

**The University of Akron
2017-18 University Council Satisfaction Survey Report
August 28, 2018**

Summary:

The University Council Satisfaction Survey was distributed to University Council and Standing Committee members on August 13, 2018. Survey responses were anonymous.

There were 98 University Council and Standing Committee members at the time the survey was distributed. The University Council Steering Committee received 43 responses for a response rate of 44%. Thirty-three respondents were Standing Committee members, five respondents were University Council members (27 member group) and five respondents served both as a member on University Council and on one of the Standing Committees.

For the question, “Standing Committees that I have **not** served on have been focused on their goals during the 2017-18 University Council year (May 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018),” 25 respondents said they didn’t know, 10 said standing committees have been somewhat focused on their goals, 8 said they have been very focused, and 0 said they have not at all been focused (page 2).

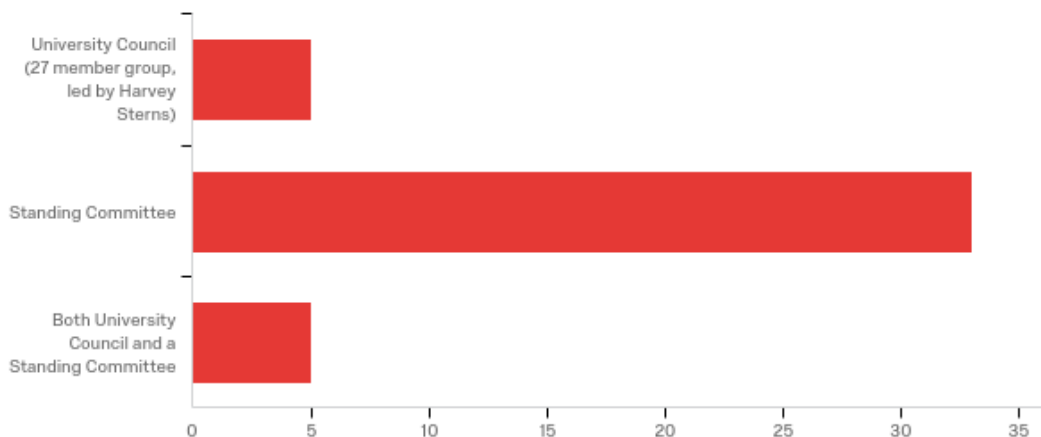
For the question, “Standing Committees that I have served on have been focused on their goals during the 2017-18 University Council year (May 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018),” 28 respondents said their standing committee has been very focused, 10 said it has been somewhat focused, 0 said it has not at all been focused, and 5 respondents did not serve on a standing committee (page 2).

For the question, “University Council has been productive during the 2017-18 University Council year (27 member group, led by Harvey Sterns),” 15 said they didn’t know, 14 respondents said UC has been somewhat productive, 12 said it has been very productive, and 2 said it has not at all been productive (page 4).

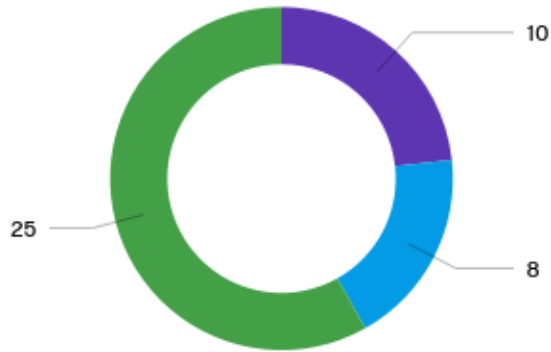
For open-ended questions, responses were organized into the following categories: communication, goals/priorities, meeting structure, membership, operations, and other (pages 3 – 6).

Complete Survey Results:

I am a member of:

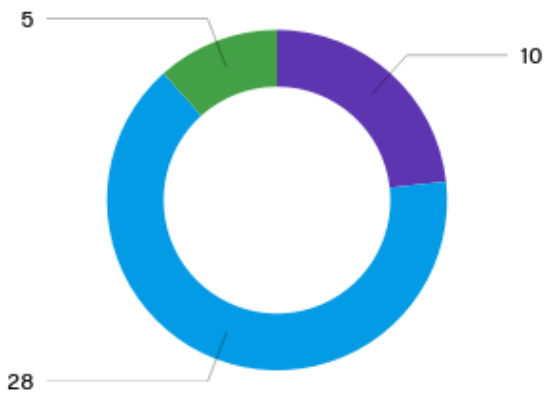


Standing Committees that I have not served on been focused on their goals during the 2017-18 University Council year. (May 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018)



- Not at all focused on their goals
- Somewhat focused on their goals
- Very focused on their goals
- I don't know

Standing Committees that I have served on have been focused on their goals during the 2017-18 University Council year. (May 1, 2017 – April 31, 2018)



- Not at all focused on their goals
- Somewhat focused on their goals
- Very focused on their goals
- Not applicable (I did not serve on a standing committee)

Do you have suggestions to make the work of the standing committees more effective?

