



*Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma  
51st Faculty Senate  
General Meeting Thursday, October 8, 2020  
Held virtually via Microsoft Teams*

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

President Barger Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. A quorum was found to be present.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present (30):**

*CBA:* President Barger Johnson, Vice-President Burdina, and Senator Masich;

*CEPS:* Correspondent Archuleta, Senator Beasley, Senator Cassel, Senator Jill Davis, Senator Evans, and Senator Sealey;

*CFAD:* Parliamentarian Folsom, Senator Ladwig, Senator Moran, and Senator Weidell;

*CLA:* Senator Burns, Senator Copley, Senator Goulding, Senator Green, Senator Maier, Senator Nelson, Senator Squires, and Senator Warehime;

*CMS:* Senator Bentley, Senator Creecy, Senator Eitheim, Secretary Ellis, Senator Fister, Senator Skiles, and Senator Waters;

*Library/Advising:* Senator Kirsten Davis, and Senator Kuschel;

*Professional Administrators:* Senator Banks, Senator Jobe, Senator Renteria-Mendoza;

**Members Absent (0):**

**III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:** Heloisa Cursi Campos, Scott DeBoard, Jakey Dobbs, MeShawn Green, Adam Johnson, Elizabeth Overman, J. Adam Randell, Steph Rogers, Valerie Settles, Jeanetta Sims, Mickey Vanhoy, Keith Webb, and John Wood

**IV. Special Presentations:**

**A. Higher Learning Commission Quality Initiative Update: UCO Quality Initiative University Planning Council Update – Jeanetta D. Sims, PhD, Dean of the Jackson College of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Sims Provided an overview and update of the UCO HLC Quality Initiative. Open pathway institutions are required to submit a Quality initiative proposal between year 5 and 7, implement between year 7 and 9, and submit a report at the conclusion of year 9, and in year 10 go through a comprehensive site visit. We came to the end of our seventh year in 2019,

and are in the second year of implementation. The UCO QI establishes the University College to coordinate, galvanize and leverage institutional academic activities that cross disciplines and that affect institutional priorities. As a first initiative of the University College, the QI will lay a foundation for undergraduate studies through developing institutional learning outcome and improving retention through implementing a new first year experience. There are three main areas of the Qualitative Initiative; to determine how courses can be assessed that relates to Institutional Learning outcomes, to establish the office of undergraduate studies as a primary point of academic coordination for ILOs, and to pilot a first year experience that integrates early exposure to ILOs. This is scheduled to be designed in Spring 2020, deployed in Fall 2020, and scaled in Spring 2021.

**B. Inclusion Community Response Team – MeShawn Green, M.Ed., UCO Inclusive Community Advocate**

The purpose is to provide students and faculty a tool to share concerns that are experienced, and to help groups across the university to continue to talk about diversity and inclusion practices so that we can stay at the forefront. The proposal for the Institutional Response Team is not to investigate or adjudicate claims related to incidents of bias, and they do not make policy or impose sanctions. Rather, these teams advise institutional leaders in identifying and implementing strategies to respond to bias incidents, and they provide resources and share established and emerging best practices for responding to these incidents. Additionally, they may help to craft public statements addressed to both internal and external audiences that reflect the institution's commitment to inclusion and diversity and articulate its plans for responding to specific incidents. Two groups compose the ICRT, the Core Advisory Council and the Advisory Council. The response process consists of report submission using Maxient which are received by the Inclusive Community Advocate and Student Conduct. This is shared with the ICRT Core Advisory Council and next steps are determined.

**C. Digital Accessibility Coalition: “Digital Accessibility” – Steph Rogers, M.Ed., CPACC**

Steph Rogers is a consultant Center for eLearning and Connected Environments. The aim is to create a network of digital accessibility champions who promote the procurement, development, and the use of information technologies that is accessible and inclusive to everyone, but particularly to students and staff with disabilities. The coalition will provide support and empower employees to provide an inclusive technology environment. The scope of Inclusive Community Response Team is to provide support and learning tools, and to increase awareness of accessibility needs.

**V. Special Orders of the day:**

- A. Certifying Special Election Results: Brock Wynn** of CFAD won the election and is now the newest Faculty Senator – Parliamentarian Daisy Folsom
- B. Announcement of the Resignation of College of Business Faculty Senator Rassouli-Currier** – There will be another nomination and election process.

