

JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE
The University of Oklahoma (Norman campus)
Regular session – March 7, 2016 – 3:30 p.m. – Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 102

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Note: The remarks of the Senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available in the Faculty Senate office.

The Faculty Senate was called to order by Professor Tassie Hirschfeld, Chair.

PRESENT: Anderson, Asprey, Ayres, Barker, Bembem, Bergey, Bisel, Bradshaw, Burke, Cifelli, Coleman, Cracknell, Crain, Davidson, Ellis, Elwood Madden, Fiedler, Forman, Halterman, Hirschfeld, Irvine, B. Johnson, E. Johnson, Koch, Kong, Kornelson, Laubach, Lawson, Livingood, Merchan-Merchan, Moxley, Raman, Rodriquez, Safiejko-Mrocza, Scrivener, Sharma, Sikavitsas, Sims, Stock, Terry, Volz, Weaver

Provost's Representative: ---

ISA representative(s): Chris Cook, Dan Hough

SGA Representative(s): ---

Others: Scott Mason, Mark Morvant, Felix Wao, Michael Thompson

ABSENT: Brede, Burstein, Gutierrez, Harm, Hart, Kozadayev, Markham, Miller, Mortimer, Riggs, Schmeltzer, Swinkin

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APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular session of February 8, 2016 was approved with a change requested by Prof. Fiedler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Faculty Senate is sad to report the death of faculty member Dean Charles Graham (Architecture) on February 12, 2016.

The recipients of the Ed Cline faculty development awards for 2015-16 are: Kyle Bergersen (Creative Media Production), Suchismita Bhattacharjee (Interior Design), Daniela Busciglio (Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics), Elyssa Faison (History), Sherri Irvin (Philosophy / Women's & Gender Studies), Heather Ketchum (Biology), Keri Kornelson (Mathematics), Misha Nedeljkovich (Film & Media Studies), Chie Noyori-Corbett (Social Work), Asa Randall (Anthropology), Sepideh Stewart (Mathematics), and Ying Wang (Mathematics).

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, the Executive Committee approved the nomination of Kenneth Hodges (English) to complete the 2013-16 term of Victoria Sturtevant (Film & Media Studies) on the Art and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Committee.

The Tribute to the Faculty will be Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sandy Bell Gallery of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

The Big Event, a student-run community service effort, will be held on April 9, 2016. For more information visit <http://bigevent.ou.edu>.

REMARKS BY SCOTT MASON, VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Prof. Hirschfeld introduced Vice President for Governmental Relations, Scott Mason. He distributed a handout (attached) which included a statement from Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. VP Mason shared that he had worked with Dean Graham and was saddened by his loss to both OU and his family.

VP Mason reiterated VP Hathaway's comments last month about it being an extremely difficult budget year, with a large state budget deficit of about \$1.3 billion. He said this has caused some to call for the use of the Rainy Day fund, but others have expressed that if Oklahoma continues to see the crisis in the oil & gas industry, we may need those funds more in the future.

VP Mason stated that as bad as 2016 is for OU and all of education in Oklahoma, 2017 could be much worse. OU is working with the other state universities to argue against budget cuts. OU is asking for \$963 million, which is flat from last year's budget. He noted that last year, OU asked for \$1.2 billion and received \$963 million. The Chancellor suggested that we ask for that flat budget this year.

On a positive note, our legislative priorities are looking very good outside of the budget. Things are looking good for us in terms of guns on campus. We have good relationships with the public safety chairs and they agree that guns on campus are not a good idea. Despite what has happened in Texas, we anticipate that the current situation will be maintained. Currently, it is up to the university president to determine each campus' policy and a petition may be made for those that feel they need a gun on campus.

VP Mason said that regarding the Oklahoma Promise Scholarship, there are still active bills making some changes, but those are changes we can deal with. Two weeks ago, we reached the date where bills that have not made it out of committee yet are considered dormant. Thus, many of the bills that those in higher education were concerned with are now dormant. However, there are a few bills left and we should know more about that by Thursday, that date when bills have to be out of their house of origin in order to move forward.

