

Ohio University Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes Monday, March 14, 2022

Irvine 194 and Virtual Meeting Via MS Teams

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

I Invited Speakers: Trustees Cary Cooper and Diane Smullen

II Roll Call and Approval of the Minutes (February 7, 2022)

III Chair's Report – Robin Muhammad

- A. Updates and Announcements
- B. Election Preparation Update
- C. Upcoming Senate Meeting: April 4, 2022

IV Professional Relations Committee – Char Miller

- A. Resolution to Clarify Faculty Handbook Language for Deans Evaluations – Second Reading
- B. Resolution to Remove Early Retirement Policy Language from the Faculty Handbook – Second Reading
- C. Resolution to Clarify Definition of Class vs Course - First Reading
- D. Resolution to Clarify Regional Faculty (Section O) in OneOHIO- First Reading
- E. Resolution to Clarify Grievance Procedures- First Reading

V Finance and Facilities Committee – Doug Clowe

VI Promotion and Tenure Committee – Jackie Wolf

- A. Resolution to Clarify Department and School Expectations for Qualifications for Promotion and Tenure Under One OHIO – Second Reading
- B. Resolution to Clarify the Meaning of Inadequate Consideration – Second Reading
- C. Resolution to Clarify the Composition of Department and School Promotion and Tenure Committees Under One OHIO – Second Reading

VII Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee – Jennie Klein

- A. Resolution to Require Continuous Enrollment for Ph.D., Ed.D., and M.F.A. Students – Second Reading
- B. Resolution to Establish a Leave of Absence Policy for Ph.D., Ed.D., and M.F.A. Students – Second Reading
- C. Resolution to Establish a Limit on Ph.D. Transfer Credit – Second Reading
- D. Resolution to Amend Undergraduate Certificate Description and Requirements – Second Reading

IX New Business

X Adjournment

In attendance:

Andzulis, Bates, Brown, Butler, Casebolt, Challenger, Chen, Cirola, Clowe, Crawford, Davydov, Dowell, Duvert, Dyer, Eisworth, Gordon, Guseman, Haile, Hallman-Thrasher, Hartman, Hess, Holcomb, Hurley, Jonson, M., Karney, Klein, Kuruppallil, Llamas, Marinski, Matlack, McDiarmid, Miller, Muhammad, O'Keefe, Owens, Palmer, Phillips, Pritchard, Raney, Reader, Ridpath, Rosado Feger, Ruhil, Sandal, Sarver, Steele, Webb, Welsler, White A., Wilson, Wolf, Wyatt, You

Meeting called to order at 7:05

Board of Trustees representatives: Cary Cooper and Diane Smullen

- Trustees introduced themselves and provided brief biographies.
- Both mentioned optimism for the university's future.

QUESTIONS:

Professor Drogula: Expressed appreciation, then asked about workload policies and increases in teaching workload. He expressed concerns with demoralized faculty; reduced ability to invest time in continuous improvement of courses and its impact on students; and reduced time available for research and creative activity.

Trustee Cooper: This issue has been brought to our attention, we understand that the drop in enrollment resulted in a reduction in faculty, we will continue to address this issue and see if we can find some answers.

Senator Casebolt: Given the optimism, can you address the rumor about closing one or more regional campuses?

Trustee Cooper: We understand everyone has financial questions and everyone wants answers. We do expect fiscal year 2022 to have a small surplus, we expect to have a balanced budget presented in April.

Trustee Smullen: We are fortunate that we do expect a small surplus. Fiscal 2023 should be a balanced budget, in 2024 we are showing a \$10M deficit. Enrollment declines at the Regionals are part of that deficit, we are addressing this with the regional campus scholarships and action on Pell Grants. President Sherman also added regional campus recruiters to support enrollment challenges.

Trustee Cooper: There will be a 2% wage increase pool in the budget.

Senator Wyatt: What specifically are you looking forward to, that drives your optimism?

Trustee Cooper: We are looking forward to having annual raises every year.

Senator O'Keefe: how does the board exercise oversight over Administration to ensure they get the viewpoints from other groups about decisions made?

Trustee Smullen: We think this is one way (interacting with Faculty Senate) and we are aware that presentations are always done to present things in the best light.

Trustee Cooper: Board members spend considerable time outside of the meetings reviewing reports, documents, often 500+ pages. Trustees take this role very seriously.

Senator Owens: Workload issues are tied to a policy to reduce faculty. Can you address the issue of faculty demoralization?

Trustee Cooper: it is certainly not a good thing. We are glad that you raise these issues and we continue to look at them. There has been a great deal of pressure on our community over the past few years, including pre-pandemic cutbacks, then the pandemic, and now new problems. We are interested in having a faculty that feels good about being on the faculty and want to help that come about.

Chair Muhammad: thank you to Trustee Cooper and Smullen for your time and your continued interest.

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes Clowe/Andzulis Minutes from Feb. 2022 meeting approved.

