



*Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma  
51st Faculty Senate  
Thursday, 13 January 2022  
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* – Secretary Waters**

**Members Present (30):**

CBA (4): Senator Anderson, Senator Arnold, President Barger Johnson, and Vice President Burdina;

CEPS (6): Correspondent Archuleta, Senator Canada-Phillips, Senator Cassel, Senator Jill Davis, Senator Evans, and Senator Loucks;

CFAD (4): Senator Ladwig, Senator McGuigan, Senator Moran, and Senator Webb

CLA (6): Senator Breslin, Senator Copley, Senator Green, Senator Maier, Parliamentarian Provencio, and Senator Shukla;

CMS (7): Senator Bentley, Senator Eitrheim, Senator Gamagedara, Senator Jones, Senator Paynter, Senator Seagraves, and Secretary Waters;

Library/

Advising (1): Senator Kirsten Davis; and

Prof. Adm (2): Senator Banks, and Senator Jobe

**Members Absent (1):**

Senator Squires, Senator Fister, and Senator Kuschel

**III. *RECOGNITION OF VISITORS BY UCO FS PRESIDENT BARGER:***

Provost Charlotte Simmons, Jerry Legere (Emeritus Faculty), Samantha Kramer (Student Advocacy), Adam Johnson (Associate Vice President for Registrar), Amanda Keese (Manager of Academic Technology and Training),



Amy Johnson (CFAD), Art Cotton (Vice President for Advancement), Luis Montes (CMS, Past Faculty Senate President), Melissa Hoyt (Enrollment Student Success), Dallas Caldwell (Office of Registrar), Shawna Ellis (CMS), Jakey Dobbs (Vice-President Staff Senate), Laura Butler (UCO Legislative Liaison)

- IV. Open Session by Provost Charlotte Simmons:** Welcome and expressed gratitude we were all safe and present virtually. Announced that some faculty had not chosen to return for the spring semester. Acknowledged the passing of Pam Washington, long time member of the UCO community. Updated us on the campus going to Level 2 COVID status. Reaffirmed that UCO did not force faculty to the extended classroom format, but left options for faculty to choose delivery methods. AVP Stewart is predicting a 6% decline in enrollment for the spring. Mentioned that VP Nobles will discuss Mission, Vision and Values when she comes to the meeting next month. The academic affairs budget process is ongoing and at this stage involves the chairs, dean and academic affairs.

Question was raised by a senator about COVID tracing and reporting by faculty for a student. Another question was raised about IMMY testing reporting to UCO previously, but not anymore. Both issues are being investigated and answers will be provided shortly.

- V. Open Session with Art Cotton, Vice President for Advancement:** Opened with a thank you to Provost Simmons. Confirmed his commitment to faculty and as an ally of Provost Simmons. The mission is to engage and reengage faculty, alumni and friends of UCO. In his six months on the job, he is glad that he is taking over a very functional team. He has only had to tweak the team. His number one goal at UCO is to take it from success to significance. The development officers have been moved to be housed in the colleges instead of centrally located. UCO is currently in a silent phase right now, but will soon launch a \$60M campaign. Since the fall of 2021, \$21M has been raised in gifts and pledges. In December, \$600,000 was raised which was over 50% higher than last year this time. Praise was given to the entire team for making this happen. The endowment is the number 1 goal of his office.



Every student who wants to attend UCO gets the opportunity to receive a scholarship. Goals moving forward are to get more scholarships and endowed chairs as well as naming of the five academic colleges. This money would be added to the endowment. Emphasized that any capital project, will have an operation and maintenance endowment attached to it to defray costs of upkeep and deferred maintenance. In conjunction with the foundation and alumni association, a mentoring program will be started and include a recruitment and a retention effort as a component. Emphasized that UCO is a family and he is proud to be a part of the community.

A question was asked by a faculty senator about the perception of donors due to the recent media coverage. VP Cotton emphasized that the “ship is not sinking”. We are coming to grips with the budget. We will get in under control and be in a better position after the discussions. As a campus we are getting a better grasp on the issues and how to address them long term.

Another question was asked by a faculty senator about how donations work. Getting to the point of why fund athletics facilities vs academic. Donors decide where to put their money. However, there is a strategy. Involve the donor where they are interested such as athletics and then persuade them into the academic realm as they see how the two sides fit together.