Prof. Cifelli stated that he hears that Oklahoma's fiscal crisis is due to the price of oil and natural gas, but suggested it was also due to the tax cuts. He continued that we cannot change the global price of oil, but we can do something in this state about income tax cuts. VP Mason said that he does not see any changes to income taxes that are positive for education happening soon. Prof. Forman asked if there are any bills still active to roll back tax cuts. VP Mason said that there may be some activity on rolling back some corporate tax incentives, but he is not sure that supporters have the necessary votes. VP Mason said he anticipates for the next couple of years there being only budget cuts, not changes to the tax structure.

VP Mason invited faculty to contact him with questions or concerns at either smason@ou.edu or 325-3260. There were no further questions. Prof. Hirschfeld thanked VP Mason for addressing the Senate and for his hard work with the legislature.

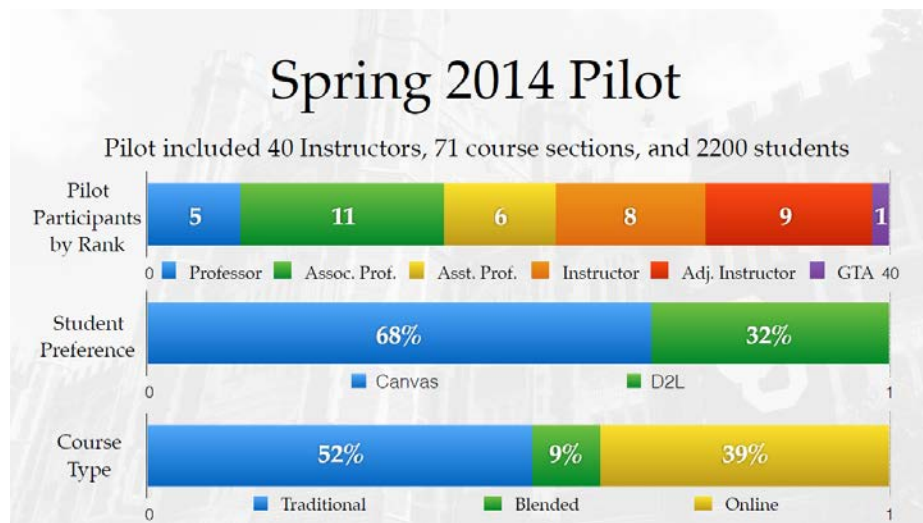
REMARKS BY MARK MORVANT, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE, REGARDING THE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SOFTWARE

Prof. Hirschfeld introduced Dr. Morvant to talk about upcoming changes to OU's learning management software. He stated that OU began using both Blackboard and WebCT in the early 2000's. In 2004, there was a move to Blackboard in the cloud. However, in Fall 2004, Blackboard had a two-week outage leaving OU without access. Thus, a task force was put together by Provost Mergler to study the issue resulting in OU moving to Desire2Learn in Fall 2005.

In Spring 2013, OU's Digital Initiative Student Survey found that:

- 87% of OU students owned Smart Phones, 41% tablets
- 80% wanted to access Learning Management System
- 75% wanted to check grades
- 97% reported that the LMS was important to their academic success

Thus, OU hoped to identify an LMS that could both increase 'Grades' usage and provide a mobile experience for students. There was also a survey of over 1,880 OU faculty members done in Fall 2013 regarding the LMS which included ranked faculty as well as instructors and graduate teaching assistants. This was followed by a LMS pilot in Fall 2014



The end-of-pilot decision made in Summer 2014 was to stay with the LMS we had as least in the near term, while adding 24/7 support from D2L. Then, re-evaluate the LMS options in AY 2015-16. However, change is now imminent. Desire2Learn (now known as Brightspace) announced the end-of-upgrades in Summer 2016 and end-of-service in Summer 2018 for on-site hosted systems such as OU's. D2L will no longer provide upgrades for on-site hosted systems and OU runs D2L on our own servers. D2L will continue to support OU's last upgrade in May 2016 for two years.

