

*Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma  
50th Faculty Senate  
Thursday, October 10, 2019  
Communications Bldg. Room 120*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Barger Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:02PM. A quorum was found to be present.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present (28):**

*CBA:* President Barger Johnson, Senator Jog, Senator Maisch, Senator Osburn;

*CEPS:* Senator Beasley, Senator Benson, Senator Cassel, Parliamentarian Sealey;

*CFAD:* Senator Bramlett, Senator Folsom, Senator Forbat, Senator Ladwig;

*CLA:* Senator Burns, Senator McCune, Senator Nelson, Senator Squires, Senator Wood;

*CMS:* Senator Bentley, Senator Creecy, Senator Ellis, Senator Eitrhein, Senator Fister,

Senator Mattison, Senator Waters;

*Library:* Secretary Edwards;

*Professional Administrators:* Senator Banks, Senator Hynes, Senator Weidell

**Members Absent (6 + 1 Vacant Seat):**

Senators Barnett, K. Davis, J. Davis, Vice President Geib, Historian Goulding, and Mock

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:** John Barthell, Provost; Lauren Bieri, Staff Senate Vice President; Adam Johnson, Registrar; Trevor Cox, Organizational Leadership

**GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION:** Dr. John Barthell, Provost

Notes from Provost Barthell's presentation, including the Q&A portion, can be found at the conclusion of the minutes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

Minutes for Meeting on September 12, 2019: Senator Jog moved to approve. Senator Fister seconded. Approved with no corrections or changes.

President Barger-Johnson asked for any objections to special election nominee John Maisch. Senator Osburn moved to approve nomination. Senator Bramlett seconded.

**PRESIDENT BARGER-JOHNSON'S REPORT:**

Thank you again for being a part of Faculty Senate!

I would like to thank Senator Maisch for stepping up and running for the vacant seat in Faculty Senate. He has been a fixture on Faculty Senate serving as a Past President in 2016-2017 and also serving as a member of the Executive Committee before that. We have already added him to a couple of the committees and hope to keep him busy with the rest of you going forward.

The Executive Committee continues to work to do our best to create a structure that allows every voice to be heard and to continually improve the channels of communication within and outside of the Faculty Senate to foster genuine representation and service to our colleagues across the UCO community. We would like to encourage each of you to take back the Faculty Senate Agendas and Minutes to your colleagues to keep them updated on what we are doing here. It is an honor to serve with each of you, and to represent you all in this capacity.

It is also a tremendous honor to represent the faculty on the **UCO Alignment Task Force** that was announced on Tuesday morning. I truly do not have any more details than the rest of you as our body has not yet met. I will say that I have worked closely with all but one of the members appointed to that body, and the group is truly a fantastic collection of individuals who will bring so much to the table. I will keep you advised going forward as our meetings allow.

**The Provost's Advisory Council (PAC)** – met on September 25, 2019. At that meeting we were given information about the UCO Data Management Initiative and the Committee for University Information Technology Project Prioritization (CUIT) Project Scoring Process. Essentially this process provides our Information Technology Department a mechanism for prioritizing jobs that come up in the university's needs. This will assure that essential functions/tasks get completed first to further our mission. An Accelerated Program for Chemistry was also introduced/proposed by the College of Mathematics and Science's Dean Chen. Next Dr. King presented some information on the STLR Film: *STLR in the Student Voice* which illustrates the value of STLR on our campus. Ms. Julie Byer presented proposed Academic Policy Change Recommendations. Most of these changes related to aligning new names on campus and/or updating language. A second change related to Prior Learning Credit and reflected some changes related to its requirements. *The PAC meets next on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 9am.*

The **University Planning Council (UPC)** met on September 16, 2019 and Vice President Geib represented us at that meeting. I do know that the President has started working groups within that Council to begin working on strategies to better serve the UCO Community. *The UPC meets next on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 9am.*

The **President's Faculty Advisory Council (PFAC)** has not met since our last Faculty Senate meeting, and our *next scheduled meeting is Monday, October 14, 2019 at 9am.*

The **Executive Committee** meets monthly with the President and Provost and our meeting was this past Tuesday, October 8, 2019. Topics we brought to the floor related to the Alignment Process, the need for Faculty Salary Adjustments, and this past year's change to Insurance and Benefits as UCO is now Self-Insured and each year going forward we hope to see savings. Some faculty have already indicated that they have seen a reduction in cost for dependent coverage. I know some of our faculty have expressed concerns with that *Our next meeting with this body is Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 2pm.*

The Executive Committee also meets monthly with the Joint Senates of the Staff and Student Association for the **Joint Senates Luncheon**. The Joint Senates met this past Tuesday, October

