

**Ohio University Faculty Senate**  
**Monday, June 8, 2009**  
**Room 235, Margaret M. Walter Hall, 7:10 p.m.**  
**[Summary]**

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

I. Remarks by Robert Kidder, Chair of the Board of Trustees

Kidder articulated two main goals for the next year: 1) Clarifying strategic priorities, especially with respect to Vision Ohio; and 2) Improving communication between the Board and constituents of OU. He then addressed several topics proposed by faculty, including the role and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees; the Board's view of the University System of Ohio; and the Presidential evaluation process. Kidder then took questions from the floor of Faculty Senate.

II. Provost's Report—David Descutner

Descutner presented the Provost's report on behalf of Kathy Krendl. The complete report is available online at <http://www.ohio.edu/provost/>.

III. Roll Call and Approval of the May 8, 2009 Minutes  
Minutes were approved by voice vote

IV. Chair's Report – Joe McLaughlin

- McLaughlin noted that participation in the latest faculty senate election was up significantly this year (36% compared to 22% last year).
- The faculty evaluation of the President has been rescheduled to take place early in fall 09 due to problems with the electronic survey.
- Faculty may still submit nominations for standing committees. The nomination form and descriptions of the standing committees are available at <http://www.ohio.edu/facultysenate/standingcomm/>.
- The at-large members of the FS Executive Committee are Tracy Leinbaugh and John Gilliom. A Finance and Facilities chair will be appointed soon; other committee chairs will remain in place. Steve Patterson will chair the Faculty Grievance Committee for Sherrie Gradin while she is on leave during fall quarter.
- The Executive Committee met with incoming Provost and Executive Vice President Pam Benoit.
- There are seven outstanding resolutions awaiting response from the EVPP's office.

- Several members of FS are part of a committee formed by the registrar to address compliance with federal requirements to post textbook information for all classes taught at OU.
- The Chair recognized and thanked retiring senators, and reminded FS that every senator—retiring, continuing, and new—was eligible to vote at this June meeting.
- The next Faculty Senate meeting will be September 21, 2009. 7:10 p.m., Walter Hall 235. Faculty Senate meetings are open.

Note: All resolutions considered this year are available under the “Updates and Info” tab at <http://www.ohio.edu/facultysenate/>.

V. Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee (EPSA)—Scott Titsworth.

Titsworth gave a brief end-of-year report. EPSA presented six resolutions that were approved and signed this year, including resolutions related to academic integrity, and resolutions establishing the curricular framework for the transition to semesters. EPSA also worked with the registrar to eliminate the deadline that required grades to be submitted within 48 hours of the final exam in favor of a single final grade deadline. Next year the committee will address the revised Honor Code ratified by Student Senate; continue to monitor the status of AP credit within the USO; and continue to work on Q2S transition issues.

Titsworth then presented the following resolutions for second reading and vote. These resolutions will be available shortly under the “Updates and Info” tab at <http://www.ohio.edu/facultysenate/>.

- a. Resolution on Graduate Contract Grievance Resolution (for second reading and vote)  
Passed unanimously by voice vote.
- b. Resolution on Graduate Council Composition (for second reading and vote)  
Passed unanimously by voice vote.

VI. Finance and Facilities (FFC)—Joe McLaughlin

McLaughlin presented FFC’s end-of-year report. This year, the FFC worked with administration to institute a health care premium holiday; helped compile various scenarios for cuts and benefits changes, and presented several resolutions. Most notably, the resolution to approve the Budget Planning Council’s proposal to increase the cost of health care benefits by \$3 million was not approved by Faculty Senate; Faculty Senate did approve a resolution calling for \$860,000 in increases. When the administration instituted larger increases over the objection

of the Faculty Senate, FFC introduced a resolution noting that the administration had violated Faculty Handbook policy, and asked that these increases be rescinded. This resolution awaits response by the Provost. A resolution to make faculty participating in the ARP (rather than STRS) eligible for OU's early retirement program also passed Faculty Senate. Next year the committee will continue to monitor the budget situation, begin to address the status of the early retirement program under semesters; and participate in discussions about revisions to the education benefits program for faculty.

- VII. Promotion and Tenure (P&T)—Peter Coschigano  
Coschigano presented P&T's end-of-year report. The committee heard two promotion and tenure cases, one nonreappointment case, and five tenure clock extension requests; participated in P&T workshops. The committee also presented two resolutions that were approved by Faculty Senate: one that streamlined the P&T appeals process, and one that outlined recommendations for department/school and college P&T guidelines.

- VIII. Professional Relations Committee (PRC)—Sherrie Gradin  
Gradin presented PRC's end-of-year report. This year the committee examined the Faculty Handbook and the Policy and Procedures Manual for discrepancies. A discrepancy relating to domestic partnership was resolved when HR decided to make opposite sex domestic partners eligible for benefits. Other discrepancies related to research misconduct policies, and workplace violence and harassment policies are being worked on. The PRC also worked on the Deans' evaluation process, and began a discussion with Legal Affairs about whether Chairs and Directors have faculty status with respect to Faculty Handbook policies. In addition, the committee is addressing two grievances received in May; these will continue in the fall.

- IX. New Business  
a. Resolution to Censure President Roderick McDavis and Vice President William Decatur – Ken Brown (for second reading and vote)

The resolution was discussed and debated for an hour. The Senate voted to approve an amendment that struck references to VP Decatur from the resolution. The resolution was tabled until September 21, 2009 by vote of 26 – 24, with no abstentions. The vote was by secret ballot.

- X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