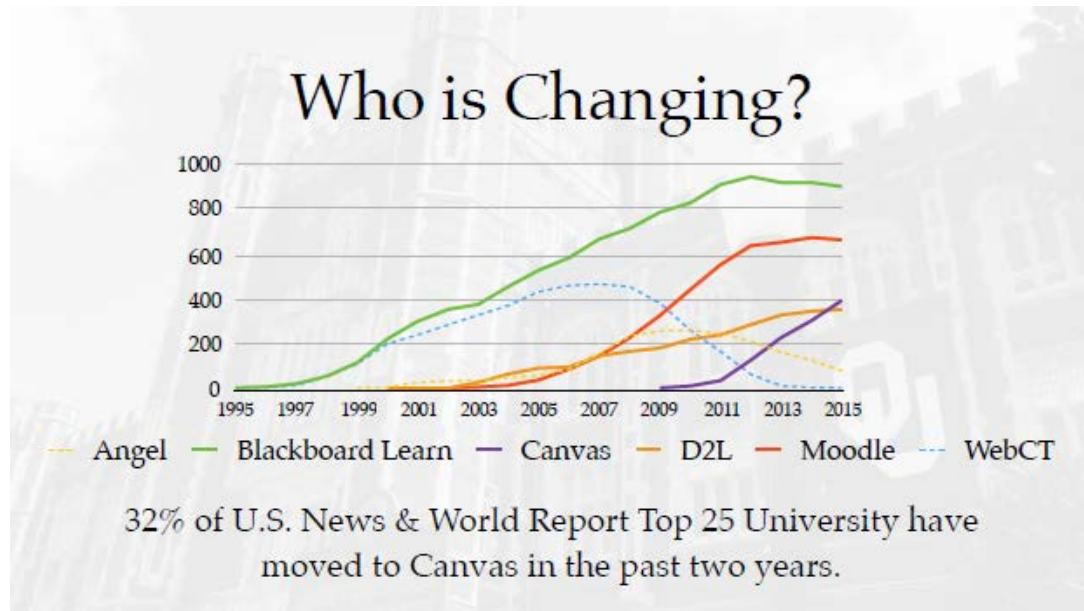
Prof. Morvant said that he is asked why OU does not move to D2Lin-the-cloud? He said that there are data ownership issues in terms of access and sharing with other applications. OU would also lose any control on the timing of upgrades. Thus, there is an extra expense with no gain in functionality. He noted that D2L in-the-cloud is the same as D2L hosted by OU, but with less control and increased cost.

Another option suggested is to stay on the older version of D2L as long as possible. However, that brings up concerns about reliability and downtime. As software age increases, downtime increases. In addition, data integrations with other systems at OU would be put on hold. A long migration would increase costs and no upgrades means that the current cumbersome experience will be the experience for the next two years.

What are the viable LMS options for OU to consider? The Provost Advisory Committee for Learning Technologies started evaluating LMS options in the Fall 2015. Their criteria: Mobile, Open Data/Source, Reliable, Tested. They looked at the following options:



The also looked at what peer institutions are doing:



What does a change to Canvas offer OU? In terms of notifications, students can choose when and how they received course notifications and for faculty, a notification will be sent when an announcement is posted or a change to a due date in the calendar is made. In terms of the calendar, students will have their own calendar and can enter their own calendar items, while faculty can use the scheduler tool to create time blocks when students can schedule their own appointments. Changing OU's Learning Management System change to Canvas would mean a more user-friendly design that saves faculty time, a fully mobile experience, full control of our data, and instructor-level third-party app integration to empower faculty choice.

Prof. Morvant stated that OU plans to migrate to Canvas during AY 2016-17. Migration assistance will be provided to faculty members and OU will run side-by-side both the D2L and Canvas Learning Management Systems in AY 2016-17 to allow faculty to transition on a schedule that fits their needs. In addition, OU is making a commitment to stay with the new LMS for at least five years.

