

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FACULTY SENATE  
The University of Oklahoma (Norman campus)  
May 7, 2018, 3:30 p.m., Jacobson Faculty Hall 102

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Senate Journals for the regular session of April 9, 2018.
2. Announcements:
  - a. The regular meetings of the Faculty Senate for Fall 2018 will be held at 3:30 p.m. in Jacobson Faculty Hall 102 on the following Mondays: August 27 (State of University address), September 17, October 8, November 5, and December 3.
  - b. A list of the faculty who retired during the past academic year is attached. The Faculty Senate thanks these faculty members for their dedication and contribution to our community.
  - c. The annual Bike to Work week for central Oklahoma is May 14-18, 2018 (see <http://www.acogok.org/transportation-planning/bicycle-and-pedestrian/bike-month/>). It is part of a national campaign to promote bicycling as a healthy and efficient transportation alternative.
  - d. OU's Commencement ceremony will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 11, 2018 at the Gaylord Family - Oklahoma Memorial Stadium.
3. Presentation of Statement Honoring President Boren.
4. Remarks by Joe Castiglione, Athletics Director.
5. Senate Chair's Report.
6. For Action:
  - a. Election of Faculty Senate Executive Committee at-large members for 2018-19 (attached).
  - b. Approval of Senate Committee on Committees' nominations for end-of-the-year vacancies on university and campus councils/committees/boards and Faculty Senate standing committees (attached). Nominations may be made from the floor if the consent of the nominee has been obtained.
  - c. Proposal for Changes in Policies: University Grading Regulations Governing Withdrawals and Drops (attached) and Governing Student Enrollment Changes (attached).
  - d. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing senators.
  - e. Assumption of office by 2018-19 Senate Chair, Prof. Megan Elwood Madden.
7. New Business (any matter not known about or that could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time the agenda was prepared).

*The Executive Committee invites senators to submit discussion topics for future agendas. Please send your suggestions to the Executive Committee through the [facsen@ou.edu](mailto:facsen@ou.edu) email address, or you can reach out individually to Incoming Chair Megan Elwood Madden at [melwood@ou.edu](mailto:melwood@ou.edu) or Incoming Secretary Amy Bradshaw at [bradshaw@ou.edu](mailto:bradshaw@ou.edu).*

*Refreshments will be served at 3:15 p.m.*

## 2017-18 FACULTY RETIREES

NAME	DEPARTMENT	RETIREMENT DATE	CAME TO OU AS FACULTY
Bannet, Eve T.	English	6/1/2017	1994
Barwick, Katherine L.	Human Relations	6/30/2017	2003
Benson, Hugh H.	Philosophy	12/31/2017	1985
Brandes, Joyce A.	Educational Psychology	1/1/2018	2005
Callard, Jeffrey G.	Petroleum & Geological Engineering	6/1/2017	2007
Clark, William M.	Economics	12/31/2017	1977
Conlon, Paula	Music	8/16/2017	2000
Cottom, Daniel A.	English	12/31/2017	1995
Covaleskie, John F.	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies	8/15/2017	2007
Dhall, Sudarshan K.	Computer Science	5/30/2017	1980
Durica, David S.	Biology	6/15/2017	1988
Fincke, Ola M.	Biology	12/31/2017	1989
Foote, Joe S.	Journalism	1/1/2018	2004
Frey, Melissa L.	Educational Psychology	12/1/2017	2001
Gardner, James E.	Educational Psychology	1/1/2018	1988
Gilje, Paul A.	History	12/31/2017	1981
Gollahalli, Subramanya R.	Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering	5/16/2017	1976
Griffith, Priscilla L.	Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum	1/1/2018	2001
Knapp, Michael C.	Accounting	1/1/2018	1988
Kutner, Peter B.	Law	1/1/2018	1975
Lee, Kyung Bai	Mathematics	6/30/2017	1983
Leitch, Vincent	English	7/1/2017	1997
Leslie, Lance M.	Meteorology	8/16/2017	2002
Livesey, Steven J.	History of Science	12/31/2017	1982
Martin, James E.	Educational Psychology	1/1/2018	2000
Parker, Gregory A.	Physics & Astronomy	12/31/2017	1980
Peters, Jr., Ronald M.	Political Science	5/31/2017	1974
Phillips, Judith Lewis	History	12/31/2017	1981
Ray, David H.	Political Science / Honors College	12/31/2017	1992
Rosenthal, Lucinda S.	Political Science / Carl Albert Center	3/1/2018	1995
Scaperlanda, Michael	Law	5/1/2017	1989
Shelley, Fred M.	Geography & Environmental Sustainability	1/1/2018	2004
Snell, Daniel C.	History	12/31/2017	1982
Suflita, Joseph M.	Microbiology & Plant Biology	12/31/2017	1982
Taylor, E. Laurette	Health & Exercise Science	7/31/2017	1987
Thulasiraman, Krishnaiya	Computer Science	5/16/2017	1994
Velie, Alan R.	English	5/16/2017	1967
Wakefield, William K.	Music	7/1/2017	1985

