



XLV FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
MINUTES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015
FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE AUDITORIUM ROOM 106

CALL TO ORDER

Faculty Senate President Barger Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Faculty Senate Secretary Elizabeth Overman called the roll. A quorum was established for this the 46th UCO Faculty Senate.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Senator Archuleta, Senator Atkins, Senator Barger Johnson, Senator Bhargava, Senator Burdina, Senator Burns, Senator Chappell, Senator Churchill, Senator Dechter, Senator DeMaio, Senator Feinberg, Senator Hickman, Senator Hossan, Senator Jiang, Senator Johnson, Senator Krishnan, Senator Kyle, Senator Lohmann, Senator Martinez-Sotelo, Senator Maxwell, Senator Overman, Senator Pac, Senator Paynter, Senator Rollins, Senator Vanhoy, and Senator Verschelden

Members Absent: Senator Delano, Senator Maisch, Senator Platz, Senator Xu, Senator Youngblood

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS TO THE SENATE

Liliana Renteria Mendoza, Staff Senate representative to the Faculty Senate
Edward Collins, Ed.D., Faculty Athletic Council Chairperson
Kennan Horn, Projector Director-SALUTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the September 10, 2015, respectfully submitted by the 45th Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer, Senator Overman were approved by acclamation.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Kennan Horn, Projector Director-SALUTE, provides student support for the 905 veterans on campus. He can be reached at khorn2@uco.edu.

Trey Cone, UCO Faculty Athletic Council Chairperson, submitted the following report:
As the faculty athletics representative (FAR), I am very proud of the academic success of our student-athletes. They are seeking a wide variety of degrees from all 5 colleges across the

university. Their average cumulative GPA was a 2.9 last semester (several tenths of a point higher than the student population as a whole). At the end of last semester, 21 student-athletes held a 4.0 cumulative GPA, while an additional 143 earned above a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

The Athletics Department has high academic standards for our student athletes and is concerned about the academic progress of our student-athletes. Toward this end, many athletic teams require study hall hours and will request progress reports from faculty about once per month. (Student-athletes are told to bring progress reports to faculty member's offices during regularly scheduled office hours).

The faculty athletics representative (FAR) acts as a go-between for the athletics department and academic officials. Per UCO policy, coaches must contact the FAR about any academic concerns and may not go directly to a professor without permission from the FAR. Faculty members may bring any academic concerns to the FAR or directly to the coaching staff as they see fit.

One of my responsibilities as the FAR is to ensure that our athletics program meets the highest standards of academic integrity so that the university remains in compliance with all NCAA, MIAA Conference, and university rules. Because you and I work for the university, the NCAA considers us to be representatives of the university's athletics interests. Thus, it is important that we are familiar with these rules, especially as they relate to academics and the concept of extra benefits.

NCAA extra benefit rules are grounded in the concept that student-athletes are students first and that all university policies and standards apply to all students alike. As such, it is important that instructors do not provide any student-athlete special considerations for that are not available to all students. For example, student-athletes who turn in an assignment late without an excuse must be treated just like we would treat any student.

By the same token, it is also important that student-athletes be granted the same accommodations that are available to all students. For example, Faculty Handbook defines absences associated with Provost-approved university-sponsored activities as excused (e.g., scholarly competitions, fine arts performances, intercollegiate athletics competitions, academic field trips, military service, jury duty). Thus, if students miss class because of their participation in intercollegiate athletics competitions, instructors should make every effort to find a reasonable accommodation by (a) giving a makeup exam, an early exam, or quiz; (b) changing the exam schedule; (c) dropping the exam or quiz and increasing the weight of another exam or quiz or other agreed upon approaches acceptable to the instructor and the student; or (d) by identifying a certified testing center. To qualify for such an accommodation, student-athletes are required to give advance notice of the absence as defined in the student-athlete handbook.

If you ever have a question or concern about any issue related to intercollegiate athletics at UCO, please contact the FAR (Trey Cone) at 974-5237 or tcone@uco.edu.

Senator Executive Committee Reports

President Jennifer Barger Johnson

In meetings with Provost Barthell, President Barger Johnson learned that the university was using “rainy day funds” to replenish legislative underfunding for the 2015-2016 academic year. Further, if state funding rescissions continue, Barger Johnson reported that the university would not reduce faculty salaries before cutting external programs.

Vice President Lindsey Churchill

Senator Churchill submitted Faculty Welfare Standing Committee report for Parliamentarian Masich, chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee. Please see below under Standing Committee reports.

Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Overman

Secretary Overman thanked President Barger-Johnson, former faculty senate secretary-treasurer, for smoothly implementing the new executive committee transition for AY 2015-2016, especially that of the secretary-treasurer. In addition, Overman noted that the Office of Human Resources has generously responded to questions about the new insurance scheme the university is offering faculty and staff.