8, 2019 at 12:30pm. *Our next meeting of the Joint Senate is Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 12:30pm.*

I also met with one-on-one with **Provost John Barthell** on Thursday, September 26, 2019. The Provost continues his commitment to faculty and throughout our discussions that commitment was apparent. The Provost will be at today's meeting to further discuss our Alignment process. *Our next scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 10am.*

**Faculty Handbook Editorial Board meetings** began on September 19, 2019 and we also met yesterday, October 9, 2019. We discussed very minor changes to the Faculty Handbook at that meeting to reflect changes like the changes of our newly titled "People and Culture" division, formerly Human Resources. Other changes were more substantive and will be looked at further by the Faculty Senate Handbook Committee and further by the Faculty Handbook Editorial Board in future meetings. Our next meeting is scheduled for *October 23, 2019 at 1:30pm.*

I have communicated directly with the Faculty Senate Committees on Personnel Policies, Faculty Welfare, and Academic Affairs on issues brought to me by faculty members. I am hoping that each committee is looking at getting into a regular meeting schedule and that they will include me in those conversations.

Thank you again for all of your hard work!

#### ***EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:***

***Vice President Geib:*** Absent.

***Secretary/Treasurer Edwards:*** Faculty Senator placards have arrived. Please contact me if you need one.

***Historian/Webmaster Goulding:*** Absent.

***Parliamentarian Sealey:*** Reminder, there will be both proposals and resolutions. When coming out of a committee, they do not need a second. They will be read one month and voted on the following month.

#### ***OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:***

Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs (Sen. Folsom): No report.

Personnel Policies/Adjunct Affairs (Sen. Bramlett): Met several times regarding faculty salaries. Sen. Ellis has been involved in discussions with administration. Current goals are to reorganize and come up with some sort of mechanism to adjust to issues with compensation. Timeline is to have some type of proposal by the end of the academic year.

Research, Information Resources, & Technology (Sen. Mattison): No report.

Student Relations, Alumni, & Community Service (Sen. Squires): No report

Faculty Welfare (Sen. Benson): We have reviewed an agenda from last year and spent time talking about changes with Paycom. We want to focus on having more of a faculty voice with the benefits office.

Research Advisory Council (Sen. Waters): The RAC is putting together ideas for faculty compensation for research grants. If you have input, please contact her.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

No unfinished business.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

Reading of Resolution 2019-2020-001: Reaffirmation of opposition to weapons on campus. This will be voted on next month.

Sen. Squires raised the issue of health insurance benefits. John Hitts in English is working to put together a faculty survey and has asked the Senate to take up the issue in committee. President Barger-Johnson will distribute the information to the appropriate committee.

Sen. Ladwig asked a question regarding the minutes being posted on the senate website. President Barger-Johnson would have directed this question to Webmaster Goulding, but he was absent. This, as well as the follow-up question regarding whether minutes should be sent out before approval will be discussed by Executive Committee.

Sen. Ladwig asked that we start a committee as Provost suggested for the ongoing alignment and allocation measures being explored by campus administration.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS:*** No announcements.

***ADJOURNMENT:*** President Barger Johnson requested a motion to adjourn. Senator Folsom moved. Senator Ladwig seconded. Adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Edwards  
Secretary/Treasurer  
13 September 2019

*Notes from Provost John Barthell's presentation to Faculty Senate:*

- Apologies for not making it in time last month.
- Shared on the forum from Tuesday
  - Half of the task force is from academic affairs. Having good representation was important because of how much funding and expenses are in this area.
  - 3 representatives who also serve on senate
  - Formed by asking deans for recommendations and looking for overlaps. Ended up with a full representation covering almost every area of study on campus.
- Addressed the general charge. The task force, when it meets, will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the charge and modify if necessary.
  - To create a mechanism that will be fair when resources might need to be moved from one part of campus to another.
- Brought up the previous program prioritization committee.
  - This is not that. It is not about prioritizing. It is about making the best use of the resources in a limited budget.
- We have to have a logical, rational system for making decision based on the legislative cuts and the decreasing enrollment.
- Four pillars: transformative learning, student success, value, and place. Created for Vision 2020, but will be used to help the task force create a plan
- Both quantitative and qualitative criteria will be discussed and important to the creation of a mechanism

Q: *Senator Ladwig*: Is the group fixed? No students or adjuncts.

A: I believe it is fixed right now, but happy to bring that consideration to the task force at the first meeting. Felt we had to prioritize the people who are here long term. We also have members who can represent students, even though they are not students themselves. Similar to adjuncts, who don't have the same ability to commit to the campus because of the tentative nature of their positions. Faculty will be relied upon to represent those folks well.