The plan for migration includes both using bulk migration and using 'Transformation Fellows' to assist faculty members with migration. During bulk migration, courses with content from D2L will be copied and transferred to Canvas, so that faculty will see their old courses with the content within Canvas. Prof. Morvant said that the 'Transformation Fellows' are a team of graduate students to assist faculty with migration. They will provide one-on-one assistance to faculty members and they will be drawn from a range of disciplines to help provide contextual assistance to faculty during this process. The tentative timeline is:

- March: Town Halls for Colleges and Students
- April 2016: Demo Courses for Faculty and Students
- May 2016: Access to Canvas and Training for Transformation Teams
- Summer 2016: Assist with migration of Online and opt-in Large Enrollment Courses
- Fall-Spring 2016-17:
 - Opt-in course migrations, One-on-One assistance with Transformation
 - Fellows, On-demand Online Training, Workshops for Faculty and Students
- July 2017: Complete transition of all course to Canvas

Prof. Morvant stated that this Learning Management System change is an opportunity to both improve the faculty experience and increase student success. He then asked for questions.

Prof. Barker said that a problem he experienced with D2L is that it only maintains data back to 2009. He had a student come back that had taken his class in 2007 and the grades were all gone. Prof. Morvant said that he would find out how many semesters will be kept in Canvas. However, in terms of Prof. Barker's specific situation, he recommended contacting OU IT to see if those grades may be archived and could be retrieved.

Prof. Terry requested that courses older than two years be migrated as well. Prof. Morvant said that faculty members could request that specific older courses be converted. Prof. Halterman asked if students would have to use two different systems during the migration. Prof. Morvant said is correct, but that is the downside of providing faculty with the timing flexibility of for the migration. He added that the hope is that the Transformation Fellows will encourage a quicker transition and the team is working with Aaron Biggs to get a single landing page for students, which will take them to courses in both systems.

Prof. E. Johnson asked about the cost of Canvas. Prof. Morvant said OU currently pays \$300,000 for D2L, but that would increase. When comparing D2L in-the-cloud to Canvas in-the-cloud, the costs are similar. Moodle is less expensive, but requires more IT staff to function, so that increases the total cost and Moodle has less functionality than either D2L or Canvas.

Prof. Coleman said that she has had difficulty with the grading module of D2L. She felt that it forced her into a particular rubric for grading. Prof. Morvant said that he understands that Canvas provides more flexibility to the faculty member in grading and will accept letter grades for assignments. Representative from Canvas will be on campus later this month for a demonstration and he invited faculty who are interested to attend that meeting in the library. Prof. Merchan-Merchan also had some concerns about the grading module. Prof. Fiedler confirmed with Prof. Morvant that Canvas would allow him to download grades as a spreadsheet, something he currently does with D2L.

Prof. Sharma had some questions about recording video and audio for use in the Canvas system. Prof. Morvant said that Canvas has a built-in application for recording video and audio to use with courses. Mark suggested faculty visit <http://lmsevaluation.outeach.net> for more information. There were no other questions. Prof. Hirschfeld thanked Prof. Morvant for speaking to the Senate.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Prof. Hirschfeld presented the recommended slate of nominations (attached) from the Committee on Committees and stated that the Senate would vote on the entire slate at the April meeting. Senators who would like to make a nomination from the floor may contact Prof. Riggs, Chair of the Committee on Committees. Prof. Hirschfeld stated that the committee was pleased with the response of the faculty.

Prof. Fiedler asked if there were some committees with more volunteers than openings. Prof. Hirschfeld confirmed that there is a pool of volunteers for many committees that the Committee on Committees starts with for their nomination process. There was no additional discussion.

FORMALIZED POLICY FOF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT FOF STUDENT LEARNING

Prof. Hirschfeld introduced the formal Academic Assessment policy (attached). Dr. Felix Wao from the Assessment office was present to answer questions. Prof. E. Johnson asked why assessment needed to

be done every year and asked if it could be done every 2-3 years instead. Dr. Wao said that the state currently requires assessment to annually. Prof. E. Johnson asked if we could push during this tough budget year to reduce the frequency of assessment reports as a cost-saving measure for OU. She also brought up the natural variation in the pool of students and their performance. Dr. Wao said that it is not just about the budget, but we do assessment to continually improve student learning.