**FSEC At-large Member - Humanities and Fine Arts (2018-2019 term)**

**Lupe Davidson, Associate Professor, Chair of the Women's and Gender Studies and Co-Director for the WGS Center for Social Justice.** I am running for one of the open at-large positions on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and I am asking for your support. I have been asked to outline why I am running for this position. For me, it comes down to one simple word: service. I would like the opportunity to serve the faculty on FSEC where I will do my best to bring faculty concerns and ideas to the administration; be an advocate for academic freedom and excellence; and support areas of the university community who might feel like their voices are not being heard. I believe that I bring a diversity of thought; a commitment to the mission of the University of Oklahoma; the belief in a strong, well-supported, and robust academic community; as well as a commitment to shared governance. We find ourselves in a moment of great opportunity. I believe that I can assist with facilitating dialogue between the new administration and the faculty. I'm excited about this opportunity to work productively and collaboratively with our new president. And, I believe that our University's best days are still ahead.

**Hunter Heyck, Professor and Chair, Department of the History of Science**

President Boren is right: we are a fine university, but we are standing on the edge of a cliff. The transition to a new University president adds another dimension to that situation: the ground on which we stand is now uncertain, about to be rebuilt. For that new construction to lead us to higher ground, rather to a slippery slope, the faculty are going to need to have an active voice in the process. I would like to be one of those voices representing the needs and concerns of the faculty. I have been successful as a department chair in representing our faculty, staff, and students to the administration, and I have spent a great deal of time thinking and learning about the history and prospects of higher education, in general and at OU. I have been on (and chaired) many college and university committees, and I have worked hard to develop my skills in such settings—when to listen, when to speak, how to frame an issue so that productive discussion can take place. For these reasons, I believe I can be an effective representative and advocate for the faculty of OU on the Executive Committee.

**Emily Johnson, Associate Professor of Russian, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures & Linguistics.**

Next year OU will be facing some familiar challenges. Years of budget cuts have left many departments and programs short-staffed. Colleagues have taken advantage of retirement incentives or moved on to new opportunities and have not been replaced. Internal grant and fellowship opportunities that helped build our individual careers and elevate OU to Carnegie Tier I status are no longer as readily available. Our course offerings have thinned. We worry about our junior colleagues and our students. I am running for the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate because I think that faculty governance and open communication with OU's upper administration are particularly important given the pressures that we face as an institution. We need to work with OU's new president to advance the university's core missions in teaching and research. If elected, I will work to represent the concerns of OU's faculty, including specifically those in the arts and humanities and in small programs. My prior experience on university committees includes terms on faculty senate (2013-2016), the University Tenure Committee (2014-2017; chair in 2016-2017), and the Athletics Council (2009-2012; chair in 2011-2012).

**Susan Laird, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies,** Having served on OU's faculty for 26 years, in two colleges, I want to serve the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at this historic moment for OU, our transition into a new era of university leadership. I served as Faculty Senator through this university's last such transition, when such service and leadership (including my own) played a strong part in initiating major campus reforms that shaped David Boren's early presidency here. Besides serving several terms as an elected member of Committees A in two diverse academic units and currently as a member of Graduate Council, I have been elected to executive leadership and served as president for two major inter/national scholarly organizations as a philosopher of education and one such regional organization, in a broader inter-disciplinary field of educational studies grounded in arts and humanities with commitments to diversity and justice. Perennially, this field has contributed educational wisdom in times of intense cultural change and conflict such as our own—not only interpreting and critiquing educational policies and practices, but also generating new institutional forms to address new problems for which existing institutional forms have proven inadequate. I want to bring that knowledge along with my leadership experience to the FSEC.

