

TO: Jennifer Barger-Johnson, Faculty Senate President
DATE: May 5, 2021
RE: FSP 2020/2021-002

I have received your proposal FSP 2020/2021-002 on the matter of Faculty Handbook 4.3.6 Leave of Absence. Based upon consultation with Provost Simmons, I accept this proposal.

The Faculty Handbook Editorial Board and Faculty Senate have collaborated to offer a revision to the language of the policy referenced which expands the eligibility for a leave of absence to non-tenured faculty. The profile of the university's faculty body has shifted over time to include many non-tenure-track faculty whom engage in professional activities associated with their credentials and careers not related to their pursuit of tenure. The inclusion of this eligibility acknowledges the value of their professional work to the university and our students, as well as allowing more flexibility to tenure-track faculty to accept beneficial opportunities such as post-doctoral fellowships.

Please extend my gratitude to the members of the Senate on their efforts and contributions to making UCO a great place to work and learn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patti Neuhold-Ravikumar', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Patti Neuhold-Ravikumar
President

cc: Charlotte Simmons