

FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION
FSR 2004-2005-20R

I. RESOLUTION NAME:

Faculty Senate Support for UCO's Disaster Resistant University Planning Activity.

II STATED RESOLUTION:

The Faculty Senate hereby resolves to support participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Resistant University (DRU) Planning Grant Program initiative at UCO. The purpose of the DRU planning effort is to protect lives and the academic mission of the University. The DRU will also assist UCO in obtaining pre-disaster mitigation funding to reduce UCO's vulnerability to disasters without spending major portions of UCO's operating funds.

III JUSTIFICATION:

The University of Central Oklahoma is the recipient of a grant from Homeland Security/FEMA to develop a mitigation plan for natural and manmade hazards that UCO faces. This grant is for \$75,000 with UCO putting up \$25,000 in in-kind services, making the Grant Project \$100,000. The Grant Program is called the Disaster Resistant University (DRU) program. The purpose of this grant is to allow UCO funding to plan for taking measures which will reduce the vulnerability of UCO to identified hazards. This will be accomplished by working closely with the City of Edmond and other agencies as well as students and faculty at UCO. What makes the plan important is that once the plan is approved by FEMA, UCO will be eligible to apply for grant funding of mitigation projects where the federal share can go as high as \$3,000,000 in 80/20 grants (80 Federal, 20 Local). In the United States there are currently six universities with approved DRU plans and 30 more (including UCO) working on them. Most of these universities have been able to gain the support of their Faculty in completing the planning process because the true beneficiaries of the plan are students and faculty.

IV. BUDGET IMPACT:

This planning effort is an enhancement to current Budgets. Successful planning under the DRU Planning Grant will result in a FEMA approved Mitigation Plan for UCO. Thus UCO will be able to take advantage of Federal Funds and not be 100 percent reliant on its own funds to make improvements to UCO facilities for such mitigation projects as improved sheltering capabilities against storms and tornados.

Respectfully submitted by: Stacy McNeiland

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Assigned to: Personnel Policies

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