Report-Historian Brenda Chappell

The new Faculty Senate webpage will be up shortly. All copies of agendas, minutes, reports and resolutions will be accessible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Barger-Johnson asked that all committee reports be submitted in writing to jbarger4@uco.edu for posting to the entire faculty senate.

Senate Standing Committees

1. *Academic Affairs Committee*: No report.
2. *Adjunct Affairs*: No report.
3. *Alumni and Community Service Committee*: No report.
4. *Budget Committee*: No report.
5. *CPP&E Committee*: No report.
6. *Faculty Handbook and Revision Committee*: No report.
7. *Faculty Welfare and Development Committee*: Report submitted by Vice President Lindsey Churchill. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 20th, from 3-4 p.m., at Starbucks in the Student Union. Here is a tentative list of topics to be discussed:
 - 1) Health Insurance Rates
 - 2) Tuition Reimbursement Benefit
 - 3) Faculty & Staff Bullying Policy
 - 4) SPEI Advisory Committee Report

Please feel free to forward any other topics you wish to discuss. (Staff Senate has asked for more time to work on the Faculty and Staff Parking Resolution before bringing it back to our Committee.)

8. *Information Resources and Technology Committee*: No report.
9. *Information Resources and Technology Committee*: No report.
10. *Personnel Policies Committee*: No report.
11. *Research Committee*: No report.
12. *Student Relations Committee*: No report.
13. *Student Retention Committee*: No report.

University-Wide Committees

14. *Academic Affairs Council*: No report.
15. *Alumni Association Board of Directors*: No report.
16. *Appellate Committee on Distribution of Tenured Faculty*: No report.
17. *Athletics Council*: No report.
18. *Budget Task Force*: No report.
19. *Committee on Student Conduct*: No report.
20. *Veteran Support Alliance*: No report.
21. *eLearning Advisory Team*: No report.
22. *Faculty Grievance Board*: No report.
23. *Faculty Merit Credit Committee*: No report.
24. *CETTL Advisory Board*: No report.
25. *Faculty Technology Advisory Board*: No report.
26. *Graduate Council*: No report.
27. *Online Course Evaluation Committee*: No report.
28. *Passport Committee*: No report.
29. *Research Advisory Council*: No report.
30. *SPIE Advisory Group*: No report.
31. *Transportation and Parking Advisory Team*: No report.
32. *University Planning Council*: No report.
33. *Undergraduate Research Advisory Council*: No report.
34. *University Information Technology Project Prioritization*: No report.
35. *Veteran Support Alliance*: No report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Information Technology Concerns

- a. President Barger Johnson reported that Information Technology has developed a project modernization priority deployment plan.
- b. Senator Paynter said that there was a need to review the information security policy for its impact on faculty and staff. The President referred this to the Resource Technology Committee.

- c. President Johnson will ask the Vice President for Information Technology Cynthia Rolfe to speak to the Faculty Senate about the new phone system and Internet connections. Was there faculty input into the development of IT policies?

2. *Upcoming OTRS Forum*

- a. The Faculty Senate will join the American Association of University Professors, the Staff Senate, and the Office of Human Resources to sponsor a talk by Tom Spencer, the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System, on Thursday, October 20 from 3:30 to 4:30 in the Liberal Arts Pegasus Theater.

3. *Suggestion for sponsorship of an annual event concerning Retirement/Benefits Information*

- a. A resolution submitted by Senator Overman asking the Faculty Senate to sponsor an annual event for the faculty concerning retirement was assigned to the Faculty Welfare Committee.
- b. A resolution submitted by Senator Overman calling on the Faculty Senate to annually sponsor an educational program about the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System, which has been identified for reform by the Oklahoma State Legislature, changing it from a defined benefit or lifetime annuity to a defined contribution plan or individual investment plan.

4. *Suggestion for Joint Resolution Procedure with Faculty Senate*

- a. President Barger Johnson discussed the possibility for partnering with Staff Senate regarding a procedure for Joint Resolutions.
- b. Liliana Renteria, Staff Senate Representative to the Faculty Senate, suggested there was a need for a joint resolution committee to reconcile resolutions from both bodies that are dealing with the same issue.

5. *Guns on Campus*

- a. A resolution submitted by Senator Overman to prohibit guns on campus will be taken up for a vote at the November meeting.

6. *[JB1]Concern expressed regarding large number of Adjunct Faculty teaching on campus.*

- a. Senator Archuleta noted that the university is heavily represented by adjuncts and that in 2013, among the 49% of the adjuncts at the university, a large number were staff members.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Senator DeMaio invited Faculty Senators to the October 8 Mitchell Hall Provost's Concert. Students can attend free. The faculty fee is \$7.00. The money raised from the event will be placed in a new performing arts building fund. Potential donors will be in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Faculty Senate President Barger Johnson adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer – Senator Elizabeth S. Overman