



XLIV FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
MINUTES FROM THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015
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 Atkins, Senator Barger Johnson, Senator Brym, Senator Burns, Senator Chappell, Senator Chooback, Senator Dechter, Senator Delano, Senator Feinberg, Senator Gorrell, Senator Hammond, Senator Hanebutt, Senator Holt, Senator Johnson, Senator Lohmann, Senator Maisch, Senator Manral, Senator Maxwell, Senator McLemore, Senator Mock, Senator Pac, Senator Rider, Senator Schemm, Senator Verschelden, Senator Xu, and Senator Youngblood.

Senators Not Present (8): Senator Bingabr, Senator Evans, Senator Forbat, Senator Knight, Senator Knoche, Senator Krishnan, Senator Kyle, and Senator Platz.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS TO THE SENATE

Visitors included **Taylor Baird**, Assistant Registrar (for Staff Senate Vice President Elise Marrs), and **Adam Johnson**, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management/Registrar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 11, 2014 minutes as distributed were approved without correction.

BRIEF PRESENTATION

Patti Neuhold, Associate Vice President for Planning and Budget as scheduled was heard. UCO's administration is exploring a new budget model. The new model is based on the principle of responsibility-centered revenue, which essentially means that where revenue is being generated, the revenue will vest. Tuition will come in and immediately go to the revenue centers that generate those revenues. This incentivizes savings and recognizes that the Deans would be allowed to control how the revenue is spent once it flows down. It would go to the college level instead of the department level – which means it incentivizes college savings and credit hour production, but not all the way down to the department level. Subsidies would likely be available for those colleges that are not as profitable. Detriments of this model appear to be in-house costs to set up the new model, as well as the potential mismanagement of funds.

More and more universities are using this model. The Model is available on the UCO website at <http://www.uco.edu/administration/budget-office/budget-model/index.asp>. A question and answer page is added on that page.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Report:

On Monday, December 15th, I met with RUSO Executive Director Sheridan McCaffery. This meeting was a part of the RUSO evaluation of UCO administration. Later on Monday, I attended the University Planning Council meeting, which was dedicated to presentations and reviews of all college fees, followed by a review of the new budget model.

On December 17th I attended the Provost's Breakfast. This was a brief review of events past and a socializing time with administrators and faculty representatives.

On Thursday, December 18th, I had a lengthy discussion with Dr. Jeff King focused on faculty senate support for an upcoming campus visit and presentation on campus bullying. My opinion is that this would be a timely and important event and there would be no senate voices raised against it.

On Monday, January 5th, I attended the LEAF meeting (scheduled from 8:00 to 1:30). The president and provost spoke about developments and noted many good things happening at UCO, but the major topics addressed were: a major presentation on the University Planning Council and Institutional Planning with clear and extensive graphs by Dr. Hughes and Associate V.P. Neuhold; an update on STLR by Dr. King; a presentation on Project Persist by Drs. Pope and Corwin, noting the continuing need to support students with academic needs; and a review by Dr. Hughes and Associate V.P. Neuhold of Student Success Measures. We then had college focused table discussions before lunch. I would call this a long but informative meeting.

The senate Executive Committee met with the president and the provost Tuesday, January 13th. In this meeting, we chatted about my worries concerning both the university and state budgets and the collapsing prices for oil. What I had not known and hasn't been featured in news reports is that most state oil has been "sold forward" at the previous high price so it might not be as big a problem as some have feared. The president also noted that the balance of Oklahoma economy has shifted so oil and gas are significantly less critical than in the eighties. What many people will be watching is whether the oil collapse sinks downtown growth. The president pointed out that it isn't just Devon growing downtown; there are many other buildings and firms. Again, we see a dramatic shift or broadening of the Oklahoma City economy.

Which got us to UCO Downtown. There are two components that we spoke of. One is the proposed new business college building, and the other is the Carnegie Building. I have read Dean Hepner's documents outlining the need for a new downtown College of Business building. His planning proposal specifies that all costs are to be covered by the College of Business and that there will be no draining of other university funds. Provost Barthell said that there is now work being done to be sure that there are no extra costs. Specifically, the non-faculty staffing for the business college building requires thought.