**VI. Senate Executive Committee Reports:**

**President Barger Johnson**

“Thank you so much for your continued service to the University on the Faculty Senate. It is because of Faculty like you, that our voices are heard to the UCO Administration and beyond. We are being called to work toward different issues on campus, recognize we are continually being sent e-mail from you and we are constantly trying to find ways for all of you to be heard. Per the UCO Faculty Handbook's Faculty Senate Constitution Article III, Section A, we, as the UCO Faculty Senate are "the official voice of the UCO Faculty Association and its members." Further, under Section B, as Faculty Senators we have a unique role in promoting conditions of learning and free inquiry, exercising and advocating for academic freedom, and advancing knowledge. We are also charged with participating in academic policy and decision-making processes at UCO. This charge includes teaching, faculty welfare, and faculty personnel policies, including tenure and promotion, as well as university-wide budget and strategic planning related to the same. I will continue to stand up for what we should be afforded in our role as faculty at UCO, and while we may not always have every request granted, we will continue to make those requests known. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you. Please trust that if you bring an issue to me, I will make sure it is heard.

The UCO COVID-19 TASK FORCE disbanded this summer, but reemerged in the form of a UCO COVID-19 ON-CALL TASK FORCE. This group slowed its meeting frequency to once a week every Thursday morning at 10am. This Task Force includes Bob Brennan, former Faculty Senator Pam Rollins, and me representing the faculty among others. Both Dr. Brennan and Dr. Rollins have unique perspectives of the classroom from epidemiological and public health perspectives. Most of our meetings this month have been related to the timeliness of response from the Office of Emergency Management. The latest in this committee was Tuesday of this week when we discussed response times once again and examined our requirements under FERP A and HIP AA. Dr. Rollins always does an amazing job bringing our discussions into the public health perspective. I am proud of her leadership on this committee.

The UCO FS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (FSEC) continues to meet monthly with the President and the Provost team. This month we discussed the status of the Chosen Name Policy on campus. This is still pending and the university is working on implementation efforts. We asked about the status of Spring Break

and were advised that would be taken up the following week. We now know that UCO has opted to defer the start of classes by one week and cancel Spring Break for 2020. UCO appears to set the stage for other campuses in the state as this week OU and OSU have announced they are following suit. We discussed continuing technology concerns and the difficulty of teaching in the face-to-face plus virtual classroom. Campus leadership noted many of our concerns and suggested they would look into them more closely.

A major point of contention was the process for Reporting, Follow-Up, and Response to Covid-19 disclosures on campus. This continuing theme reportedly has many Faculty feeling at risk in their classrooms and Staff in their public spaces. Tenure concerns were raised related to Faculty and Due Process concerns related to Staff. The President once again assured us that she has never and does not plan to ever do anything contradictory to tenure on our campus.

The FS Executive Committee had multiple inquiries related to the status of prior legislative efforts on campus. Communication/Shared Governance was addressed, Budget Updates - with questions related to travel funding and CeCE Development funding, the Provost and Deans Searches, and Salary Data Information and Reports were all discussed. The next meeting of the UCO Executive Committee meeting with the President and Provost Team is scheduled for October 13th at 2pm.

The UCO PROVOST'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETINGS were held virtually on September 23rd at 9am. At this meeting we had a presentation of Dr. Jeanetta Sims, Dean of the Jackson College of Graduate Studies on the HLC Quality Initiative. There were two curriculum proposal updates made. One was for a new program titled Strategic Communications through the Mass Communications Department with Dr. Sherri Johnson as director. The proposal indicates that the OKC Metropolitan area is experiencing a need for professionals and managers in communication. The second proposal was for a Master's Degree (M.A.) in Leadership in Communications which would be designed to provide an affordable accessible graduate degree for communications professionals in Oklahoma to assist in career development. Our next meeting will be held on

Wednesday, October 28th at 9am.

The UCO UNIVERSITY PLANNING COUNCIL (UPC) MEETINGS were held virtually with subgroups to address the strategic goals of the university and the development of the wording related to those. We met on Mondays, September 14th, September 21st, and September 28th. Our next meeting is pending.

The UCO PRESIDENT'S FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL (PFAC) met on Friday, September 18th. We discussed adapting to virtual delivery and potential budget shortfalls. We will meet again on Friday, October 16th. My monthly meeting with the UCO PROVOST TEAM OF CHARLOTTE SIMMONS AND GARY STEWARD was held Tuesday, September 29th by Web Ex meeting. At this meeting we discussed the upcoming budget shortfalls and a plan for

bringing our campus back together. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29th.

The UCO INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM has been meeting every two weeks since this summer. This group is being led by MeShawn Green and last met on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The group has been discussing Bias reporting, defining Bias, the U.S. President's Executive Order Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping, as well as sharing best practices across the campus. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 21st, and will meet again on November 4th.