Another faculty senator question asked about the proportion of the donors/presidential partners are faculty. Exact numbers were sent in an email later and that information is reflected below.

FY21

39% of full-time faculty and staff gave back to UCO (national average in 25%)

19% of all Presidential Partners are represented by Faculty & Staff (We have an average of 115 faculty and staff members who are Presidential Partners)

FY22 (as of September 2021—we will have semi-annual number in early February)

27% of full-time faculty and staff have given to UCO

20% of all Presidential Partners are represented by faculty & staff

When we get the numbers in February I will pass them along.



- VI. Open Session with Adrienne Nobles, UCO Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs:** Due to last minute scheduling conflict, speaker moved to March meeting.
- VII. Legislative Update with Laura Butler, UCO Legislative Liaison:** The purpose of this is to give updates on legislative sessions including current standings, UCO agenda and how faculty can help. February 7<sup>th</sup> is the start of the session. Bills must be filed by January 20<sup>th</sup>. There are about 200 bills already filed. Big focuses are going to be vaccinations, guns on campus and allocations of funding. This office works with faculty senate every year to pass our join guns on campus legislation. The priorities of the office this year are increasing funding resources and opportunities for our campus community, no weapons on campus and support for our legislative asks which include the RP funding requests. Oklahoma State Regents of Education have already asked for an increase in funding to include operational needs and initiatives to address Oklahoma teacher and nursing shortage. The ask is a 10.5% increase. At this point 23% of UCO budget comes from legislature. The questions are being asked about funding equity and why UCO funding does not look like other division one institutions in the state especially when it comes to STEM disciplines. UCO economic impact is \$18 to 1 return on investment. The state average is \$9.40 to 1. 92% of UCO students are from Oklahoma and 78% of those choose to stay and work in Oklahoma when they graduate. Yet we are the second least funded school of the 13 Oklahoma institutions and by about 30%. Messaging to convey all these statistics and goals along with a white paper is pending and will be released shortly to the UCO community. A question was raised about whether we were seeking faculty compensation increases along with staff. The answer is yes and highlighting that as the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest employer in Edmond we need to be priced competitively. A question was asked about diversity, equity and inclusion bills. The answer was they are a hot topic and UCO continues to partner with other institutions and K-12 to investigate these bills. Another question was asked about bills affecting UCO community members but not UCO directly. The office also tracks all those bills that might affect the UCO community at



large. The office is happy to assist faculty in any way they can including answering questions and making community connections.

## **VI. Approval of Minutes:**

09 December 2021 Meeting: Correspondent Archuleta moves and Senator Maier seconds, no opposition. Minutes are approved.

## **IX. Senate Executive Committee Reports:**

- a. Senator Jobe** (for ProfAdm) – No Report
- b. Senator Moran** (for CFAD) – No Report
- c. Parliamentarian Provencio** – Working on putting together a training for parliamentary procedure for all faculty senators. There will be more to come.
- d. Correspondent Archuleta** – No Report
- e. Secretary Waters** – No Report
- f. Vice-President Burdina** – No Report.
- g. President Barger Johnson**

Over the break I was chatting with some individuals who I had just met in Oklahoma City. Before they knew where I worked, they commented were commenting on how important getting an education is to their recently graduated high school students. One commented on how his son wasn't ready to live away from home, so he was excited that UCO with the offerings his son wanted was in "[his] back yard." When I explained where I worked, the whole group began to comment on how they had heard impressive things about the UCO Faculty and the courses/programs we offer. I tell you this to hopefully combat the feelings that we all sometimes have that what we do isn't the respected profession that it once was in our state. Without you all, many of our students wouldn't have access to learning and achieving those goals.

Thank you again for your continued service to the broader University on the Faculty Senate. It is because of Faculty like you, that our voices are heard to the UCO Administration and beyond. As we are being called to work toward different issues on campus, recognize that we, your executive



committee, is continually being sent information from you which we carry forward to make sure you are heard. We will continue to stand up for shared governance at UCO, and while we may not always have every request granted, we will continue to make those requests known. Please trust that if you bring an issue to any of us, we will make sure it is heard. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you. I would also like to thank the members of the FS Executive Committee. We have a solid team which works well together. It is truly remarkable how well the group functions as a whole. Most are excellent communicators while others possess superb analytical skills which help the body see the bigger picture in our decision making. VP Burdina, Secretary Waters, Correspondent Archuleta, Parliamentarian Provencio, and Senators Jobe and Moran are constant diligent advocates in our meetings with upper administration.

