



Faculty Senate President's Report 30 April 2020

More than ever Faculty are being put to task as a result of our changing world. I would like to express my gratitude to all of you for stepping outside the box to deliver content to students in these times. **Thank you also for continuing to be a part of Faculty Senate!**

The **UCO COVID-19 Task Force** has slowed its meeting frequency to two times a week on every Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm. The group has been working hard to make sure all voices are respected. Most of the details of the meetings came to light in communications to the campus. Now the focus has shifted to how will we return to campus. A sub-Task Force has been created to work on that. This Task Force includes me and Pam Rollins representing the faculty. At this time, the directive is to use a “dimmer switch” approach and slowly bring things back to life.

The **UCO FS Executive Committee** has been working under the leadership of Parliamentarian Linda Sealey to complete the election process. Those are complete and we are pleased to announce the membership of Faculty Senate includes many brand new Senators as well as several familiar faces. Of the membership, now roughly 1/3rd of Senate is brand new having never served. The other 2/3rd return with a breadth of knowledge they can share with the new Senators to help them understand the processes of Faculty Senate. I appreciate Parliamentarian Sealey's work on these elections. She has been an amazing steward of our Faculty Senate elections.

Please always remember to share feedback from your colleagues on our pursuits as we proceed through initiatives. Our UCO Faculty Senate webpage is still being updated by our Reporter/Historian Marc Goulding and can be found at (<http://sites.uco.edu/central/faculty-senate/index.asp>).

The **UCO Alignment and Allocation Task Force's** efforts have been focusing on the Quantitative and Qualitative Sub-Group work over the past month. In anticipation of our next full group meeting, the Sub-Group is working on writing responsibilities for the report to be delivered to the President at the end of June; these will be sections that include (1) an Introduction, (2) Institutional Guide Posts (e.g., Vision 2020 Pillars), (3) Cost/Performance Model, and (4) Application of the Model (to future budgets). Webpage link: <https://www.uco.edu/alignment-allocation/>.

The Qualitative Sub-Group met on Tuesday, March 24th, April 14th, and April 21st (with former Provost Barthell and VP of Finance Kevin Freeman) and regularly through chat. Our sub-group is being chaired by Faculty Senator and VP Linda Banks. Senator Wood volunteered as the initial editor of the document. Professor Sunshine Cowan began work on the history/introduction; I began working on the Guideposts, and the others began working on the Cost/Performance and Application pieces. The Sub-Group presented our preliminary efforts to the Task Force leadership at the April 21st meeting. While they liked what we are doing, they wanted us to find ways to better teather our documents to the University's Strategic Mission. The full Task Force has been unable to meet due to the focus of administrative efforts on COVID-19. *The next meeting of the*



Qualitative Sub-Group is pending as we work independently and communicate by e-mail. The next meeting of the full Task Force is also pending.

The UCO Provost's Advisory Council (PAC) meetings have been canceled until further notice.

The UCO University Planning Council (UPC) meetings have been canceled due to COVID-19. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27 at 9am.

The UCO President's Faculty Advisory Council (PFAC) met on Wednesday, April 8th.

The **UCO FS Executive Committee (FSEC)** met with the President and Provost on Tuesday, April 14th through WebEx with all Executive Committee members in attendance. We continued to press on the issues of the Alignment Process, and the dire need for Faculty Salary Adjustments and transparency.

My monthly meeting with the **UCO Provost Team of Charlotte Simmons and Gary Steward** was held Thursday, April 23rd by WebEx meeting.

Faculty Handbook Editorial Board met on Thursday, April 16th to discuss changes to the Handbook necessitated by the Faculty Constitution and Bylaws revisions. *We have concluded business for this academic year.*

The **UCO Faculty Constitutional Convention** has completed its work and presented the same to this body. The Revised Faculty Senate Constitution was dispatched to the Faculty Association and the vote was held. The document was approved by the Faculty Association by a margin of 174 votes in favor, and 6 against the Revisions presented in the UCO Faculty Senate Constitution. This means the document passed with 96.67% of voters in support of the changes, and only 3.33% against. That is a remarkable endorsement of this document.

I want to express my appreciation for the work of the **Faculty Senate Standing Committees**. With your work, we have had two resolutions and seven proposals presented to Faculty Senate this year before this meeting. These all will have an impact on the campus for years to come.

Thank you again for all of your hard work!

Respectfully Submitted on April 23, 2020:

JENNIFER BARGER JOHNSON
2019-2020 UCO FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT