



TO: Jennifer Barger-Johnson, Faculty Senate President
DATE: May 28, 2021
RE: FSP 2020/2021-003

I have received your proposal FSP 2020/2021-003 on the matter of UCO Faculty Handbook Solely Governed by the UCO Faculty Senate. Based upon consultation with Provost Simmons, I do not accept this proposal for the reasons stated below.

The UCO Faculty Handbook, as stated within the document, contains information, policies and procedures relevant to the academic functions of the University, including those unique to UCO as well as those established by the Regional University System of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Its content is intended to ensure that the academic community works together to produce a reasonable and equitable work environment for all, as well as to ensure the effective management and operation of the overall University. Accordingly, as described in Appendix M of the same document, content revisions are made through a shared governance process that includes the input of both faculty representatives and members of the academic leadership. Appropriate policies that impact faculty members and their many responsibilities and are developed by the Office of Academic Affairs, the Faculty Senate, and other official UCO bodies and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, are integrated into each annual revision under the direction of the Faculty Handbook Editorial Board.

The University is stronger for the collaborative approach incorporated into our governance and our commitment to each other as we move forward together.

Sincerely,

Patti Neuhold-Ravikumar
President

cc: Dr. Charlotte Simmons, Provost