

Minutes of the University of Central Oklahoma
FACULTY SENATE
Thursday, April 10, 2008
Education Building 106

CALL TO ORDER

President Mock called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm and asked for a call of the roll. A quorum was found to be present.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present (25): Senator Barger-Johnson, Senator Bartgis, Senator Bertram, Senator Bost, Senator Cooper, Senator Delano, Senator Eckard, Senator J. Ferguson, Senator S. Ferguson, Senator Hartmann, Senator Hepner, Senator Hickman, Senator Holt, Senator Loughlin, President Mock, Senator Parrish, Senator Ravikumar, Senator Roberts, Senator Shukla, Senator Silcox, Senator Villani, Senator von Minden, Senator Voth, Senator Warning, Senator Wooden.

Members Absent (10): Senator Cowan, Senator De Bolt, Senator Furmanski, Senator Kahne, Senator Lofton, Senator McGuffin, Senator Morgan-Pyron, Senator Stabler, Senator Wakefield, Senator White.

Recognition of visitors to the Senate: Mr. Jerry Legere.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the March 13, 2008 meeting were approved without correction.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Since last we met, we have had Spring Break and immediately thereafter the very successful electronic voting for the Resolution urging the rejection of the Oklahoma guns on campus bill. That the bill is returning to the legislature as an amendment perhaps adds to the importance of having the senate, and the faculty and students polled by senators, on record as disapproving of the measure.

There has not been a meeting of the Academic Affairs Executive Council since the last I reported. The next meeting is scheduled for April 30th. There has been much activity in the Handbook Task Force, which I will report on later.

The Executive Committee met with the provost on Tuesday, April 8th. President Webb was off campus investigating models for campus hotels/conference centers.

We discussed the mechanisms and timing of Handbook revisions and carry-over mechanisms for bills which might not come to completion in a senate year. I noted the Roberts mechanism, specified in the Operating Code, that the only way to carry over bills is if they are held in a committee.

We discussed the ongoing administration review of the proposals from the Merit Credit Task Force. The administration timing for a proposal to be conveyed to the senate and the

faculty in forums is unlikely to result in action this semester. It remains in discussion and analysis in the budget offices. It is, probably, a moot point at this time, since there is most likely no money to be awarded given the financial situation as I have been reporting it with my regular updates. We considered the idea that it might be better, if money were to become available, to first adjust the CUPA salaries to the newer reported numbers before addressing the merit money components of the Task Force proposals.

We discussed the forthcoming report from the senate's athletic advisory council originating committee, with hopes for approval and implementation. A meeting with President Webb to discuss this has been set for Vice President Hartmann and me.

We discussed the honorific titles proposal introduced at our last meeting, and it was suggested that a way around a conflict with the merit pay mechanisms in the task force proposal, which was worrying the committee discussing the titles and awards, could be handled with a delaying clause. The honorific titles and monetary incentives to come on-line after the merit system was in place and operating.

We discussed the IDEA survey of administrators, and the return rate has been statistically acceptable, between a low of about 55% to 67% (as best my memory serves).

We discussed the SSCIs done this year, and they are said to have been both well done in themselves and useful in merging with the university's ongoing engagement with the Oklahoma Quality Awards process. They also help with the university's coordination with the national Voluntary System of Accountability, the national instrument that I earlier this year reported upon.

Finally, we spoke about Don Betz's return to Oklahoma as president of Northeastern University. It is my hope that, given the long and productive relationship between now President Betz and President Webb, that there may be some productive collaboration between the two universities.

Next meeting is the tidy-up session of the year, the welcoming of new senators, and the election of officers. It has been, very flatteringly, suggested to me that I run again for president. I will do this, and would hope for support. If I am driven from office, I promise not to wail and thrash about overly much.

Vice-President's Report:

Vice President Hartmann reported that the Athletic Advisory Council Formation Committee and President Mock will meet with UCO President Webb on Monday April 21. At that time a summary of the committee's report will be given to President Webb and Vice President Hartmann will then ask that the senate's responsibilities for the formation of the Council be discharged. He asked that the senators who are on the committee and present at today's senate meeting go over the report and let him know of its accuracy and of any changes which need to be made in it. He said he would have copies of the report for those senators by Wednesday, April 16, 2008. He also noted that several members currently on the committee would not be returning as senators next year and he asked that those senators consider remaining on the Council.

Reporter/Historian's Report:

Reporter/Historian Hepner reported that he would not be running for the position of senate reporter/historian for the next Faculty Senate session.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

Secretary Cooper reported that he had not received a budget statement but to his knowledge there had been no expenditures over the past month. He also reported that by using his laptop computer with its internal microphone and the recording software *Sound Studio 3* the making of a transcript of the senate proceedings for the minutes had been much simpler. He recommended that the senate move to such a system in the future and he added that if the senate could acquire a microphone with a small mini-jack for input into the computer that the recordings would be even more clean. He also stated that by use of *iTunes* he was able to archive the entire voice recording of the past 2 senate meetings onto audio compact discs. Copies of these could then be made available to anyone upon request.

Parliamentarian's Report:

Parliamentarian Ravikumar reported that university-wide senate elections had been held and there were clear winners except in a couple of cases. In particular a special election will have to be held in the College of Liberal Arts as there are still two open seats remaining in that unit. Also there will be a run-off election in the Professional Administrative unit where there was a clear winner in one seat but in the other there was a tie. These will occur over the next week and those in the affected units will see ballots shortly.

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:

Senator Villani reported that the committee had met and had engaged in discussions of the recently formed action teams. The teams have not been finalized but should be in the next couple of weeks after which the composition of those teams will be up on the web site for general view.

eLearning Advisory Committee:

No report.