FACULTY HANDBOOK EDITORIAL BOARD met for the first time on Thursday, September 24th. We set up preliminary business and will begin working on projects on Thursday, October 15th.

The UCO FACULTY CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION has completed its work and presented the same to this body. We are still awaiting the Regents approval. I want to express my appreciation for the work of the FACULTY SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES. With your work, we have already had two resolutions presented and passed and have another one up for reading today. These all will have an impact on the campus for years to come. Each of the Committees now have assignments and I look forward to being included in and seeing the work of these committees proceed.

Please remember to send any reports you may have to our FS SECRETARY SHAWNA ELLIS for her inclusion in our minutes. Also please remember to send any Resolutions or Proposals your Standing Committees may produce to FS VICE PRESIDENT MARIYA BURDINA. Our UCO Faculty Senate webpage is now being maintained by our FS CORRESPONDENT KRISTI ARCHULETA and can be found at (<http://sites.uco.edu/central/faculty-senate/index.asp>).

Thank you again for all of your hard work this year, and thank you for allowing me to represent you.”

**Vice-President Mariya Burdina** – Nothing to report

**Secretary Shawna Ellis** – Nothing to report

**Correspondent Kristi Archuleta** – Nothing to report

**Parliamentarians Daisy Folsom** – Nothing to report

## **VII. Senate Standing Committee Reports**

**Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs Committee** – Senator Goulding (Senator Folsom) nothing to report.

**Faculty Welfare Committee** – Senator Eitrheim (Senator Jobe) nothing to report.

**Personnel Policies/Adjunct Affairs Committee** – Senator Ellis (Senator Archuleta) - nothing to report.

**Research, Information Resources & Technology Committee** – Senator Ladwig (Senator K. Davis) nothing to report.

**Student Relations, Alumni, & Community Service Committee** – Senator Cassel (Senator Nelson) nothing to report.

**VIII. University-Wide Committee Reports:**

**Alumni Association Board of Directors** – Senator Fister nothing to report.

**Appellate Committee on Discipline** – Senator Burns (Senator Cassel) nothing to report.

**Athletic Advisory Council** – Senator Nelson nothing to report.

**Committee on Student Conduct** – Senator Kuschel nothing to report.

**CUIT** – Senator Banks nothing to report.

**eLearning Advisory Team** – Senator Ladwig nothing to report.

**Faculty Handbook Editorial Board** – Senator Goulding (Senator Barger Johnson) nothing to report.

**Faculty Merit Credit** – Senator J. Davis nothing to report.

**Graduate Affairs Council** – Senator Creecy nothing to report.

**Inclusive Community Response Team Advisory Council** – Senator Barger nothing to report.

**Research Advisory Council** – Senator Waters nothing to report.

**SPIE Advisory Group** – Senator Maier nothing to report.

**Transportation & Parking** – <VACANT>

**21CPI Advisory Board** – Senator Green nothing to report.

**Technology Faculty Advisory Board** – Senator K. Davis nothing to report.

**UG Research Advisory Council** – Senator Warehime nothing to report.

**University Council on Diversity** – Senator Renteria-Mendoza- met sept. 9 and discussed inclusive a inclusive community blueprint, and accepting nominations for a steering committee. Curriculum committee is working on diversity in curriculum.

**UCO Faculty Grievance Board** – Senator Sealey (Senator Moran) nothing to report.

**VIII. New Business**

**A.** Assignment for Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs Committee  
*Issue:* Continuous Cultural Competence Program review

**B.** Assignment for Faculty Welfare Committee  
*Issue:* Health Concerns Related to Remote Teaching

C. Assignment for Research, Information Resources, and Technology Committee  
*Issues:* Pedagogical Concerns about the F2F/Extended Classroom Environment; and Technological Resources and Training related to Fully F2F Teaching in the Extended format.

D. Assignment for Student Relations, Alumni & Community Service Committee  
*Issue:* Faculty have questions related to Covid-19 Notification Issues/Accuracy/Safety/Rights on campus.

**IX. Old Business**

**A. FSR-2020/2021-03 RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Motion to vote- Senator Archuleta, Second Senator Maier.  
Resolution passed Unanimously.

B. Assignment for Personnel Policies Committee  
*Issue:* Faculty CUPA/AACSB/AACN Salary Information  
*Issue:* Responsiveness of Staff and Administration to Students/Faculty/ Administration

**X. Announcements for the Good of the Order**

Senator Archuleta – Please encourage your students to vote if possible.

**XI. Adjournment 3:24 pm**

Motion to Adjourn- Senator Maier, Second Senator Golding.