

*MINUTES – Draft 12/02/04*  
**Of the University of Central Oklahoma**  
**FACULTY SENATE**  
**Thursday, November 11, 2004**  
**Education Building, Room 106**

***CALL TO ORDER***

President Roberson called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

***ROLL CALL***

Members present (26): Senator Beasley, Senator Bird, Senator Charoenwongse-Shaw, Senator Cochran, Senator Dickson, Senator Dowdy, Senator Eckard, Senator Haskin, Senator Hepner, Senator Hickman, Senator Kearns, Senator Law, Senator Lucas, Senator Martin, Senator McClendon, Senator Montes, Senator B. Parrish, Senator Reed, Senator Roberson, Senator Rooker, Senator Vaughan, Senator von Minden, Senator Wallo, Senator Webb, Senator Wells, Senator Youll,  
Members absent (5): Senator Boling, Senator Buxton, Senator Chen, Senator Cone, Senator McNeiland, Senator R. Parrish, Senator Pugh, Senator Waters, Senator Wilson-Martin, Senator Zhu.  
Recognition of Visitors to the Senate: Assistant Vice-President Jerry Legere, Senate Student Secretary Ashley Meade.

***APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2004 MINUTES***

The minutes were approved without emendation.

***-- Special Motion from the Floor --***

A motion was made by Senator Warren to amend the agenda for the purpose of bringing Old Business to the front of the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

***OLD BUSINESS***

- **Faculty Senate Resolution 2004-05-03 Raising ACT Admission Requirements, Committees.** Senator Rooker moved that the resolution be brought to the floor, and the Senate approved the motion. Senator Lucas restated the bill and clarified the friendly amendments suggested by the Senate Academic Affairs Committee. The author of the bill, Senator Law, accepted the amendments. Discussion ensued. The senators were reassured by representatives from the Committee that raising admission requirements would (1) not be “exclusionary,” (2) not be merely “image building,” and (3) be “incremental” to allow for adjustments on the part of our potential students. Assistant Vice President was asked for clarifications about current admission standards. As there was no further discussion, President Roberson called for the vote: the resolution was passed with two yays and one abstention.
- **Faculty Senate Resolution 2004-05-04 Amend Senate By-Laws to Establish Handbook Revision Committee.** Parliamentarian Montes informed the Senate that this bill was still in committee. No action was taken.
- **Faculty Senate Proposal 2004-05-05 Direct Submission of Applications for Faculty Positions to Respective Departments.** Senator Vaughan moved that the proposal be brought to the floor; the Senate approved. After the proposal was read by Senator Vaughan, Secretary/Treasurer Law interjected the observation that the proposal was now a moot point: the administration has initiated complete “on-line submission” of applications for all positions (including faculty). Law clarified that, as a department chair, he had already been introduced to the new paradigm, as Phase 1 hirings were already underway using the new hiring procedures. A lengthy debate ensued. Several senators expressed concern that hiring procedures were overhauled without any involvement or input from faculty, department chairs, or deans. Senators Bird and Dickson both moved that the proposal be referred back to committee. The Senate unanimously voted to “refer back to committee,” and asked that a report be given at the next meeting.
- **Faculty Senate Proposal 2004-05-06 Pay Adjustment for Adjunct Faculty.** Senator Hickman moved that the proposal be brought to the floor; the Senate approved. Senator Vaughan explained the justification for the proposal. It was noted that considerable input from adjunct faculty was sought on this proposal, and

although the salary increase called for was minimal, it was reasoned that “something is better than nothing.” Senator Wallo clarified that this should be viewed as nothing more than a “cost-of-living” increase, as adjuncts have received no improvements in pay for the last 15 years. Senators queried how many part-time faculty we have at UCO; Parliamentarian Montes cited the *UCO Factbook*’s figures, which list 470 full-time and 395 part-time. Senator Reed asked how our compensation compares with other metro institutions; Senator Vaughan noted that our adjuncts are marginally better off than other regional schools, but below what OU pays. Senator Law clarified that our adjuncts are significantly less paid than OU, as part-time faculty at OU not only make more money – they are provided the same health benefits package offered to full-time faculty at OU, and also receive OTRS contributions as well. President Roberson asked whether UCO would ultimately be able to pursue its “mission” with increasing reliance on poorly paid part-time faculty. Senator Eckard asked whether the Adjunct Affairs Committee had entertained the notion of asking for benefits; Senator Vaughan answered that the first concern of part-time faculty was having enough money to pay their bills. Senator Webb called for the question; the Senate voted unanimous approval for the proposal.

- **Faculty Senate Resolution 2003-04-15 Establish Formal Procedures to Hire Adjunct Membership with Appropriate Academic Titles.** Senator Hickman moved that the proposal be brought to the floor; the Senate approved. Senator Vaughan vetted the bill and announced that there was a “minority report,” should the Senate wish to hear it. The Senate called for the minority report, which questioned the need for the bill. A lively debate ensued, as senators asked (1) whether this would introduce more confusion in how adjunct faculty were treated, (2) would there be any benefits associated with hierarchically arranged titles, (3) how would the titles be granted and who would make these determinations, and (4) whether these titles would create “expectancy of being hired” on the part of those with loftier titles. As the debate was officially limited to 15 minutes, President Roberson called for the vote: the proposal passed by a single vote, with 14 yeas, 13 nays, and no abstentions.
- **Old, Old Business.** Senator Wallo noted that there were several Senate proposals from previous years that have not been addressed by President Webb, as required in Section 1 of the *Operating Code of the Senate*. President Roberson said he would look into these matters.