## FSEC At-large Member - Engineering and Technology (2018-2019 term)

**Ahmed Jamili, Associate Professor of Petroleum Engineering.** I would like to be considered for the position of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. I would be honored and pleased to get the opportunity to expand my contribution to the OU community. I have been a member of the OU community for more than 7 years. I have served and I am still serving on different departmental and college committees including Faculty Senate Committee, Department Undergraduate Advising and Curriculum Committee, and Department Graduate Committee. I believe it is vital to the University for faculty and staff to be involved, represented on committees and be invested in the decisions that are being made relative to our community. Committee work is an effective way of becoming more engaged with the institution as a whole and broadening my viewpoint which makes me a better member of the university community and also improves the community itself as well. Committee assignments will give me an appreciation of how complex the work of a university is behind-the-scenes and how I can contribute. If I am selected for the committee, I will be diligent about that responsibility and will do my level best to make positive and meaningful contributions.

**Matthias Ulli Nollert, Associate Professor of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering.** I have been a faculty member at the University of Oklahoma since 1991. During that time, I taught courses ranging from freshman Introduction to Engineering to graduate classes. I have an active, externally funded research program with funding from NIH, NSF, American Heart Association, and the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology. I have published numerous articles in peer reviewed journals and presented at regional and national conferences. I have been part of several multi-disciplinary research and teaching efforts on campus looking at innovative ways to help students translate what is learned in one discipline to another. I have served on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) for the past year and wish to serve for another year. The FSEC played a critical role this past year in being a voice to the Regents about the importance of having an open process in the selection of a new president. This experience will be important in how the faculty interacts with the new president during his first year on the job. Finding the right tone in interacting with the president will be crucial.

**Saeed Salehi, Assistant Professor of Petroleum Engineering** We are at crossroads of big changes at University of Oklahoma with having a new president. We also observe numerous challenges our communities face, for instance, teachers walk out in our state is an example of how budgetary concerns is crushing our teachers as one of the central pieces of our community. I am very excited to be running for at large executive committee to be more instrumental in helping our students, faculties, staff and more importantly our community. I am fairly new member of OU joined at 2016 and before that I have worked in several positions which required to work within different committees and interact with different personalities. For instance, I volunteered to help city council, finance committees and budget planning for big events. Currently, I serve on several committees on my home department such as graduate committee, faculty awards committee, and undergraduate awards committee. Nonetheless, these opportunities have helped to grow and interact more with people and I see similar thing to happen serving senate executive committee. If granted the opportunity to serve, I would be committed to listening and learning from the faculty about the issues that are most important in our community.

### **Vassilios Sikavitsas, Professor of Biomedical Engineering**

OU is entering into a new era with the announcement of President Gallogly as our 14<sup>th</sup> President. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will become by necessity one of the key interaction points of our new President with the Faculty and my feeling is that especially this year the role of the Executive Committee will have increased importance. I have been for 16 years OU starting as an Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering back in 2002 and currently been a Full Professor of Biomedical Engineering. During this period I have served in numerous committees, including the Graduate Council (3 years), the Faculty Senate (3 years completed last May), and I am currently in my third year as a member of the Budget Committee of the Faculty Senate. My exposure to the Graduate, Undergraduate, and Faculty/Staff issues that came in front of these committees provided tremendous insights on the major problems requiring resolution in our University. Together with my personal experiences, been an educator and researcher for 16 years in the OU family I feel that I can serve my colleagues at this critical post by transmitting effectively their vision to the leadership of our Academic Institution.

### FSEC At-large Member - Science and Mathematics (2018-2020 term)

**Michael T. Ashby, David Ross Boyd Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry.** It is an honor to be considered for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. During my twenty-eight years at OU, I have previously had the privilege of serving as a representative for the faculty in many capacities, including the VPR's Executive Advisory Committee, the Research Council, the CAS Steering Committee, and the entire faculty tenure and promotion process (including departmental ad hoc committees, Committee A, the CAS Promotion and Tenure Committee, the Campus Tenure Committee, and the Faculty Appeals Board). I currently serve in the Faculty Senate and I have previously served as Chair of the Ed Cline Faculty Developments Awards Committee. I have had a fulfilling teaching and research career (recognized at OU, for example, by the Regent's Award for Research and Creative Activities) and I have had broad experiences that have prepared me to represent the entire OU community (including teaching in both the arts and the sciences and by serving as an advocate, for example, for the homeless and LGBTQ communities). I am particularly interested in serving in the Faculty Senate during this period when OU is undergoing significant changes in leadership in the upper administration, as it is precisely this time when the voices of the faculty need to be heard.

**Dave Hambright, Professor of Biology; Director, Environmental Studies**

**Ph.D. Cornell University, at OU since 2000** [dhambright@ou.edu](mailto:dhambright@ou.edu)

Thank you for considering me for an at-large seat on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Including during this current term on the Faculty Senate (2017-20), I have actively worked to support faculty and their endeavors at OU through service on the Faculty Development Awards Committee (2011-12), the Research Council (2009-12), and various VPR committees and task forces focused on faculty funding and recognition (2007-15). I also served as Faculty Fellow for Water and the Environment in the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's office (2014-15) and currently (since 2017) serve within the Signature Initiative Leadership, in which I chair the committee on Advancing the Study of Water, Natural Resources, and the Environment. In 2015, I was appointed interim director, and then director (2016) of what is now known as Environmental Studies. One common thread in my university service that I would like to highlight is the desire to bridge disciplinary silos and other ideological barriers to faculty collaboration, support, and recognition in the broadest of senses. Environmental Studies, with 70+ affiliate faculty across nine colleges, exemplifies my commitment to placing all faculty on equal footing, regardless of discipline – the same commitment I would bring to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

**Keri Kornelson, Professor of Mathematics** Thank you for considering me the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. I am originally from Colorado and have been a member of the OU community for 9 years. I am a Professor in the Department of Mathematics and an Affiliate member of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. I served for two-and-a-half years working for the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's office, first as a Faculty Fellow for STEM initiatives and later as Interim Associate Dean for Research. I have facilitated the implementation of several initiatives to support STEM students, including a new system for math placement at OU and development of active-learning courses in the First Year Mathematics Program. I've served on a variety of College and University committees, including recent terms on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the Faculty Welfare Committee, the VPR's Postdoc Advisory Committee, PAC-WI, and PAC-STEM. In addition, I'm an active member of the Provost's Institutional Faculty Mentoring Program, working with early-career faculty at OU. I do this work because I care deeply about the role and voice of faculty at our university. Time and again, our wide-ranging expertise and diverse ideas have effected change at OU. I would be proud to continue these efforts.

### FSEC At-large Member - Professional Programs (2018-2020 term)

**Lubomir Litov, Associate Professor of Finance**, I volunteer to serve as member-at-large on the Executive Committee because my expertise and experience can add value to committee's decision making process:

- I can assist committee members by counsel on governance and information process matters. I can help efficiently disseminate information prior to meetings, help ensure its confidential handling, assist chair in preparing meeting agendas, and liaise with students, administration and other community members. I can organize meetings with internal and external stakeholders. I therefore believe I will help improve the information flow to committee members and hence improve efficiency of the decision making process on the committee.
- My experience at other institutions can add further value. At University of Arizona I were member of College Advisory Committee at Eller College of Management tasked with providing counsel to Dean on matters of governance, funding and curriculum. I were instrumental in helping draft amended charter of said college to improve shared governance. At Washington University in St. Louis I were Ombudsman for Olin Business School, whereby I oversaw cases of disputes between faculty and students. My experience can therefore add value to Executive Committee's decision making by helping build agreement among its faculty members to deliver solutions to various issues.

