

**Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma**  
**43<sup>nd</sup> FACULTY SENATE**  
**January 17, 2013**  
**Music Building 111**

***CALL TO ORDER***

President Mock called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm and asked for a call of the roll. A quorum was found to be present for this meeting of the 43<sup>nd</sup> UCO Faculty Senate.

***ROLL CALL:***

Members Present (30): Senator Adele, Senator Barger-Johnson, Senator Barnes, Senator Brown, Senator Butler, Senator Charoenwongse-Shaw, Senator Chappell, Senator Clavin, Senator Chooback, Senator Cowan, Senator DeBolt, Senator Dickson, Senator Epstein, Senator Ferguson, Senator Frush, Senator Garcia, Senator Glaubitz, Senator Holt, Senator Kickham, Senator Khandaker, Senator Krishnan, Senator Mertens, Senator Mizell, President Mock, Senator Nelson, Senator Overman, Senator Patrick, Senator Rundle, Senator Shin, Senator Vanhoy.

Members Absent (6): Senator Delano, Senator Farnell, Senator Fister, Senator Lindblade, Senator Maddy. Senator Mazuet is on sabbatical.

***RECOGNITION OF VISITORS TO THE SENATE:***

None

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:***

The minutes of the meeting as distributed were approved without correction.

***SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:***

**President's Report, 17 January 2013**

The members of the Executive Committee participated in the January 14<sup>th</sup> President's Council Strategic Planning meeting, being updated by President Betz and others and continuing to refine the memberships of the new Strategic Directions groups. I admit to before and after the meeting suggesting faculty members to be added to the groups so that there would not be a preponderance of administrators. President Betz expressed appreciation for the work done to date, and enthusiasm for the direction taken and the promise for an academically focused and flexible overarching plan to be finalized in the spring.

In our Executive Committee meeting December 18<sup>th</sup>, with President Betz and Provost Radke, we spoke about the December 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative Luncheon with Chancellor Johnson and state legislators as well as representatives from our US senators. The chancellor's efforts to improve state funding are ongoing and difficult in that there are legislators who are disinclined to spend any extra money in their dedication to the state not incurring any new debt. This lack of funding plays directly into the non-activity in moving the Medical Examiner's Office to UCO. The president and provost noted that there would be no direct benefit to UCO, but our involvement would be more correctly described as UCO being a good citizen and doing our part to improve the legal status of investigations in Oklahoma, which currently has no accredited medical examiner's office.

The president noted that there will be faculty and staff meetings in late January dealing with HLC and Strategic Planning issues. Senator Adele brought up the importance of the Academic Affairs Prior Learning Task Force to aid in enrollment and success for veterans.

The president spoke about the need for state institution provosts to be on the newly established regents' task force to deal with on-line issues (credit, assessment, academic rigor and fit, and other such issues). We had a discussion about the rumors floating across campus in regard to a merit pay supplement, grant, bonus. Having mentioned those that I had heard, it became clear that all of the rumors were false to a greater or lesser degree. There will be an official statement coming from the president rather soon, but, I will summarize high points from our discussion. On merit, allowing that there was a report from the Faculty Merit Credit Task Force (which I was on) and which has always been in principle agreed with by administration but has not been implemented because of the flat-out shortage of money, we find that we have a two-part proposition shaping up. There is staff merit, which can be assessed by looking at staff IPDs. Faculty are more problematic, especially since each college has tenure and post-tenure scales which work within the guidelines of the university's Faculty Handbook but are different because of the college's specialties, and mechanisms will be investigated to deal with these obvious problems. However the mechanisms are determined, they must be seen as designed to reward meritorious and unusual service and not be a simple across-the-board distribution of money. This should be looked at as, in my words, a trial run for a system which WOULD BE annualized were there money to do it. There is no money to annualize the merit money, and the president expects that there will be, again in my words, bumps and

glitches in this first attempt at implementing a merit system. The funds for this attempt result from the president asking Vice-President Kreidler to direct a small percentage of funding intake into a so-called merit pool. This is what we have to deal with. There was a rumor that there were left over student worker funds: this is not the case, nor is it the case for any of the other rumored sources of money that I heard. Finally, the president updated us on the continuing attempts to increase our funding from the federal government. This will take an unpredictably long time because of the complexities of the application and granting processes.

I attended the Legislative Luncheon on December 19<sup>th</sup>, in which Chancellor Johnson presented the goals and directions for the year, much in accord with the notes and links that I sent you electronically in regard to the Regent's faculty Advisory Council gathering in November. The event was very well attended and I believe the interactions (those I saw) with the legislators and legislative assistants were all positive.

I attended the LEAF (Leaders and Educators Academic Forum) meeting in the University Center Monday January 7<sup>th</sup>. The highpoint of the meeting was the presentation by Dr. Cia Verschelden, the newly hired Executive Director of Assessment. I will summarize by saying that she presented a clear, easily understood vision of how, why, and when assessment must be done. As a purely personal evaluation, I was really happy to have her join us. It bodes well for the university, I believe.

I attended the Budget Task Force meeting January 8<sup>th</sup>. We continued the presentation of priority items from the various university divisions. As in my last report, all of the requested funds make perfect sense to me. Indeed, many lead to feelings of gloom/depression that 'things' are not already being done, and I do not foresee money falling from the sky to do most of them in the future.

Wednesday 16 January I attended the Regents' Advisory Council meeting. We were introduced to Dr. Blake Sonobe, who is now the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and we had an extended discussion with Mr. Von Royal, Chief Information officer for Higher Education and Executive Director for OneNet. We spoke about information technology problems on campuses across the state, and possible methods to improve IT services. This was a long discussion, which will continue at the next meeting: information will be gathered to clarify points raised. We requested guest speakers who will start our development of suggestions for improving services for returning veterans, which is a major concern for this year's FAC.

With appreciation to Senator Glaubitz for finding us a meeting room, I close my report for the day.

### **Vice President's Report:**

No report

**Webmaster/Historian's Report:**

No report

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report:**

No expenditures reported.

**Parliamentarian's Report:**

Beth Adele noted that faculty should discuss Faculty Senate nominations with their colleagues as elections are forthcoming.

***COMMITTEE REPORTS:***

The Graduate Council Task Force sent a report on the November Graduate Council Meeting to all Faculty Senate members on November 7, 2012 via email.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

Further review of the ADA wording for the Faculty Handbook was discussed due to concerns about faculty abilities to develop adequate compliance strategies, particularly in regard to classes such as Study Tour. Disability Support Services was to be contacted for input on best wording.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

- The Faculty Senate should reaffirm a policy supporting the efforts to keep guns off campus. The Executive Committee was tasked with this responsibility.
- Concerns about the issues faced by adjunct faculty were raised, suggested that Faculty Senate members talk with adjuncts about their concerns or unmet needs. UCO adjuncts email is on a different system making it less user friendly, develop a D2L-based training site for adjuncts.
- Emeritus faculty should be provided with a UCO email address and emeritus faculty have no access to library databases unless they work through IT.
- Faculty workloads vary across the state and there is increased reliance on adjuncts putting additional burden on full time faculty to cover committee responsibilities.
- A question was raised about the waiting period after retirement before being re-hired.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:***

- The Career Fair is 2/6/13 and 70 organizations will be represented.
- The Library has adopted the 26 Acts of Kindness outreach in response to the Sandy Hook school shootings and encourages others to do the same at UCO. They will be dedicating 26 books to this effort with a book plate honoring each victim. Donations are appreciated.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Mock adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary/Treasurer

Dana Rundle, 2/12/13