-- *Having finished its Old Business, the Senate then returned to the printed agenda for the meeting.*

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **President’s Report:**

At this point, President Roberson gave his official report [available on-line]. He highlighted several issues, including discussions he has had concerning (1) hiring practices, (2) over-load assignments, (3) flex-time, and on-going developments with revisions of grievance procedures.

### **Vice-President’s Report:**

Vice-President Beasley had no report to give.

### **Web Master’s Report:**

Web Master Hepner noted that *The Voice* is now in its fourth edition, and that we should encourage our colleagues to read the column. He also advised that the technical title for his position was still “Reporter/Historian,” and that the Senate might consider a bill to up-date the title to reflect the advances in technology.

### **Secretary/Treasurer’s Report:**

Secretary/Treasurer Law reported that the Senate had an annual budget for the year of \$9,595.00 and that 2,687.07 had been spent so far; this leaves a remainder of 6,907.93 in our account. He officially thanked his Administrative Secretary, Jean Roselius, for getting official access to the Banner account information. He also told the senators that he had one remaining “Faculty Senator” door plate left for a willing taker.

### **Parliamentarian’s Report:**

Parliamentarian Montes announced that the Faculty Senate would be smaller next year than this year: as a result of fewer full-time positions at the university, faculty representation will be reduced from 36 to 34. The College of Education will be losing both of the two lost seats, being downsized from 8 senators to 6. Senator Reed clarified that the reductions simply meant that two seats from Education would not have elections, rather than current senators losing their seats. Parliamentarian Montes concurred.

## **UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Academic Affairs:**

Senator Lucas: the Academic Affairs Council is “swamped” with curriculum proposals. Efforts are being made by the Council Executive Committee to work with the Graduate Council on CIT reform.

### **Alliance for Institutional Advancement:**

Senator Law: the Alliance is in limbo right now. Its current director, Brad Williams, will soon be departing. Apparently, no meetings have been held since last January.

### **Alumni Association Board of Directors:**

Senator Pugh was absent. President Roberson asked whether any other senator was prepared to give a report, and Senators Webb, Lucas, and Eckard noted that the Association was still discussing the issue of controlling our own image and logo (currently contracted-out to Barnes and Noble). There will be a meeting next week.

### **Benefits Committee:**

Senator Haskin: the Committee did not meet this month.

### **Budget Task Force:**

Senators Roberson and Hepner: it was reported that the budget was in the “fuzzy phase” at this juncture. Webmaster Hepner noted that *The Voice* provides another opportunity for faculty input on budget matters.

### **Continuous Improvement Team:**

Senators Kearns and Roberson: both representatives reported that nothing has been done with CIT this month.

### **Faculty Merit Committee:**

Senator Vaughan: the Committee will not meet until after the January 31 deadline for Merit Credit applications.

### **Faculty Enhancement Center Advisory Board:**

Senator Youll: the Advisory Board will meet next week.

### **Globalization Task Force:**

Senator Bird: next year’s “UCO Passport” program will be focused on India.

### **Graduate Council:**

Senator Rooker: report available on Senate website.

### **Information Technology Advisory Board:**

Senator Beasley and Senator Dickson: the Board is still defining its “goals.” See Information Resources report (below) for further information.

### **NSSE Task Force:**

Senator Beasley: no meeting yet.

### **Parking Task Force:**

Senator Ralph Parrish: not at Senate meeting; report available on Senate website.

### **Research Advisory Council:**

Senator McClendon: no report.

## **SENATE COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

### **Academic Affairs:**

Senator Lucas: report available on Senate website.

### **Adjunct Affairs:**

Senator Vaughan: report available on Senate website.

### **Alumni and Community Affairs:**

Senator McNeiland was not at the meeting, but provided a report available on Senate website.

### **Budget Committee:**

Senator Barbara Parrish: report available on Senate website.

### **CPP&E:**

Senator Montes: report available on Senate website.

### **Faculty Welfare and Development:**

Senator Chen was not at the meeting. Senators Charoenwongse-Shaw and Vaughan mentioned that the committee was working on several possible proposals.

**Information Resources:**

Senator Dickson: report available on Senate website.

**Personnel Policies:**

Senator Webb: a meeting is being scheduled to talk with Robert Epstein about possible merit pay structures for staff.

**Research:**

Senator Martin: report available on Senate website.

**Student Relations:**

Senator Cone: report available on Senate website.

***NEW BUSINESS***

Vice President Beasley introduced four new bills:

- FSP 2004-05-07 Tenure Track Position After a Tenure Denial.
- FSR 2004-05-08 Create Market Value Entry-Level Salaries for Undergraduate Academic Advisors.
- FSR 2004-05-09 Provisions for Establishing the Membership and Selection Process of New Tenure and Promotion Task Force.
- FSR 2004-05-10 Centralization/Decentralization of Technology Services

***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

Senator Kearns announced that the Education faculty who have been relegated to the massive and open office in the Library have been told that the administration hopes to resolve the issue by 2008 to 2010.

Many senators expressed sympathy and concern for the “captivity” being endured by the faculty displaced by the restoration of Old North.

***ADJOURNMENT***

Seeing that there was no further business before the Senate, President Roberson acknowledged a motion to adjourn at 4:12 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer Stephen Law draft 12/02/04