



XLIV FACULTY SENATE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
MINUTES
FROM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014
FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE AUDITORIUM

CALL TO ORDER

President Mock called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and asked for call of the roll. A quorum was established for this meeting of the 45th UCO Faculty Senate.

ROLL CALL

Members Present (27): Senator Barger Johnson, Senator Bingabr, Senator Burns, Senator Chappell, Senator Evans, Senator Forbat, Senator Gorrell, Senator Hammond, Senator Hanebutt, Senator Holt, Senator Johnson, Senator Knight, Senator Knoche, Senator Krishnan, Senator Kyle, Senator Lohmann, Senator Maisch, Senator Mock, Senator Pac, Senator Platz, Senator Rider, Senator Schemm, Senator Verschelden, Senator Xu, and Senator Youngblood.

Senators Absent (7): Senator Atkins, Senator Brym, Senator Chooback, Senator Dechter, Senator Delano, Senator Feinberg, Senator Kleeman, and Senator Manral.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS TO THE SENATE

Dr. Mickie Vanhoy from Academic Leadership Fellows.

BRIEF PRESENTATION

Patti Neuhold, Associate Vice President for Planning and Budget as scheduled was rescheduled.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 13, 2014 minutes as distributed were approved with minor correction.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Report:

The University Planning Council met on November 19th. The desirability of various facility expansions were presented, with costs. Briefly, Vice president Pope spoke about the desirability of a new student center, but noted that the more pressing need is for expansion of the Wellness Center, which was designed for 14,000 students; we are far beyond that capacity. Vice President Kinders spoke about planning for an arts center, and the developing collaboration with the City of Edmond; this sounds, for the first time ever, to be very promising. Athletics Director Muller presented what I would style a very impressive video on the need for vastly improved athletic facilities; the video will be a component of his appeals for donations for the project. There was extensive discussion about ways to prioritize requests, and where to put new facilities since the campus is already squeezed for space.

FS President Mock attended the chancellor's legislative presentation on November 21st.

The Executive Committee met with President Betz and Provost Barthell on Tuesday, 09 December. At the meeting, we spoke about the Staff Senate and its motion to improve tuition benefits. A short term senate recommendation/resolution would be useful.

President Betz updated us on what has transpired on tuition and benefits since we last met with him. He visited staff senate, and it was good and productive meeting. He remains very pleased with the work done by the staff senate and their evident seriousness. Don Chruscelle is now looking into the funding needed to improve benefits: surveys as to how many persons use the tuition are being developed. Obviously, one needs to know what the costs will look like. Starting the benefit and then stopping it would be awful. It may be good to stair step this, slowly moving it up. There was much discussion about expanding the fee waiver to off campus sites: at this point the off UCO courses are not a first priority.

It is, of course, vital to look at attractions for faculty and staff, since we want them to be happy to be here and to come here, so the tuition perk needs to be looked at in this way. At our next meeting Vice Presidents Chruscelle and Pope will come to speak about this.

The situation as to the Teachers' Retirement System at the legislature is unclear. No one knows what is being seriously considered. What we do know is that oil price issues are uncertain, hence state tax revenues are uncertain, to say the least.

President Betz emphasized that Chancellor Johnson was very happy with the Legislative Roll Out on November 21st. UCO is always the important first venue for the chancellor's series of presentations.

The Executive Committee raised faculty concerns about academic integrity, not least how to deal with class cheating, but also plagiarized papers and problematic on-line testing. Some faculty members think the students are only getting wrist slaps. Blatant violations are often spoken about. Faculty frustrations are building. Again, these problems are especially problematic with online courses.

We had an extensive conversation about cheating practices. The president and provost would be gratified if the university formed an action team to look into this. Provost Barthell is now seriously considering how the problems can be well addressed.

It is my impression that both President Betz and Provost Barthell are quite unhappy about this and do not want any perception that they are in favor of any laxity in the maintenance of academic standards.

We had a brief chat about the continuing senate committee work on the anti-bullying documents. Samples from other universities are helpful. And, finally, we chatted about modifications to the handbook's external activities component.

At the Provost's Council meeting yesterday, December 10th, in addition to Vice president Hughes' new action teams, which I sent to you, I think the most interesting features would be the update on fire drills, which are a requirement, and must be done once a year for each building. Every effort will be made to not disrupt exams. There may be an active shooter drill coming along, but not until next year. For those who want to keep abreast of the Carnegie Building developments, there is now a component of the university web page that will supply such information. Provost Barthell brought up the Executive Committee's anxieties about academic integrity. I expect that there will be an action team set up to look into the problems and possible remedies.

The next University Planning Council meeting will be next Monday, from four until five. If there is anything pressing to be known, I will email all.

Vice President's Report:

No report.

Webmaster/Historian's Report:

No Report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

No expenditures to report at this time.

Parliamentarian's Report:

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athletics Council: Senator Barger Johnson for Senator Verschelden

The Athletics Advisory Council had its last meeting of the Fall semester on November 20, 2014. Athletic Director Muller presented to the group regarding the state of the program and things look well for our athletics.

An Update from the Student Athletics Advisory Committee was given by Jacquelynn Skocik who indicated the SAAC is becoming more active on campus with social events and community service events on campus such as the Central Pantry food drives, and a scheduled 5K Race for Spring. Compliance Officer Darnell Smith updated the group on the MIAA Strategic Plan, and Athletic Director Joe Muller updated the group on successes of our athletic teams in Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Football, and Academics with 12 Student Athletes Graduating in the Fall. The Football team is headed to the Mineral Water Bowl on December 6, 2014. (UCOSA is chartering a bus as is the Stampede Club.) A pitch is being made to Donors for upgrades to facilities including the Softball Stadium/Locker Room/Offices, Baseball Locker Room, and Tennis/Soccer complex locker room/coaches office.

University Planning Council: Senator Mock

Senator Mock's report on the affairs of this committee is contained in his President's Report.

Faculty Handbook Editorial Board: Senators Mock and Delano

The scheduled meeting since our last Faculty Senate Meeting was canceled and rescheduled.

Faculty Welfare and Development Committee: Senator Maisch

The Faculty Welfare and Development Committee reviewed the proposal that has been submitted by the Staff Senate which would increase the Tuition Benefit from its current \$1,500 per year to the equivalent of 15 Undergraduate credit hours (\$2,460). The Committee surveyed 13 Institutions and of those only two had the shared benefit that UCO currently has. It is notable that the OU Regents met and unanimously approved the similar proposal related to complete tuition waiver for OU Faculty Staff.

A motion was made to suspend the rules by Senator Maisch with Senator Barger Johnson seconding moving this proposal to New Business which would make this vote on this particular item heard at the January 15, 2015 meeting. No objections; the motion is moved to New Business.

Personnel Policies: Senator Holt

The Personnel Policies Committee met and discussed retirement document modification and will continue to report out at our next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The proposal on Tuition Benefit was moved forward after a suspension of the rules as listed above.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

None

ADJOURNMENT

President Mock adjourned the meeting at 2.30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer—Senator Jennifer Barger Johnson