As for courses at the Carnegie Building, a first course has gone well. Funeral Sciences ran an intercession with 24 students, who were surveyed as to satisfaction and thoughts about the location. At present, we have about 155 enrolled students. The number would have been above 200 were it not for a possible visa problem. This is being looked into, but no chances are being taken until the legal issues are clarified. International student visas specify that they are in the US to study at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. The phrasing may or may not be utterly rigid, but no one wants to find out the hard way.

Very significantly, the Carnegie operation financially breaks even at 300 students enrolled for a full year, and we are already half there. The Masters in Nursing is highly desirable, as is the Masters in Public Administration (Nursing is back on campus because of the international student investigations).

We spoke a great deal about OKC moving upward demographically; millennials are thronging to OKC, and are a natural downtown constituency for us. Skills updates are especially important to this population. And this introduces new populations to the university

There will be a Grand Opening event for the Carnegie Building. President Betz's conversations with local leaders have all been positive. The president emphasized that the downtown programs are not at all like the now closed Downtown Consortium.

Senator Maisch spoke about our probable endorsement of the staff senate's tuition bill, which will be voted on today. The faculty senate bill mirrors the staff senate's request for fifteen hours a year. On this President Betz spoke about the basket of benefits which accompany each hire (for example, 50,000 in salary and 15,000 in benefits). The president is looking into establishing a choice mechanism so a person can choose benefits within the allotted money. This led to the question whether a person could 'bank up' remitted tuition to be cashed in by the person's children.

Bullying continues to be discussed. The South Carolina policy version seems very good and may well be adopted by UCO if the senate so desires. The external workplaces/ activities handbook revisions remain in discussion.

Health insurance remains a big topic, in fact the number one issue in the faculty welfare committee. Can the faculty senate actually do anything useful is the biggest question. All RUSO schools have the same plan. How much influence we have on RUSO remains unclear. There is, it seems, no precedent for one institution to break away from the RUSO chosen plan. But, President Betz wants to see clear options and benefits. Provost Barthell and Vice President Chrusciel are willing to visit the senate and chat about insurance in March (with Patti Neuhold).

On Academic Integrity, Senator Chappell has talked with Adrian Martinez, and there will be progress made on this. Provost Barthell, having looked at examples of difficulties, will work on clearer guidelines for evaluations. He will speak more about improving retention NOT through

decreasing standards. Senator Maisch noted that communication to faculty about outcomes of disciplinary actions would help, since no one has a clue about whether or not actions have been taken.

This, then, is my report for the day.

Vice President's Report:

No report.

Webmaster/Historian's Report:

No Report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

No Report.

Parliamentarian's Report:

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

University Planning Council: Senator Mock's report on the affairs of this committee is contained within his President's Report.

Faculty Workload Task Force: Senator Schemm expressed concerns about being Staff on this Faculty Committee. After a brief deliberation, the Faculty Senate expressed no doubt Senator Schemm would do a good job representing our concerns. The Task Force has had discussions about being able to bank reassigned time – nothing formal yet, but in discussions. Research time is deemed an acceptable load.

Faculty Welfare and Development Committee: Senator Maisch as Chairperson has identified a variety of concerns including employee tuition benefit, workplace bullying, faculty handbook alternative language, and health insurance rates. The committee will continue to work on each of these concerns.

Personnel Policies Committee: Senator Holt as Chairperson indicated that a shell Bill (as a placeholder) has been filed at the State Legislature, but it did not appear anything would be formally amended to the filing.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Senator Maisch presented FSR 2014/2015-001 which endorses the Staff Senate resolution regarding an increase in the Tuition Waiver Award from \$1,500 per year to the equivalent of 15 UCO Undergraduate credit hours per year. Said resolution in support of staff senate's proposal to increase the employee tuition benefit was unanimously passed by the Faculty Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Senator Verschelden presented handouts to Faculty Senators regarding Series Discussions on campus related to Race and Ethnicity of Students.

ADJOURNMENT

President Mock adjourned the meeting at 3.09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer—Senator Jennifer Barger Johnson