**Tamera McCuen, Professor of Construction Science**. The Faculty Senate is vital for shared governance in a system where faculty participation serves to inform and balance decisions made by administration. Inherent in shared governance is an atmosphere of open communication and transparent decision-making processes that is fair and just for faculty, students, and administration. To achieve balance it is important that the processes include members with diverse experiences and perspectives. I have participated in shared governance at the division, college, and university level through my membership on various committees. My division level participation includes membership on faculty search committees and leadership of curriculum redesign for accreditation. Additionally, I participated in department administration as the Interim Director for 18 months. For the college I have served on Committee A, as well as a member and chair of the Information Technology Committee. At the university level I have participated as both a member and chair for the Information Technology Council, Innovation Hub Fabrication Lab and Visualization committee member, Research Liaison, and Provost Advisory Committee on Classrooms member. These diverse experiences have contributed to understanding issues from multiple perspectives and consideration of the impact decisions will have across the community. I appreciate your consideration of me as a candidate for this position.

**Anthony Natale, Associate Professor of Social Work**, I wish to serve on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee because I have a unique set of experiences that have well prepared me for this opportunity. I am completing my 13<sup>th</sup> year at the University of Oklahoma and during this time have held several roles pertinent to the committee. This includes two terms on the Faculty Senate (2010-2012) and (2017-present), in addition to committee member of the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees (2017-present) and Committee on Faculty Welfare (2018-present). Lastly, I was a member and selected Chair of the Athletics Council (2012-2016). I think the knowledge and skills I have gained in these roles, in addition to serving as Assistant Director of the School of Social Work (2012-2016) and Graduate College Faculty Fellow for Inclusive Excellence (2017-current) serve as a distinctive sets of experiences that have shaped both my perspective and skill-set. I believe my colleagues would describe me as engaged, eager to take on assigned tasks, and known for producing results in a timely fashion. I think these attributes, in addition to strong interpersonal skills, systemic thinking, and my use of humor will assist me in completing the work assigned to me as a Faculty Senate Executive committee member.

**NOMINATIONS FOR FACULTY SENATE VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES (May 2018)  
(Nominated by the Committee on Committees at April 9, 2018 meeting)**

<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
Academic Programs Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Strevett	Deborah	Trytten	Computer Science
Academic Programs Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Ghosh	Richard	Lupia	Geology & Geophysics
Academic Regulations Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Ellis	Amy	Kroska	Sociology
Academic Regulations Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Marcus-Mendoza	Karl	Rambo	Anthropology
Athletics Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. St. John	David	McLeod	Social Work
Budget Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Stetson	Beth	Stetson	Accounting
Budget Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Sikavitsas	Kirsten	de Beurs	Geography & Env. Sust.
Campus Tenure Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Butler	John	Masly	Biology
Campus Tenure Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Beach	Susan	Laird	Educ. Lead. & Policy Stud.
Commencement Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Sprecker	Kyle	Bergersen	Creative Media Production
Conflict of Interest Advisory Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Mackey	Rebekah	Taylor	Law
Continuing Education Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Pitalbo	Jeffrey	Maiden	Educ. Lead. & Policy Stud.
Continuing Education Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Stock	Matthew	Stock	University Lib. (Fine Arts)
Employee Benefits Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Churchman	Amy	Pepper	Law
Environmental Concerns Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Bhattacharjee	Tamera	McCuen	Construction Science
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Ashby	Lawrence	Weider	Biology
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Cramer	Lyn	Cramer	Musical Theatre
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Devegowda	Claude	Miller	Communication
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Ellis	Boris	Apanasov	Mathematics
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Eodice	Maria (Lupe)	Davidson	Women's & Gender Studies
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Lifset	Tamera	McCuen	Construction Science
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Montminy	Leehu	Loon	Landscape Architecture
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Olberding	Ashby	Michael	Chemistry & Biochemistry
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Russell	Richard	Lupia	Geology & Geophysics
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Schwarzkopf	Chandra	Rai	Petroleum Engineering
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Scrivener	Vassilios	Sikavitsas	Biomedical Engineering
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Vishanoff	Kyle	Bergersen	Creative Media Production
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Warnken	Jacquelyn	Slater Reese	University Lib. (West. History)
Faculty Appeals Board	(2018-22) replace Prof. Zhu	Susan	Laird	Educ. Lead. & Policy Stud.
Faculty Awards & Honors Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Faison	Rozmeri	Basic	Visual Arts
Goddard Health Center Advisory Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Miller	Christina	Miller	Social Work
Information Technology Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Schwarzkopf	Darin	Fox	Law Library
Information Technology Council	(2018-21) replace Prof. Silva	Jonathan	Kratz	Social Work - Tulsa
Legal Panel	(2018-21) replace Prof. Forman	Amy	Pepper	Law
Legal Panel	(2018-21) replace Prof. Grunsted	Beth	Stetson	Accounting
Publications Board	(2018-21) replace Prof. Steele	Jacquelyn	Slater Reese	University Lib. (West. History)
Research Council (Social & Behavioral Sciences)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Wong	Tina	Dothard Peterson	Social Work

