislative initiatives including the 5% Challenge, and the Governor’s Efficiency and Affordability Task Force Report.
- One of the key items in both the 5% Challenge and the Governor’s Efficiency and Affordability Task Force Report is the requirement to reduce the number of credit hours in degree programs. Wright State’s Board of Trustees has approved the requirement that all baccalaureate degree programs should be 120 credit hours unless accreditation requirements dictate a greater amount. Associate degree programs should be 60 credit hours. There are currently over 80 baccalaureate programs with over 120 credit hours.
Ideally, program changes should be submitted to the curricular approval process by early Spring semester due to the lengthy approval process.

- The new online University Catalog will launch in mid-December. Accompanying the new catalog will be the new curricular workflow system, Curriculog, which will integrate automatically with the catalog and provide a seamless process for the creation and tracking of new Courses and Programs. Curriculog will also be able to be used for academic policy tracking and approval, and course fee approvals. Curriculog training will be announced in the Spring.

- Dr. Margaret Dunn, Dean of the Boonshoft School of Medicine, will chair the search committee for the Dean of College of Science and Math beginning in January.

- As part of the 360-degree review of International Education, a search for a new leader of International Education programs will begin in January.