

Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma
FACULTY SENATE
Thursday, October 11, 2007
Education Building 106

CALL TO ORDER

President Mock called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm, and asked for a call of the roll. A quorum was found to be present.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present (26): Senator Absher, Senator Barger-Johnson, Senator Bost, Senator Cooper, Senator Cowan, Senator De Bolt, Senator Delano, Senator Eckard, Senator J. Ferguson, Senator Furmanski, Senator Hartmann, Senator Hepner, Senator Hickman, Senator Holt, Senator Loughlin, President Mock, Senator McGuffin, Senator Morgan-Pyron, Senator Ravikumar, Senator Shukla, Senator Silcox, Senator Villani, Senator von Minden, Senator Warning, Senator White, Senator Wooden.

Members Absent (6): Senator Bartgis, Senator S. Ferguson, Senator Lofton, Senator Roberts, Senator Voth, Senator Wakefield.

Recognition of visitors to the Senate: Jeff Harp, Director of Campus Security.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY: Dr. William Radke, UCO Provost. Dr. Radke discussed at length various initiatives and concerns of the administration as well as the new academic mission statement. He also spent time talking about the budget situation and addressing questions from the senators present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the September 13, 2007 meeting were approved without correction.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President's Report: (from his submitted written report)

I attended Assessing Learning Spaces, a two session webinar hosted by Library Director McNeely. I believe that UCO is already doing many of the recommended assessments and changes listed as desirable, and that the new classroom building will accord nicely with the suggestions made by the speakers.

I attended the Academic Affairs Executive Council meeting September 26th. The need for the UCO Foundation to coordinate mailings for fundraising was emphasized.

Dr. Lochner presented information on suicide prevention, noting that those who are suicide-prone are also often violence-prone. Full campus awareness and referral systems are being established. Training sessions for faculty intervention and referral are being expanded and should be expanded: an increasing understanding of the importance of these programs is highly desirable.

Dr. Lochner expressed great appreciation to the faculty senate for the relocation of the senate offices which has allowed the Student Counseling Center to establish the new stress reduction clinic in the former senate offices.

Chelli Gentry spoke on the developments in regard to establishing a mid-level testing instrument. There are three standard, nationally used tests, and they are being evaluated for a fit with UCO. I will summarize that the goal is the test that covers the broadest spread of skills, which allows for a customization that would provide an overview. The currently promising instrument, now moving through the approval chain, is the MAPP, the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress. The cost of administering the instrument is about 13.50 per student.

Assistant Vice President Cunliff noted that if the MAPP testing component is added to what is currently being done, UCO would then have all the required components in place for AHLC (national) accountability. The broad background is that this assessment approach, if taken by universities, may prevent a national imposition of standards such as are to be found in the Spellings Commission Report.

We were updated on responses to the Higher Learning Commission report presented last month.

Assistant Vice President Donaldson noted that there have been extensive developments and planning in eLearning.

Assistant Vice President Legere will be establishing graduate focus groups, with the goal of identifying what works for success in graduating.

There was a discussion of pay increases, which is now moot in light of President Webb's announcement of the other day.

The Executive Committee met with President Webb and Provost Radke on Tuesday, October 9th. Senate Vice President Hartmann presented the current status in crafting the Athletic Advisory Council. President Webb spoke of the developments in rowing, and the planning for a UCO boathouse at Bricktown. These developments are front page news in the October 9th *Oklahoman*.

Among many benefits to the university will be our Title Nine compliance.

The Forensic Science Building will be getting underway in February, and a month or two later groundbreaking for the new classroom building should take place. There is steady progress on rehabilitating Old North, but it is too early to give a re-entry date.

There was discussion of the merit pay system and the scheduling of faculty fora.

President Webb will be addressing the senate at a date to be agreed upon during the spring semester.

Finally, three more items and I will conclude my report.

Vice-Provost LaGrow asked me to begin the process to replace members of the Appellate Committee on Dismissal of Tenured Faculty Members. This will be taken up today under New Business.

Stephanie Kahne is the winner of the special election conducted to fill the vacant seat in the Academic Advisor's unit on the Faculty Senate. She will be serving a one-year term.

She will be proposed for confirmation by the senate at the close of the parliamentarian's report.

I will collect and compile your responses to the Regents' survey, to be sent to the regents' Office before my attendance at the meeting on Saturday, October 27th.

Vice-President's Report: Vice President Hartmann reported that the Athletic Advisory Formation Committee met on October 3, 2007 in the Virginia Lamb Living Room of the HES building to discuss host membership on the council. He said that a web site had been set up for the council at www.bronchoadvise.ucok.edu. He also said that in addition to the minutes of meetings being posted there, things such as the NCAA's position on membership at the division one level for athletic advisory councils would also be posted on the site.

Reporter/Historian's Report: Senator Hepner – No Report

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Senator Cooper reported that the Senate budget now stands at \$8945 with \$150 being used last month for printing and binding.

Parliamentarian's Report: Senator Ravikumar reported the results of the special elections held to fill vacant senate seats. The winners were Stephanie Kahne, to fill the seat in the Academic Advisors, Dr. Linda Stabler to fill the vacant College of Mathematics and Science seat, and Dr. Ralph Parrish who will fill the vacant College of Business seat. Senator Ravikumar then asked President Mock to request confirmation from the senate membership. The senate gave its unanimous consent to the winners.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Affairs Council:

No report.