Chair's Report:

- Ohio Faculty Council has been looking at the textbook auto-adoption legislations. Federal law requires textbook information to be posted before students register for courses. Auto-adopt would assign previously assigned textbooks to sections of courses when the instructor has not identified required materials. The premise is to save students money. Please send comments or questions so we can continue the conversation with the Provost. Identified issues: model policy suggests adoption of the same title/edition of a textbook, which may be impossible for bookstores to acquire
- Legislation regarding divisive concepts: additional hearings this week. This legislation inhibits and threatens free speech and faculty autonomy.
- Faculty Senate website includes a space to keep track of resolutions passed and their status for those that require signature. Provost has 60 days to sign resolutions so there is a delay between passing and signing.
- Secretary Rosado Feger: Nominations are open for Faculty Senate. An email was sent that has continuing Senators, available open slots, and the process for nomination. Please send your nominations to Angie Brock (brock@ohio.edu) by Friday March 18 at 5pm. Fee free to email Senator Rosado Feger at rosadof@ohio.edu for any questions.
- Next meeting is April 4. We will meet in Irvine 194 as well as online.

PRC: Senator Miller

1. Resolution to Clarify Faculty Handbook Language for Dean Evaluations – Second Reading
 - Second Reading version includes administrative staff in annual evaluation feedback.
 - Motion to vote: Wolf/Bates
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
2. Resolution to Remove Early Retirement Policy Language – Second Reading
 - Motion to vote: Clowe/Andzulis
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
3. Resolution to Clarify Definition of Class vs Course - First Reading

- Establishes definitions for these terms to clarify distinctions between them.
4. Resolution to Clarify Regional Faculty (Section O) in OneOHIO- First Reading
 - Addresses the processes of assigning faculty to courses.
 5. Resolution to Clarify Grievance Procedures- First Reading

F&F: Senator Clowe

1. Section 2 of Faculty handbook (covering benefits) is out of date. F&F will be working to update those.
2. Update to P-card policy: two major changes are filing period will be 28 calendar days plus 9 review days and now have “five strikes over two years” errors in use before you lose the card.
3. Capital Projects
 - Porter Hall flat roof: full replacement \$500k
 - Tunnel under Union St \$3.3M
 - Grosvenor Hall roof \$1.3M
 - Putnam Hall window replacement \$500k
 - Not approved yet: Stocker Center \$14.7 M over 4 years, replace Peden turf \$1.3M

P&T: Senator Wolf

1. Resolution to Clarify Department and School Expectations for Qualifications for Promotion and Tenure Under One OHIO – Second Reading
 - Departments and schools with differential workloads, must have explicit expectations for Teaching, Research, Service for each of the variable workload conditions.
 - Motion to vote: Rosado Feger/Casebolt
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
2. Resolution to Clarify the Meaning of Inadequate Consideration – Second Reading
 - Adds a definition of Inadequate Consideration that addresses issues relevant to faculty members in regional campuses in tenure processes.
 - Motion to vote: Miller/O’Keefe
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
3. Resolution to Clarify the Composition of Department and School Promotion and Tenure Committees Under One OHIO – Second Reading
 - Ensures that P&T committees for faculty at regional campuses have representatives that understand the work context of the faculty member at the regional campus.
 - Motion to vote: Andzulis/Casebolt
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES

EPISA: Senator Klein

- Resolution to Require Continuous Enrollment for Ph.D., Ed.D., and M.F.A. Students – Second Reading
 - Students who do not stay enrolled, are at risk of not completing their degrees. This resolution requires them to maintain enrollment in thesis credits.
 - Motion to vote: Brown/Miller

- Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
- Resolution to Establish a Leave of Absence Policy for Ph.D., Ed.D., and M.F.A. Students – Second Reading
 - Accounts for continuous enrollment, puts limits on their leave time. At the end of the leave, they need to withdraw or continue enrollment.
 - Motion to vote: Rosado Feger/Bates
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
- Resolution to Establish a Limit on Ph.D. Transfer Credit – First Reading
 - This declares a student can only transfer in 25% of the course credits needed for the degree. This can be waived by appeal to the Dean of the Graduate School.
 - Motion to vote: Andzulis/Bates
 - Ayes: Many Nays: none Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES
- Resolution to Amend Undergraduate Certificate Description and Requirements – First Reading
 - Changes the minimum hours to 12 from 15. Courses at 3000-level are encouraged but not required. This allows Associate degree students to complete certificates.
 - Motion to vote: O’Keefe/Bates
 - Ayes: Many Nays: 1 Abstain: none RESOLUTION PASSES

Resolution on Policies for Leadership Searches – Formerly tabled

- Sen. O’Keefe: incorporated suggested changes.
- Senator Andzulis: Can you clarify the statement about “half of the faculty...from the unit involved”? A lot of the VP positions cover many units. What is the expectation about faculty involvement? Answer: those broad positions would pull from the whole university, narrower positions pull from the faculty involved.
- Senator Reader: comment in chat correcting a minor point, change the word above to the plural “units.”
- Motion to vote: Casebolt/White AYE: Many NAY: Few Abstentions: None
- Resolution PASSES

New business

Move to adjourn: Wolf/Brown

Adjourned, 9:03 pm