

Ohio University Faculty Senate
Meeting Notes Monday, April 4, 2022
Irvine 194 and Virtual Meeting Via MS Teams
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

- I Invited Speakers: President Hugh Sherman and EVPP Elizabeth Sayrs
- II Roll Call and Approval of the Minutes (March 14, 2022)
- III Chair's Report – Robin Muhammad
 - A. Welcome New Senators
 - B. Updates and Announcements
 - C. Upcoming Senate Meeting: May 2, 2022
- IV Professional Relations Committee – Char Miller
 - A. Resolution to Clarify Definition of Class vs Course - Second Reading
 - B. Resolution to Clarify Regional Faculty (Section O) in One OHIO - Second Reading
 - C. Resolution to Clarify Grievance Procedures - Second Reading
- V Promotion and Tenure Committee – Jackie Wolf
 - A. Resolution to Guide the Formation of Department and School Promotion and Tenure Committees Under One OHIO - First Reading
[Note: The resolution above is a revision of a similar resolution passed by the Faculty Senate in March. The revisions reflect subsequent deliberations with the Provost's office.]
- VI Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee – Jennie Klein
 - A. Sense-of-the-Senate Resolution on Section 733.20: Textbook Auto Adoption Policy - First Reading
 - B. Resolution to Allow Accelerated Graduate Pathways and Early Admission to Non-Degree Graduate Programs - First Reading
- VII Finance and Facilities Committee – Doug Clowe
- VIII New Business
- IX Adjournment

Meeting called to order at 7:05

President Hugh Sherman and Provost Elizabeth Sayrs

President Sherman:

- VP of DEI Gig Secuban has accepted a position at Texas State University. Interim Director: Dr. Salome Nnoromele, for two years. She has extensive administrative background and significant work in DEI.
- Candidates for VP of Finance and Administration visiting campus this week.
- VP Student Affairs, ads published, determining the finalist pool so they can visit before the end of the semester.
- Board of Trustees meeting Thursday and Friday. Main subject is the approval of budget for next fiscal year. Enrollments looking positive. Budget assumes 2% raise pool, and future budgets also assume regular raises.
- Transition of Board leadership: Peggy Viehweger taking over as Chair in July. Currently one trustee short, in July Trustee Coleman steps down and we will be two short.
- International Week next week.

Provost Sayrs:

- Ramadan started Saturday, please be aware your students who observe may need a little more support. Ramadan lasts through the end of the semester.
- State low enrollment course and program report: approaching next 5-yr cycle. Report due in September. State provides a list of “potentially duplicated” programs, and we provide list of low-enrollment courses. Team will be working through the summer.
- Dean Search updates: Nicole Pennington stepping down. Request for nominations will be sent out for interim role.
- Patton College and CHSP: Searches gearing up, faculty ballots have been sent out.
- VPFA, second candidate rescheduled due to illness.
- Welcome to the new Senators coming aboard. Areas would like to focus for next year:
 - Interdisciplinary work
 - Pandemic effects on incoming student preparation
 - DEI Initiatives
- Hope you will attend or view the Board of Trustees meeting this week.
- Once again, THANK YOU for adjusting to the challenges of this year, and we hope next year is a lot smoother.

Questions:

Senator: President Sherman, RHE Faculty are excited to see the Regional Promise. However, RHE budgets are separate from Athens and saw impacts even before COVID started. This year the money associated with our most prestigious teaching award has disappeared. How are we funding this initiative, and is this temporary or permanent?

President Sherman: The promise scholarship is something we think will be very effective and we have the opportunity to expand it. It is a test project to tackle affordability for our students. If it is successful and generates enrollment, we can expand. Also developing another capital campaign. One of the key focuses will be scholarship money for students. Our goal is to expand enrollment at the regional campuses.

Senator: Can you address how you plan to address racial incidents and racial climate on campus in light of the transition of the VP of DEI.