<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Department</b>
Research Council (Engr., Energy, Math, & Phys. Sciences)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Trytten	Yan	Zhang	Electrical & Computer Engr.
Research Council (Education/Professional/Other)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Hahn	Xun	Ge	Educational Psychology
Research Council (Life Sciences)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Cifelli	Lee	Krumholz	Micro. & Plant Biology
Rita Lottinville Prize for Freshmen Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Allen	Jason Allen	Campbell	Health & Exercise Science
Rita Lottinville Prize for Freshmen Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Ruan	Roxanne	Lyst	Dance
ROTC Advisory Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Irvine	Susan	Marcus-Mendoza	A&S Dean Direct
ROTC Advisory Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. O'Rear	O'Rear	Edgar	Chem., Mat., & Bio. Engr.
University Scholars Selection Comm.	(2018-21) replace Rambo	Norman	Wong	Communication
Shared Leave Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Robbins	Matthew	Stock	University Lib. (Fine Arts)
Speaker's Bureau	(2018-21) replace Prof. Elwood Madden	Maria (Lupe)	Davidson	Women's & Gender Studies
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Mackey	Rebekah	Taylor	Law
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Cook	Vassilios	Sikavitsas	Biomedical Engineering
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Zhu	Steven	Wells	Social Work
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Mullins	Gail	Mullins	Law
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Elwood Madden	Andy	Elwood Madden	Geology & Geophysics
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2018-20) replace Prof. Purcell	Jeremy	Ross	Okla. Biological Survey
Tobacco and Parking Violation Appeals Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Cravey Stanley	Saeed	Salehi	Petroleum Engineering
Faculty Senate - Comm. on Committees	(2018-21) replace Prof. Riggs	Ellis	Sarah	Music
Faculty Senate - Comm. on Committees	(2018-21) replace Prof. Boeck	Ellen	Greene	Classics & Letters
Faculty Senate - Comm. on Faculty Compensation	(2018-21) replace Prof. Haag	Anthony	Natale	Social Work
Faculty Senate - Comm. on Faculty Compensation	(2018-21) replace Prof. Livingood	Tassie	Hirschfeld	Anthropology
Faculty Senate - Comm. on Faculty Welfare	(2018-21) replace Prof. Kramer	Keri	Kornelson	Mathematics
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Hils	Roxanne	Lyst	Dance
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Marshall	Heather	Shotton	Native American Studies
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Comm.	(2018-20) replace Prof. Wang	Rebecca	Larson	Health & Exercise Science
Faculty Senate – Comm. on Faculty Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	(2018-21) replace Prof. Gutierrez	Kathrine	Gutierrez	Educ. Lead. & Policy Stud.
Faculty Senate – Comm. on Faculty Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	(2018-21) replace Prof. Teodoriu	Tamera	McCuen	Construction Science
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Comm. (Arts & Sciences)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Keresztesi	Maria (Lupe)	Davidson	Women's & Gender Studies
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Comm. (Fine Arts)	(2018-21) replace Prof. Cravey Stanley	Matthew	Stock	University Lib. (Fine Arts)
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Comm. (Fine Arts)	(2018-20) replace Prof. Asprey	Jon	Young	Drama
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Laird	Kathrine	Gutierrez	Educ. Lead. & Policy Stud.
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Comm.	(2018-21) replace Prof. Miller	J. Phil	Gibson	Micro. & Plant Biology



## Proposal for Changes in Policies on University Grading Regulations Governing Withdrawals and Drops

### Philosophy supporting proposed changes:

- A) To align with the Proposal for Changes in Policies Governing Student Enrollment: Extending the Automatic “W” Deadline to 12th Week of Fall/Spring Semester and Removing Faculty Signatures and Grades from Complete Withdrawals
- B) Mid-Terms grades are reported in the 8th week of the Fall and Spring Semesters, providing only two weeks to advise students on strategies to improve grades prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> Week Automatic Drop Deadline. By extending the Automatic “W” Deadline to the 12<sup>th</sup> Week of the Fall and Spring Semesters, we give students a meaningful opportunity to change their academic standing in a course.
- C) The proposed changes in the Automatic “W” Drop Deadline from the last day of the 10th week to the last day of the 12th week will provide faculty the opportunity to better evaluate a student’s current knowledge based on additional assessments and assignments.