*Senator Hynes* adds a point that Jobe works with a specific set of students. These students are different from the bread and butter of our institution. I continue to have concerns about their lack of representation. I must advocate for them as a member of student affairs. I understand it's early, but it's symbolic to me this lack of representation.

A: Similar statements came from me as well. There is mechanism. We're going to get in front of them. We're going to have a website where anyone can provide input through that portal. This task force is not making all the decisions; it is a value added layer to what we do to plan. Including the program planning committee (?).

Q: *Senator Fister*: Since this is looking at the direction at the university, was there any discussion about emeritus faculty?

A: There was. I suggested it. But in the end, we saw we had to keep it around a dozen. So we got faculty that have been around a while and have seen some things. Really wanted a group that's part of the day-to-day activities.

Q: *Senator Folsom*: Please to see ACM, but really a different department from the campus arts programs.

A: It's as close as I could get. Patrick will be able to represent arts and the downtown group.

Q: *Senator Beasley*: In reviewing purpose of committee, sounds like they will design or recommend a formula for how things will be looked at in terms of revenue. So they're just creating the outline, the tool...through that are the departments going to have to do justification outside of these 12?

A: I wouldn't freak out about that right now. It will be delivered through the deans to get whatever quantitative data might be need. We learned from last time that too much is not better than enough. There also needs to be interpretation of data and conversation – what we're considering the qualitative aspects. "Remember in all this, I am very committed and strongly arguing that all recommendations somehow pass through PPC."

Q: *Senator Beasley*: At what point after completion of this committee, will it (recommendations) be given to senates?

A: As soon as it hits PPC, it hits senate representation. Like to view the senate as a partner in all this. Keep you briefed. Those on it will be able to bring feedback.

Q: *Senator Osburn*: Will the minutes be shared?

A: I don't see why not.

Q: *Senator Osburn*: Do you have a definition for what the deliverable is from the committee?

A: Hope it would have a report and overview and be associated with tabular information. And here is a recommended mechanism process – here is what's important in the strategic plan and how to weigh against that.

Q: *Senator Osburn*: Is there a due date?

A: I want to ask them when we meet with them. Ideally the end of *next* spring.

Q: Senator Creecy: You describe this process as shifting resources. I'm unclear how shifting draws down the budget constraints.

A: It doesn't. If you're talking about cuts, that's different. This committee's charge is alignment. The better aligned we are, the more likely we are to generate revenue back.

Q: Wood: I can see when you align, it's to your mission and vision. If we change that, then it changes the alignment process. Will the end of Vision 2020 cause problems?

A: The immediacy of gaps has us going a little backwards, yes. The discussions will still be relevant. We've talked extensively about V2020 and we feel the four pillars are still meaningful and useful.

Q: Weidell: Is there a way for campus to be able to feed information in to the task force?

A: That will be this website that we're working on and will be launched soon. Able to provide both anonymous or named inputs.

Q: Edwards: Asked for specific schools.

A: University of Montana, Montana Tech. Will email you. Got out to the community as well.  
(Edwards will share list with senate)

Q: Ladwig: It seems we're reinventing the wheel because there are already senates that are tasked with this type of thing.

A: When I started as Provost, I strongly wanted to form the UPC, to cross the borders between organizations. It's one more set of eyes, one more way to reach out to campus, and value added – another layer of value when it comes to shared governance.

Q: Fister: Recommending body right?

A: Yes. Cabinet will make the decisions.

Q: Ladwig: Will faculty senate have any decision-making role in this?

A: The UPC has representation from all governing bodies. So the senate should be viewed as hand in hand with that. Encourages us to form a subgroup that is talking about this process.

Q: Maisch: Appreciate the holistic view and the qualitative and quantitative aspects. We can pass resolutions and proposals at any time, so I hope we are always doing that sort of work. A couple years ago, there were discussions about our role in RUSO...options to be public or private based on the pulling out of legislative support...do these weigh in to what the task force is doing? Or are they operating under a status quo?

A: Think of it as mainly circumscribed by the boundaries of the campus. But I imagine some of these issues will certainly be talked about in the group. Decisions at that level are most likely influenced by the governor and the governing bodies of the state, and possibly slightly by our president. Having said that, everyone is involved in this – the regents will want to know how things are going. I do not want this committee to be blind to the broader forces at work across the state.

Q: Folsom: Is this a living document that they're going to create?

A: Yes, that's the intent.

Q: Folsom: Do we know of any cuts already that are planned to be made?

A: It would be dishonest to say that we haven't considered things in the past few years, but I think that's why we need this. We've tried as a cabinet, but in that small of a group it can be hard to think as holistically as you need to think. We need help and input to develop this mechanism, working together at some level to have it happen.

Q: Beasley: Is legal a voting member of the cabinet?

A: Not sure. Will have to ask about it.