Emergency Communications:

No report.

On-line Course Evaluation:

No report.

Faculty Merit Credit Committee:

Senator Delano reported that the evaluations of the faculty merit applications have been completed and that the Committee will meet tomorrow (April 11, 2008) to decide upon the awards.

FEC Advisory Board:

No report.

Faculty Handbook Editorial Board:

President Mock reported that at the April 3, 2008 meeting the board had been going through the list of changes and deciding upon where those changes had to go in the handbook. He said that they have in particular been going over those items requiring senate approval and that the items dealing with department chairs and deans are completed but that there was some other tidying up which needed to be accomplished. He said that if everything went well the senate will be able to approve or disapprove of the proposed changes at its April 24 meeting. He added that if questions or problems with any of these things came up before that meeting that he be contacted about them. President Mock then summarized some of the more substantive changes in the handbook. He said that the one issue which had consumed an enormous amount of time was that of the graduate dean's job description as the description for deans in general simply does not fit for this particular position. Furthermore, the section dealing with the election of chairs now has a component so that instructors and lecturers might have a say in the process and clarifications had been made concerning the evaluation process, especially for those with both administrative and academic positions such as chairs and assistant deans.

Globalization Committee:

Senator Von Minden reported the committee had met last week and he announced one of the Chinese guests will be Dr. Henry Lee who would be here in October.

Graduate Council:

No report.

Information Technology Advisory:

Senator Roberts reported that there had been one application for the larger grant for innovative technology in the classroom. She asked that the senators encourage faculty in their respective departments to make applications for these grants. She also said that they would be meeting on April 17, 2008 and that she would let the senate know more about what was happening on this front at the April 24, 2008 meeting.

OneCard Committee:

No report.

On Line Course Evaluation:

No report

Research Advisory Council:

Senator Shukla reported the Council had met on Tuesday, April 8, 2008. She said that the Office of Research's graduate and undergraduate research incentive program applications are due on Tuesday, April 15, 2008. She reminded the senate that a student can get up to \$500 in support and up to 5 hours of research assistantship pay while doing research with a faculty mentor. She then encouraged the senate membership to tell their colleagues to have their students apply. She also indicated that there was a discussion of the selection of next year's Research Advisory Council members. She said there was a concern that those running for election on the council may or may not have research credentials enough to fully be able to discharge their duties on the council and asked that if anyone had comments or input concerning this to talk to the current members of the council.

Transportation and Parking Advisory Council:

Senator Shukla reported that they had met one time last semester and one time this semester and that discussions had been ongoing concerning parking lot changes due to construction projects on campus. She informed the senate members of a new program

whereby faculty and students can, via an on-line system, register for ride sharing. This system should be up and running in the next academic year. She also reported on the construction of a new 150-space student parking lot behind the fire station on 2nd street and that the parking lot on 2nd street across from the new OSBI Forensic Science Laboratory will be shut down as of May 2008. Additionally, construction on the new Transformative Learning Center will begin next year and thus, since its location will be between the Liberal Arts Building and Thatcher Hall, the faculty parking lot currently there will also be shut down at that time. She then said that the location of the demolished Broncho Apts. #2 (across from Wantland Stadium) will be converted into a parking lot and that UCO may lease a parking lot from a local church to provide an extra 54 spaces to help with the problem of parking lot closures.

Undergraduate Research Advisory Council:

Senator Voth reported they had met on March 26, 2008 and that they would meet again on April 23, 2008. She said that the council had discussed the criteria for undergraduate research incentive awards and the 1-3 hour fee waiver that students get for participating in undergraduate research projects.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Affairs:

No report.

Adjunct Affairs:

No report.

Alumni and Community Relations:

No report.

Budget:

Senator Hepner reported that FSR 2007/08-06, *Faculty Access to Digital Telephones*, had come out of the Budget Committee and would be coming to the senate floor at the next meeting.

CPP&E:

No report.

Faculty Handbook:

No report.

Faculty Welfare and Development:

Senator Cooper reported that he had sent FSP 2007/08-04, *Faculty-Staff Parking Permit to Be Valid for All Parking Lots*, to Vice President Hartmann with revisions to (1) exclude student residential parking and (2) a clause that the bill take effect upon completion of the university construction projects that will be causing a pinch in the parking situation over the next couple of years. With these revisions, he said, his committee recommends consideration by the full senate. Senator Cooper then reported that at the last senate executive committee meeting he had asked Provost Radke about FSP 2007/08-07, *The Creation of Four Honorific Titles for Professors*. Senator Cooper stated that Dr. Radke had expressed favor towards the idea but that he also shared the concerns the committee aired at the last senate meeting that at this time it would muddy the current work on the Merit/Salary System Proposals from the university-wide task force. He indicated that a clause might be placed in the bill to allow for full consideration by the administration once the Merit Pay System is in place. Since time was tight for this session, he added, he said that the bill may just remain in the committee and that by a parliamentary rule it could be considered by the committee and eventually the full senate in the next session.

Information Resources and Technology:

No report.

Personnel Policies:

No report.

Research:

No report.

Student Relations:

No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Mock brought FSR 2007/08-05, *On Line Access to Student ID Photos*, to the senate floor and asked for discussion. No discussion ensued and so President Mock declared passage of the resolution without discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Mock asked the senate to submit any queries or comments concerning the handbook revisions to him electronically and that we would vote to approve or disapprove of the revisions at the April 24, 2008 senate meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: President Mock adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer Cooper, 04/21/08