

**Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma**  
**FACULTY SENATE**  
**Thursday, December 6, 2007**  
**Education Building 106**

***CALL TO ORDER***

President Mock called the meeting to order at 2:04 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 Bartgis, Senator Bost, Senator Cooper, Senator De Bolt, Senator Delano, Senator Eckard, Senator Hartmann, Senator Hepner, Senator Hickman, Senator Holt, Senator Kahne, Senator Lofton, Senator Loughlin, President Mock, Senator Ravikumar, Senator Shukla, Senator Silcox, Senator Stabler, Senator Villani, Senator von Minden, Senator Voth, Senator Warning, Senator White, Senator Wooden.

**Members Absent (9):** Senator Cowan, Senator J. Ferguson, Senator S. Ferguson, Senator Furmanski, Senator McGuffin, Senator Morgan-Pyron, Senator Parrish, Senator Roberts, Senator Wakefield.

**Recognition of visitors to the Senate:** Jerry Legere

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:*** Minutes of the November 8, 2007 meeting were approved without correction.

***SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:***

***President's Report: (from his submitted written report)*** The next Academic Affairs Executive Council meeting is scheduled as a working brunch on December 12<sup>th</sup>. I will report on the meeting in my January comments, unless there is a pressing development, in which case I will send email notification to all senators.

The regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting with President Webb and Provost Radke was held on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, with Provost Radke representing administration: President Webb was in Indianapolis dealing with the ongoing NCAA situation. We spoke about the dependent benefits component of the faculty insurance plan, noting especially that dependent coverage is dropping in price. Ongoing investigations into the insurance plan indicate that UCO is not 'doing badly' when the fine print of coverage is compared with competing plans: this will be addressed in the Personnel Policies Committee report. The current senate bills were presented and discussed, with extensive conversation about FSR 2007/2008-03, Creating a New Vice President for Advancement. The light-hearted part of the conversation revolved around this being an almost unprecedented senate request (adding to administration) but the serious conversation centered upon the overwhelming importance of gaining new revenue: the proposal was considered to be promising. We discussed the Merit Pay Task Force, the suggestions from which are being carefully considered and which seem promising. Enrollment is up for two semesters running, mostly in the graduate student categories, although international undergraduate enrollment is also rising, possibly indicating rule changes at the Federal level. Graduation numbers are up, to approximately 1,200 for the fall ceremony. There was discussion of the graduation ceremony process

and space concerns for such ceremonies. Old North is now entering the planning diagram phase, and it seems certain that there will be forty eight faculty offices, five classrooms, and a new president's office area, designated for the next UCO president. There will be an annex for elevators, and heating and cooling machinery. It is probable that, with the Transformative Building and the new forensics building, the total of new faculty offices will be about 70. The Center for Global Competency in the University Center has arrived at the finishing-up stage and Enrollment Management has received a large grant (100,000 dollars) to develop a living-learning center with a global focus.

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the Merit Credit Task Force met with Provost Radke, Vice Provost LaGrow, and Vice President Kreidler. It was a very important meeting, which I believe will be best reported on by Secretary-Treasurer Cooper, the chair of the task force.

I have been involved in extensive discussions regarding the College of Liberal Arts shift this January to the four-four pay system for adjunct faculty from the five-five system. As part of this series of exchanges, I have determined that a rather significant expansion of the senate record keeping system needs to be undertaken, building upon the splendid work of Senators Hartmann and Hepner. To this end, now that there is a clear set of tasks, I will be hiring a student worker and setting up coherent files in the senate office in the University Center.

I take this opportunity to remind all of the committee members that we have a nice conference table in the senate office (room 414) and that it is a conveniently central location in which to gather.

I will be attending the University Budget Task Force meeting Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. In light of the information which I will gather at the meeting, and questions sent to me by faculty senators, I will discuss with Vice President Kreidler significant points which he may address in his forthcoming presentation to the senate.

***Vice-President's Report:*** Vice President Hartmann reported that the Athletic Advisory Council met on November 14, 2007; UCO Vice President Steve Kreidler briefed the council on the NCAA allegations levied against UCO. He also reported that President Webb was meeting with the NCAA this week to respond to the charges and to share with the NCAA what it is that UCO has done in response.

***Reporter/Historian's Report:***

No Report.

***Secretary/Treasurer's Report:*** Senator Cooper reported that the budget had not changed from the previous month and that the additional door plates for senators lacking them would be forthcoming at the beginning of the spring term. He, as chair of the Merit Pay System Task Force, then reported that the task force's meeting with V.P. Kreidler and Provost Radke went well and that it appears that most of the package was accepted by the administration, including the COLA provisions. Nonetheless, he said that he emphasized to V.P. Kreidler and Dr. Radke that they should not "pick and choose" the items that they liked in the proposal and that the entire package was constructed as an integrated whole. He also related to the senate that in the Senate Executive Committee meeting, Provost Radke had indicated there would be some give and take, especially with respect to the longevity component. Dr. Radke seemed to think there would be something concerning that in the final iteration but that it might not be as robust as was originally envisioned by the task force.