### Current University Grading Regulations Governing Withdrawals and Drops for Undergraduate Students with Marked Proposed Changes:

**Complete withdrawal from the University.** Undergraduate students withdrawing from all courses ~~from a semester in the first ten weeks of classes in fall or spring~~ receive the grade of W in each course of enrollment. ~~Beginning with the eleventh week through the last day of classes of the semester or summer term, students must receive a grade of W or F from the instructor in each course upon withdrawal.~~

**Dropping courses while still enrolled.** For students who drop one or more courses after classes begin, but who remain enrolled in at least one course, the following grading regulations for dropped courses apply:

- In the first two weeks of the semester, no grade is recorded;
  - Undergraduate students: Third through ~~tenth~~ twelfth week of Fall and Spring. Courses dropped during this time will be recorded with a grade of W.
  - ~~Eleventh~~ Thirteenth week through end of classes in Fall and Spring. Instructors assign a grade of W or F.

For summer session, please refer to the [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates for all summer blocks. Courses that do not meet the full term will have different deadlines.

**Proposal for Changes in Policies Governing Student Enrollment:  
Extending the Automatic W Deadline to 12<sup>th</sup> Week of Fall/Spring Semester and  
Removing Faculty Signatures and Grades from Complete Withdrawals**

**Philosophy behind the Proposed Changes:**

- A) In the Spring of 2016, a representative group from the President's Graduation and Retention Task Force came together to examine current procedures around Cancellations and Complete Withdrawals. After a comprehensive examination of the Complete Withdrawal process, it has been determined that new policies and procedures are warranted with proposed implementation for Spring 2018.
- B) The Office of Institutional Research and Reporting determined on average approximately 1,000 Complete Withdrawals were granted each academic year. Upon further analysis, the data showed that of these students, only 50% returned to resume their studies.
- C) As part of the Complete Withdrawal Policy review, the individual Course Withdrawal policy (The 5 Drop Limit) was also evaluated. IRR determined that since the inception of that policy in Fall 2011, 958 students had dropped 4 or more courses. Of those students, only 15 did a Complete Withdrawal in the same semester they reached four or more drops and 106 processed a Complete Withdrawal in a later semester. It is reasonable to believe that the limit placed on individual course drops does not lead to a greater number of Complete Withdrawals.
- D) The Advising Leadership Council (ALC), comprised of lead advisors from all colleges, confirm setting a limit to the number of courses a student may drop has promoted a university-wide culture that dropping a course is a serious decision with definite impacts on academic progress and, more important, should be pursued sparingly. However, the ALC sites a significant increase in the number of students requesting a Complete Withdrawal after the 10<sup>th</sup> Week Automatic W Deadline, even when a student will lose credit hours in courses in which a C or better would be earned. Behavior suggest that students would rather lose an entire semester than have courses with a D or F on their transcript which they should have dropped before the 10<sup>th</sup> week deadline.
- E) Research at OU and across universities suggests that grades of D or F in many courses at the mid-term point of a semester can be significantly improved by the end of the semester. The proposed changes will encourage students to fully commit to courses until closer to the end of the semester rather than giving up on a class that can be salvaged.
- F) Changing the advising culture to encourage the use of individual drops rather than recommending that students process a Complete Withdrawal will have significant impact on retention and momentum to degree. In addition, students initiating individual drops will be directed to have a critical conversation with an advisor as part of the process.