President Sherman: I don't think we will lose momentum, we will continue to work on the steps we have committed to and we have overlap for the transition. We committed to bring in a nationally recognized expert on DEI to do a complete audit on policies and procedures. It's not one person's job, it is the commitment of everyone. I'm saddened by the recent events and we want this place to be inclusive and supportive of every student.

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes Andzulis/Casebolt Minutes from March 2022 meeting approved.

Chair's Report:

- Welcome all (new and continuing) Senators. Terms run through July of the academic year. For this meeting, current senators (2021-22) vote. At the May meeting, Senators who are continuing and have served for a year can run for the Executive positions and we will elect officers.
- VPFA interviews ongoing. Thank you to Senators serving on that search committee. It is important that we are included and participate, appreciate the time that faculty put in on these committees.
- Welcome to all new and incoming Senators. One of the things we are involved in is the Ohio Faculty Council, usually we have the Chair and Vice Chair participate but we do have space for others to serve.
- Upcoming meeting of OFC will be focused on various models for involving faculty and promoting student success. Campus climate has a large influence on student success, looking forward to that discussion.
- OFC gives our institution and other public universities opportunities to have access to the Chancellor and to members from other public institutions across our state.
- Next meeting is May 2. We will meet in Irvine 194 as well as online.
- Upcoming Committee reports: all senators serve on one of these committees, you will express a preference at the May meeting.

PRC: Senator Miller

- A. Resolution to Clarify Definition of Class vs Course - Second Reading
 - a. Motion to approve: Karney/Rosado Feger AYE: Many NAY: 0 Abst: 0
RESOLUTION PASSES
- B. Resolution to Clarify Differential Workloads for Regional Faculty (Section O) in One OHIO - Second Reading
 - a. Resolution sent back to committee after discussion.

C. Resolution to Clarify Grievance Procedures - Second Reading

- a. Motion to approve: Rosado Feger/Bates AYE: Many Nay: 0 Abst: 0
RESOLUTION PASSES

P&T: Senator Wolf

A. Resolution to Guide the Formation of Department and School Promotion and Tenure Committees Under One OHIO - First Reading

[Note: The resolution above is a revision of a similar resolution passed by the Faculty Senate in March. The revisions reflect subsequent deliberations with the Provost's office.]

- a. Motion to suspend rules and move to second reading: Wyatt/Andzulis
AYE: Many Nay: 0 Abst: 0 MOTION PASSES
- b. Motion to approve: Wyatt/Andzulis AYE: Many NAY: 0 Abst: 0
RESOLUTION PASSES

EPSA: Senator Klein

A. Resolution to Allow Accelerated Graduate Pathways and Early Admission to Non-Degree Graduate Programs - First Reading

- a. Allows undergraduate students to earn a graduate certificate via an Accelerated Graduate Pathway

F&F: Senator Clowe

1. Capital Projects

- Replace Peden turf was approved at \$1.3M, but President Sherman noted that the General Fund is not a good way to fund these items and there should be a procedure for ICA to fund these items.
- Stocker Center Renovation Issue delayed so Provost has time to review.
- Benefits Advisory Council:
 - Insurance rate premiums will run higher than projected
 - Contract with Anthem comes up for renewal. RFP to be issued, including for an RFP to provide a broader catalog of plans. Committee to work on this over the summer.
 - STRS/ARP mitigating rate will go down to 2.9% effective July 1st.

Senator: Please encourage the BAC to look at a broad array of options because the premium increases are considerably higher than expected.

Chair Muhammad: BAC is an advisory committee which brings together constituencies, but decisions are made by Total Compensation Committee.

Senator: RFP committee will go beyond the BAC and include more voices.

New business

Senator: might there be an appetite to move these meetings to an earlier time to avoid late nights?

Chair Mohammad: this is a conversation we can and probably should have. It should be taken up by Senate leadership.

Move to adjourn: Rosado Feger/Wyatt

Adjourned, 8:30 pm