The FS Executive Committee will next be tasked to work with the Deans and other parties on the UCO Budget concerns. As we gain information that is sharable we will forward that to you all. Decisions will be made, but know that we will be in that room standing up for what we believe in as a Faculty body at UCO.

Always remember that YOU as UCO Faculty are the reason students are here. They come here because they know they will have dedicated professors who are truly interested in helping them to grow as individuals.

Enrollment Update (year over year):

Headcount: 11,440 (-696 or -5.7%)

Credit Hours: 129,217 (-7,628 or -5.6%)

The UCO COVID-19 ON-CALL TASK FORCE. This group met by email vote over the break to affirm the recent CDC guidelines/updates. We are scheduled to meet on Thursday right after our Faculty Senate meeting at 4pm. I have expressed faculty concerns that we are still listed at Level I despite rising Covid-19 numbers across the state.



The UCO FS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (FSEC) continues to meet monthly with the UCO President and the UCO Provost and met on Tuesday, January 11th at 2pm. Our agenda includes shared governance, budget, salaries, campus morale, and tuition pricing model. We have also been meeting with the joint Senates and met on Wednesday, January 12th at 11:30am.

The UCO PROVOST'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) has not met since the Wednesday, October 27th meeting, and is scheduled to meet Wednesday, January 26th at 9am.

The UCO UNIVERSITY PLANNING COUNCIL (UPC) last met on Monday, October 25th at 9am. We are scheduled to meet again on Friday, January 14th at 9am.

The UCO PRESIDENT'S FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL (PFAC) met last on Wednesday, November 17th from 4pm to 6pm. At that meeting we discussed shared governance at length and transparency on our campus. We will next meet on Tuesday, February 15th at 2pm.

My monthly meeting with the UCO PROVOST CHARLOTTE SIMMONS was held last on Thursday, December 2nd. We are scheduled to resume meetings on Tuesday, January 25th at 2pm.

Please remember to send any reports you may have to our FS SECRETARY AMANDA WATERS 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>). FS PARLIAMENTARIAN ALYSSA PROVENCIO is responsible for parliamentary procedure for our body so please address any questions regarding the same to her.



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

*Question for Senator Seagraves:* Did VP Lynch follow up with the requested information from the previous meeting. President Barger-Johnson will be following up.

**X. Senate Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs** – Senator Green (Senator Arnold) Will be discussed in new and old business.
- b. Faculty Welfare Committee** - Senator Eitheim (Senator Jobe) Addressed in old business today.
- c. Personnel Policies/Adjunct Affairs** - Correspondent Archuleta (Senator Moran) Nothing to report.
- d. Research, Information Resources and Technology Committee** – Senator K. Davis (Secretary Waters) Nothing to report.
- e. Student Relations, Alumni and Community Service Committee** – Senator Cassel (Senator Maier) Nothing to report.

**XI. University-Wide Committee Reports**

- a. Alumni Association Board of Directors** – Senator Fister had nothing to report.
- b. Appellate Committee on Discipline** – Senator Shukla (Senator Cassel) had nothing to report.
- c. Athletic Advisory Council** – Senator Burdina had nothing to report.
- d. Committee on Student Conduct** – Senator Kuschel had nothing to report.
- e. CUIT** – Michael Breslin had nothing to report.
- f. eLearning Advisory Team** – Senator Loucks had nothing to report.
- g. Faculty Handbook Editorial Board** – Senator Green (Senator Barger) report within the New Business.
- h. Faculty Merit Credit** – Senator J. Davis had nothing to report.
- i. Graduate Affairs Council** – Senator Seagraves nothing to report.