Academic Early Warning System:

No report.

Action Teams:

Academic Integrity:

No report.

Alumni Association Board of Directors:

No Report.

Benefits Committee:

No Report.

Budget Task Force:

No Report.

Continuous Improvement Team:

No Report.

eLearning Advisory Committee:

Senator Hartman reported the committee met on September 25, 2007 in the new Center for Professional Business Education. One objective was to review the strategic plan for e-learning; he added that he needed to check to see if the strategic plan was available over the web. A policy survey committee was also formed to review specific items in the strategic plan.

On-line Course Evaluation:

No Report.

Faculty Merit Credit Committee:

No Report.

FEC Advisory Board:

No Report.

Faculty Handbook Editorial Board:

No Report.

Globalization Committee:

Senator Von-Minden reported that there would be a Day of The Dead celebration and a talent show on November 1, 2007.

Graduate Council:

Senator Loughlin reported the committee met on October 8 and will meet again at the end of the month.

Information Technology Advisory:

No Report.

OneCard Committee:

No Report.

On Line Course Evaluation:

Dr. Roberts reported that the committee met to discuss changes to the evaluation rubric. A subcommittee was formed to do a rewrite of the rubric and the rewritten document given back to Sandra Burke who will return it to the committee if it needs further work or amending.

Research Advisory Council:

Senator Ravikumar reported that the committee met to review incentive proposals for the undergraduate research program. Two proposals were put forward. The first involves undergraduate students doing research and it proposes a \$500 award for each such project. This program would be open to graduate students as well and there was some discussion as to the appropriateness of making such awards to graduate students considering that they do not take a full course load in their last semester. The second proposal is a faculty incentive program for faculty, advisors, and mentors.

Transportation and Parking Advisory Council:

No Report.

Undergraduate Research Advisory Council:

President Mock read a written statement by Senator Voth who reported that the committee met twice, on September 2 and on October 10. On the former date, discussion ensued concerning a draft of a policy statement which included, among other things, the purpose of the council, the importance of the reengagement of the students and faculty in undergraduate research, the purpose of undergraduate research, how to get involved and who is eligible, how proposals should be submitted, and what should be in those proposals. The members were encouraged to submit their comments concerning a document to be presented to the administration concerning undergraduate research policy. The urgency of this led to the second meeting at which a second draft of a document was discussed. A third meeting has been scheduled for October 31 to finalize a document to be sent to the administration.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Affairs:

No Report

Adjunct Affairs:

Senator Wooden reported that they have not met but they are working on health insurance for part time and adjunct faculty. She stated that this was going to happen and that after consultation with Janet Hostetler in Employment Services a committee was created to review potential plans and adjunct faculty members and part time staff members were asked to review presentations made by the insurance companies. This happened on September 25 with two companies presenting a total of three plans. A vote was taken and a recommendation was made to purchasing.

Dr. Mock then asked the senators if it would be appropriate to take the health insurance issue, in general, to his meeting with the regents on October 23. A motion was made for President Mock present to the regents the issues of health insurance for adjuncts and part timers and an amendment to the motion was made to include in this presentation the possible inclusion of spouses and dependents of regular faculty in their health insurance coverage. It was pointed out by Senator De Bolt that these are really two separate issues and that in particular the latter issue needs to be brought up in the context of the broader budgetary discussion by the administration and regents. Senator Hepner added that we should debate the issue of spousal and dependent inclusion within the senate first and he pointed out that the issue of adjunct insurance has been debated in the senate for at least five years before the actions, as reported by Senator Wooden with respect to her committee, occurred. President Mock then called for a vote on the amendment to bring both issues to the regents together; the amendment failed. The President then called for a vote on the original motion that he discuss the issue of health insurance for adjuncts and part timers with the regents at their meeting; the motion passed unanimously.

Alumni and Community Relations:

No Report.

Budget:

Senator Hepner reported that the committee is considering FSP01 but had no formal report. He did say that he is referring the bill to the Faculty Welfare Committee as it has implications for faculty welfare as well.

CPP&E:

No Report.

Faculty Handbook:

No Report.

Faculty Welfare and Development:

Dr. Cooper reported that his committee is probably the starting point for the health insurance debate. He also reported that the Senate Budget Committee has passed FSP 01 concerning faculty development accounts for faculty for simultaneous consideration by his committee. Dr. Cooper then asked the members of that committee to review the bill and be prepared to discuss this with the entire committee.

Information Resources and Technology:

No Report.

Personnel Policies:

Senator Warning reported that they have concluded their data analysis of the IDEA teaching evaluation system and are comparing it with the current SPIE system. All five colleges participated and they will be passing on their findings to the administration very soon.

Research:

No Report.

Student Relations:

No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The senate then proceeded on to a presentation of nominees to the Appellate Committee on Dismissal of Tenured Faculty Members. President Mock announced that the nominees were:

College of Liberal Arts:
Steven Pratt
Eva Dadlez
Linda Steele (alternate)
College of Arts Media and Design:
Ralph Morris
College of Business Administration
Joseph Johnson
Geoff Willis
College of Mathematics and Science
Cynthia Murray
Clark Overbo
College of Education
Mike Knight
Karen Barnes

President Mock then asked if there were any discussion on the appointment of these nominees. The senate confirmed the appointees without discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: President Mock adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer Cooper, 11/2/07