(Categories are listed by the number of responses received)

Operations

No.	Response	Member of:
1	The charge of some of the committees is not entirely clear. If a committee identifies a problem and researches a solution, it is not clear what the appropriate channels are for follow through.	Standing Committee
2	Consistency.	Standing Committee
3	Perhaps better direction from UC, e.g. what questions do they want answered, what actions do they want committees to take versus what do they just want recommendations on, etc.	Standing Committee
4	Working toward a clear goal with a deadline is always effective. Making certain that duties are divided among the membership to decrease added workload on just a couple of people. Also a set # of meetings (such as 3); i.e., meetings should not be cancelled consecutively (more than 3 x in a row).	Standing Committee
4	Have meetings more often.	Standing Committee
5	Require representatives to report out to the constituencies they represent.	Standing Committee
6	It's possible that some committees are redundant to others organized by other office from across campus so consolidation could make work more efficient.	Standing Committee
8	Maybe the UC officers, perhaps only the chair, should attend meetings quarterly to ensure the standing committees are meeting, the administrator overseeing is clear on his/her role, and working toward goals.	University Council

Membership

9	Committee seems to work best with competent, responsible leader (Liz Erikson) and capable secretary (Alisa) ... and with members who want to attend the meetings.	Standing Committee
10	Confirm that student appointees are willing to attend meetings.	Standing Committee
11	More students on committees.	UC & SC
12	Participation by the members of USG, GSG members. Our committee let the respective groups know in advance of meeting days and times and we still did not have participation. We value these groups and want them to have a voice on our committee.	UC & SC
13	Consistent leadership and monitor attendance to replace members who are unable to attend.	UC & SC
14	More involvement from those on committees. If students and other members are not attending, following the bylaws to get members who will attend.	UC & SC

Goals/Priorities

No.	Response	Member of:
15	Clarify responsibilities to avoid conflict with goals of the Faculty Senate and committees established in support of the UC committees.	Standing Committee
16	Require standing committees to provide timeline for accomplishing goals and if they didn't accomplish the goal ... what hindered that from occurring?	University Council

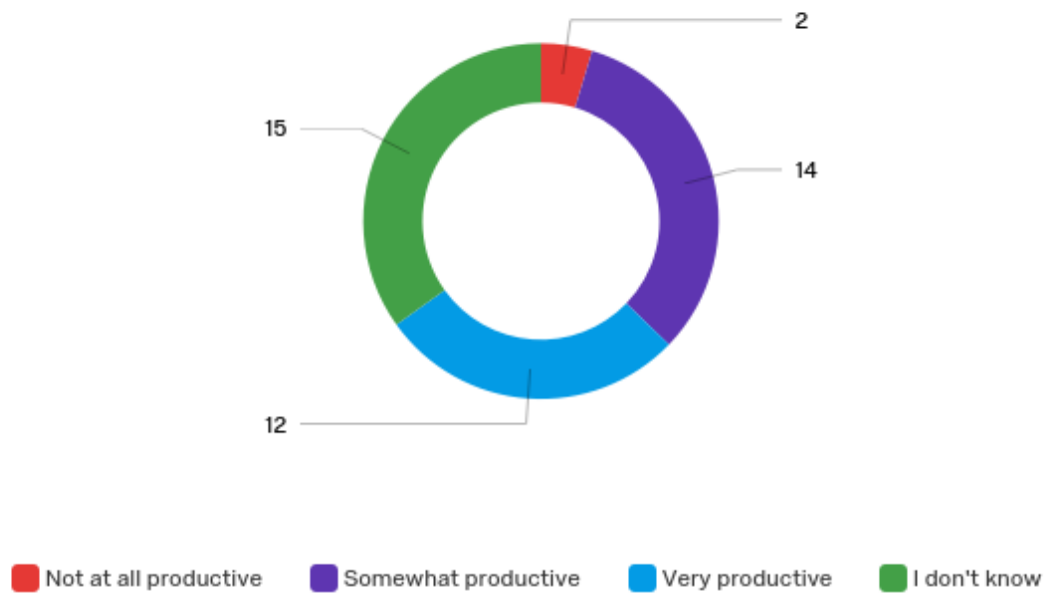
Communication

17	More feedback from UC.	Standing Committee
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Meeting Structure

18	Better utilization of technology for meeting/working etc.	Standing Committee
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University Council has been productive during the 2017-18 year. (27 member group, currently led by Harvey Sterns)



Do you have suggestions to make the work of University Council more effective?

(Categories are listed by the number of responses received)

Operations

No.	Response	Member of:
1	Harvey does an excellent job. More interaction with President and Provost.	Standing Committee
2	Standing committees and Ad-Hoc Committees need to provide materials for votes ahead of time so the council members can read and formulate discussion questions beforehand instead of seeing it on the screen at the meeting for the first time.	University Council
3	When standing committee is scheduled to present before UC a recommendation...it would be helpful for UC members to have that recommendation in advance of meeting to be prepared to ask questions and review documents.	University Council

Goals/Priorities

4	Clarify responsibilities to avoid conflict with goals of the Faculty Senate.	Standing Committee
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Membership

5	Eliminate retirees from the council.	Standing Committee
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Other

6	None at this time.	Standing Committee
7	No.	Standing Committee

Additional Comments:

Operations

No.	Response	Member of:
1	Too many committees doing too little productive/meaningful/timely work. Lots of talk, but little in terms of results. Many people being put on committees and then not showing up for meetings or saying they are too busy to do the work that needs to be done. End result: little meaningful work gets done in a timely manner.	Standing Committee
2	Committee chairs should rely more on committee members for getting the work of the committee accomplished and not be hesitant to delegate work. I felt several times in the past year that I was not being taken up on my offer for help when the chair and/or co-chairs seemed to be overwhelmed.	University Council

Other

3	UC is a great forum for transparency at the University. Improvement can and should be made but overall it is a great forum to clarify matters important to the University.	Standing Committee
4	Pleasure to serve.	Standing Committee
5	Kim Haverkamp is the glue that keeps UC & UC Exec committees on track and updated! Thank you for your outstanding service.	University Council