- j. **Inclusive Community Response Team Advisory Council** – Senator Barger nothing to report.
- k. **Research Advisory Council** – Secretary Waters had nothing to report.
- l. **SPIE Advisory Group** – Senator Maier had nothing to report.
- m. **Technology Faculty Advisory Board** – Senator K. Davis had nothing to report.
- n. **Transportation & Parking** – Senator Shukla had nothing to report.
- o. **21CPI Advisory Board** – Senator Green search for new 21CPI Director has concluded.
- p. **UG Research Advisory Council** – Senator Canada-Phillips had nothing to report.
- q. **University Council on Diversity** – Senator Bentley Announced the link for faculty to join faculty and staff associations and generally make the UCO community more aware that they exist.  
<https://www.uco.edu/offices/people-culture/inclusive-community/affinity-groups-at-uco> .
- r. **UCO Faculty Grievance Board** – Senator Evans (Senator Fister) had nothing to report.

## **XII. New Business**

- a. **Nominations for Advising Success Task Force from Faculty Senate**  
Senator Seagraves, Senator Jones and Senator Loucks volunteered for the task force and will all be recommended by President Barger-Johnson
- b. **Assignment for Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs Committee**
  - Issue: FSP-2021-2022-03 FHEB Revisions to 3.1 Class Attendance*  
First reading was done by Senator Green. This deals with adding required high school activities to the excused absences list.
  
  - Issue: FSP-2021-2022-04 FHEB Revisions to Chapter 4 of the Faculty Handbook* First reading was done by Senator Green. This deals with updating language to keep the document current.
  
  - Issue: FSP-2021-2022-03 FHEB Revisions to Appendix I* First reading was done by President Barger-Johnson. This deals with updating



language and personnel titles. Questions were asked about the comments in the document and making sure they were all addressed. A question was raised by a senator concerning whether more than just substantive changes needed to be made concerning discrimination and Title IX. There was a discussion of other resources on campus handling these issues as well as faculty handbook.

### **XIII. Old Business**

#### **a. Assignments for Faculty Handbook/Academic Affairs Committee**

*Issue: FSP-2021-2022-02 Faculty Senate Representative added to UCO President's Cabinet* A second reading was done by Senator Green. A motion to amend the proposal was brought by Senator Seagraves and seconded by Correspondent Archuleta. The amendment would be that the elected or appointed faculty member would be serving in a fulltime tenure track faculty position without administrative, FTE, or designation. Debate was heard on this amendment. Discussions included that this would remove the faculty senate president from being able to serve due to release time. This led to clarification that the proposal should really include the faculty senate president and another faculty senator. Clarification was asked about release time and how it would be counted and designated in different colleges. The concern being this restriction would preclude several senators from being eligible to serve. Senator Seagraves then moved to amend the amendment. The new language proposed was "Pursuant to the intent of the proposal to add faculty input at the level of the President's Council, any faculty senator nominated or elected, shall be serving and a full-time tenure track faculty position without department chair designation." Clarification was asked about the intent being not to have deans or chairs serve. Deans do not serve on faculty senate. Another point of clarification to replace chair with chair/assistant director because some areas that are schools. Also, full-time faculty are considered such if they teach 6 hours. Question was raised about how many faculty senators are serving as chairs/assistant directors. The answer was 2-4. It was also brought up that the definition of a faculty member in this situation is unclear. Clarification was asked if the



amendment wanted two cabinet representatives, vs just one. Confirmation was given that the intent would be that the president plus another faculty senate representative. This was not how the amendment was presented. Therefore, at this point a motion was moved to rescind the amendment by Senator Seagraves. A motion to recommit this to committee was made by Senator Copley and seconded by Senator Seagraves. It was voted on and the proposal was sent back to committee unanimously.

**b. Assignment for Faculty Welfare Committee**

*Issue: Response to AAUP Vote of No Confidence in President Neuhold-Ravikumar*

Senator Jobe advised on behalf of the committee that the memo was provided at the December meeting and that serves as the committee's report.

**c. Assignments for Personnel Policies Committee**

*Issue: Faculty CUPA/AACSB/AACN Salary Data and Salary Adjustments* Nothing new to report, but the process is still ongoing.

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

Secretary Waters and Former Faculty President Montes announced a reminder to register and gave an overview of the upcoming 21CPI Essentials of University Budget Workshop on January 21 and February 11 from 3-4:15pm in STEM 101/MS Teams for virtual.

**XV. Adjournment 3:53 pm**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Maier, and Correspondent Archuleta seconds. Adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Respectively Submitted by **Secretary Amanda Waters**, on 17 January 2022