- G) Research at OU and across universities suggests that excessive dropping of classes is detrimental to academic progress, retention, and graduation.
- H) In cases where a complete withdrawal for the semester has been granted by the college academic advising lead, faculty will not be required to assign a grade for individual courses and a “W” will be assigned for each course. This will free faculty from the process of assessing whether students requesting to withdraw from an entire semester are passing or failing a single class and if they have any extenuating circumstances. This promotes integrity in the grading process and consistency across the institution.
- I) After the five-drop limit has been reached, exceptions will be provided to address extenuating and unique circumstances.

**I. Career Five-Drop Limit – Implemented Fall 2011**

A student is allowed only five grades of W throughout the course of his/her undergraduate career at The University of Oklahoma. Once a student reaches this maximum number of W grades, he/she will not be allowed to drop any courses after the two-week “free drop” period.

However, after the five-drop limit has been reached, students with extenuating circumstances may apply for an exception to the limit on W grades through the Office of the Provost.

**II. Details of the Proposed Changes to the Add/Drop Policy:**

The time period for an *Automatic Grade of W for a Dropped Course or Courses* would be extended to the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> week. Add/Drop Details would change as follows:

(Changes in schedule, retaining at least one course – Fall and Spring Terms Only)

100% Reduction of Charges on Dropped Courses	1 <sup>st</sup> two weeks of classes
No Reduction of Charges on Dropped Courses	After last day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> week
No Record of Grade on Dropped Course	1 <sup>st</sup> two weeks of classes
Final Day to Register and Add a Class	Last day of 1 <sup>st</sup> week
Automatic Grade of W for Dropped Course(s)	3 <sup>rd</sup> week to end of 12 <sup>th</sup> week

### III. Change in Policy on Complete Withdrawals

Because complete withdrawals ~~often~~ stem from extenuating circumstances, complete withdrawals will not be counted against the proposed five-drop limit. The automatic grade of "W" would be assigned on all courses for a semester approved for a complete withdrawal. ~~would be extended through the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> week.~~

**Details of Proposed Change to the Complete Withdrawal Policy** (Dropping all courses for a semester)

Cancellation Deadline (No record of grade on transcript) Friday prior to 1<sup>st</sup> day of classes

Complete Withdrawal (100% reduction of charges) 1<sup>st</sup> two weeks of classes

(No reduction of charges after the last day of second week without an approved appeal)

Automatic Grade of W on All Approved Complete Withdrawals ~~1<sup>st</sup> week to end of 12<sup>th</sup> week~~

### IV. Changes in section 4.5 of *Faculty Handbook* to implement the changes in Add/Drop Policy

"W" (meaning withdrawal) is a neutral grade given to a student who withdraws from a course with a passing grade.

A student who withdraws from a course during the first two weeks of classes (first week of a summer term) receives no grade; however, a student who withdraws from all classes in the first two weeks of classes (first week of a summer term) receives the grade of "W."

From the third week (the second week of a summer term) through the ~~tenth~~ twelfth week (~~fifth~~ sixth week of an 8-week summer term or third week of a 4-week summer term), any student who withdraws from a course will receive a grade of "W."

After the ~~twelfth~~ tenth week (~~sixth~~ fifth week of an 8-week summer term or third week of a 4-week summer term) through the remainder of the term, course drops ~~withdrawals~~ are not permitted except by direct petition to the academic advising dean ~~lead~~ of the college in which the student is enrolled. The student who drops a course ~~withdraws~~ with permission of the academic advising lead ~~dean~~ will receive a final grade of "W" or "F" at the discretion of the instructor.

Complete withdrawal from the [semester University](#). A student who withdraws from all classes [for the semester must petition the academic advising lead of the college in which the student is enrolled. Students who have been approved for a complete withdrawal for the semester during the first ten weeks of a regular semester \(first five weeks of a summer session\)](#) will receive the grade of “W” for all courses. ~~For complete withdrawals that occur after the tenth week of class (fifth week of summer session), a final grade of “W” or “F” will be assigned by the instructor of each course.~~

A student is allowed only five grades of W throughout the course of his/her undergraduate career at the University. Once a student reaches this maximum number of W grades, he/she will not be allowed to drop any courses after the two-week “free drop” period.

After the five-drop limit has been reached, students with extreme, extenuating circumstances may apply for an exception to the limit on W grades through the Office of the Provost.

Because complete withdrawals often stem from extenuating circumstances, complete withdrawals will not be counted against the five-drop limit.