



**FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION/BILL
FSR 2015/2016-11**

I. RESOLUTION NAME

FHB 2.16 OMBUDSPERSON PROGRAM

II. STATED RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Ombudsperson Program began in 2009 following recommendation by the Emeritus Faculty Association.

The UCO academic ombudsperson is an emeritus faculty member, an outside third party, who can assist faculty to create professional, effective evaluative documents (dossiers); provide professional counsel or advice; or serve as a “sounding board” prior to filing a grievance. The formal role of the ombudsman in the grievance procedure may be found in Appendix G.

The academic ombudsperson is a highly respected and well-informed emeritus faculty member who has been through the tenure and promotion processes at UCO. The ombudsman maintains a good working relationship with the university legal counsel after being oriented about the roles and responsibilities. The academic ombudsman does not have decision-making authority or legally binding responsibility.

The academic ombudsperson is selected by and serves at the pleasure of the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs for an indefinite term. The Office of Academic Affairs assists the academic ombudsman to obtain needed information, such as current university and college-specific tenure and promotion guidelines, as requested.

Contact the Office of Academic Affairs for the name of the current UCO Academic Ombudsperson. Costs for Ombudsman services are borne by the Office of Academic Affairs and are free to faculty members.

Therefore, be it resolved that *the Faculty Senate must, on an annual basis and by majority vote of the whole, approve anyone serving as a university ombudsperson for faculty. The Office of Academic Affairs must submit the names and letter of qualification and curriculum vita of each nominee to the FS Personnel Committee for recommendation to the Faculty Senate.*

Sponsored for Consideration on April 9, 2016 by:

Elizabeth Sharpe Overman, Secretary
UCO Faculty Senate