*Parliamentarian's Report:* No Report.

## **UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Academic Affairs Council:**

No report.

### **Academic Early Warning System:**

No report.

### **Action Teams:**

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Senator Bost reported several members of the team met with the Academic Affairs Executive Council two months ago to discuss the work the team had done and to present the document the team had produced. The reaction from the Council was favorable.

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

No Report.

### **Benefits Committee:**

No Report.

### **Budget Task Force:**

No Report.

### **Continuous Improvement Team:**

No Report.

### **eLearning Advisory Committee:**

No Report

### **On-line Course Evaluation:**

No Report.

### **Faculty Merit Credit Committee:**

No Report.

### **FEC Advisory Board:**

No Report.

### **Faculty Handbook Editorial Board:**

President Mock reported that a lot of progress is being made on the description of the graduate dean job responsibilities. On the section concerning department chairs a proposal has come forward to expand the set of eligible voters for department chair to include full time instructors within the department.

### **Globalization Committee:**

No Report.

### **Graduate Council:**

No Report.

### **Information Technology Advisory:**

Senator Bartgis reported that money is available for faculty interested in using technology in the class room. She indicated that there was approximately \$50,000/year set aside for this purpose. She also reported the deadline has been extended for those desiring funds to research software and other technologies over the holidays for utilization in the spring semester.

### **OneCard Committee:**

No Report.

### **On Line Course Evaluation:**

Senators Bartgis and Barger, reporting for Senator Roberts, said that the committee had met and had significantly revised and approved the review document.

**Research Advisory Council:**

Senator Ravikumar reported that the council had received both graduate and undergraduate applications for incentive rewards for grant proposals. However, they did not get as many as expected and they did not receive any at all from some colleges, although she noted that the program is still a pilot program and that the council will review all received applications and that incentives will be awarded.

**Transportation and Parking Advisory Council:**

Senator Shukla reported that they met in early November and the new director is interested in getting input from faculty and students. The director also noted that there would be very few spaces lost with the new buildings in the works and that most of those were being taken from the student lots. She also indicated that there is a plan in place to redo the parking structure once construction begins on the new campus buildings.

**Undergraduate Research Advisory Council:**

Senator Voth reported the council met a couple of times in the last two weeks. She said that they are not getting the responses they expected (with respect to the incentive rewards Senator Ravikumar discussed in her report for the Research Advisory Council) and that it was unclear as to the reason for the lack of applications. There was some concern expressed on the council that the lack of applications could indicate to the administration a lack of interest and a resulting pull back of the funds for this purpose. She also reported, and it was confirmed by Senator Ravikumar, that only 6 undergraduates and 5 graduates had applied for the incentive awards. Senator Ravikumar added that they had expected 30 applications.

***SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:*****Academic Affairs:**

Senator Barger-Johnson reported that there were a total of about 215 course and program proposals submitted to the Academic Affairs council this term.

**Adjunct Affairs:**

No Report.

**Alumni and Community Relations:**

No Report.

**Budget:**

Senator Hepner reported that the committee was bringing forward FSP 2007/08-01R with a favorable recommendation. The proposal concerns the establishment of individual faculty development accounts in an attempt to give individual faculty more control over their development. The bill has been revised from the original to include a suggested amount of \$1000/year/faculty member. Senator Hepner pointed out that this was a standard benefit at other universities.

**CPP&E:**

No Report.

**Faculty Handbook:**

No Report.

**Faculty Welfare and Development:**

No Report.

**Information Resources and Technology:**

No Report.

**Personnel Policies:**

Senator Warning reported that the committee had met with Jeanette Patton and that the consensus of the committee after that meeting was that everything possible was being done to lower our insurance rates. Senator Warning said that, when a comparison was made with OU, that UCO was not that badly off, especially when the coverages are compared. Additionally, OU's administration was able to subsidize a part of their costs by approximately \$2,000,000, money which UCO simply does not have. She also reported that it was calculated that the increase in costs was keeping pace with the increase in salaries, but barely. She noted that, in fact, in the coming year there is in general a decrease in the insurance rates, at least for Health Choice (high option). The committee concludes that for now the university is doing what it can to prevent further rate increases and to keep UCO competitive. President Mock then suggested that perhaps the committee should draft a resolution of support for Ms. Patton and her office to be sent on, after senate approval, to the administration as an endorsement of the effort. The senate body as a whole endorsed this suggestion.

**Research:**

No Report.

**Student Relations:**

No Report.

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

None.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

President Mock indicated that Senator Hartmann desires to leave the senate Merit Committee after several years on it so that he might be eligible to apply for Merit Credit. The Senate Executive Committee thus nominated Senator Delano to fill Senator Hartmann's seat on that committee. The nomination was approved unanimously without discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Mock adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Secretary/Treasurer Cooper, 1/11/08