Prof. Bemben said that he had emailed Dr. Wao directly about his concern that there be a separate assessment for every program within a department and that it creates additional work for both the undergraduate and graduate liaison. Dr. Wao said that it is recommended to do these assessments at the 'degree-level'. Prof. Bemben said that there was information on each degree in the one large departmental report, but now departments are having to duplicate a lot of information. Dr. Wao said that the Provost had approved a new assessment management system that will improve the process of preparing the assessment reports. The Assessment office has already entered last year's report data into the system, except for the College of Engineering that is still determining how it needs to be configured for ABET usage. Therefore, a lot of the information will already be in the system. Prof. Merchan-Merchan asked if the system can be customized to accommodate the requirements of ABET. Dr. Wao said that it could and can accommodate customized requirements for accreditation for other colleges as well, such as for the College of Education.

Prof. Fiedler had a question about the Senate's ability to amend the proposed Assessment Policy. Prof. Hirschfeld stated that the Senate is being asked to endorse the entire document as-is, but deferred to the parliamentarian, Prof. Forman. Prof. Forman suggested that we could respond to specific concerns, but that the policy could be implemented even without the Senate's endorsement.

There were no other questions. Prof. Hirschfeld said that the Senate will vote on this at the next meeting and thanked Dr. Wao for addressing the Senate.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT, by Prof. Tassie Hirschfeld

"On February 9, the Faculty Senate Chair attended a meeting of the Faculty Advisory Council to the State Regents for Higher Education in Oklahoma City. The meeting included a presentation from the State Regents Security Task Force detailing current campus security programs and policies. This Task Force was established in January 2013 to support campus safety at all higher education institutions in the state of Oklahoma. The Task Force has compiled a 'Campus Best Practices Repository' that includes information relating to a wide array of campus safety and security issues, including threat assessment, drug and alcohol counseling, mental health services, and weather safety. These materials can be accessed on the Task Force website (<http://www.okhighered.org/campus-safety>). The Task Force also invites interested faculty to attend a campus safety summit on November 7, 2016 at the Reed Center in Midwest City. Information about the safety summit will be available on the website.

"The March 1 meeting of the Faculty Advisory Council also took place in Oklahoma City and featured presentations by Dr. Stacy Reeder from the University of Oklahoma and Dr. Matthew Hollrah from the University of Central Oklahoma. Dr. Reeder and Dr. Hollrah have recently worked to redesign high school math and English standards. The new standards are available for interested faculty to review at <http://sde.ok.gov/sde/newstandards>. The meeting also included a presentation by Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Legislative Relations. Ms. Hunt gave a detailed summary of current legislative items relating to higher education. This included updates on a number of bills relating to higher education appropriations, scholarships, bonds, telecommunications, campus safety, and information technology. Faculty members are also encouraged to read the statement issued on Thursday, March 3, by Chancellor Glenn

Johnson in response to the latest budget reductions. The statement is available at <http://www.okhighered.org/news-center/budget-reduction-2016.shtml>.

“On February 29, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee reviewed a presentation by Dr. Mark Morvant on the proposed transition of the University’s LMS (Learning Management System) from Desire to Learn to Canvas. This meeting also included a conversation with Provost Kyle Harper about the ongoing budget crisis currently facing the state, and the likelihood of further cuts to the University during the current academic year.

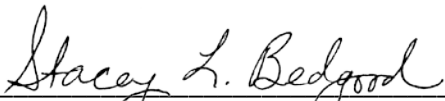
“On March 2, the Faculty Senate Chair attended a meeting of the Dean’s Council, which featured presentations by Dr. Michele Eodice and Dr. George Cusack who have been collaborating on a new ‘Writing Enriched Curriculum’ (WEC) program. The WEC encourages faculty to integrate writing instruction in all classes and in all disciplines. The program employs three coordinators who are available to consult with faculty to improve writing instruction across the curriculum. For more information, contact Dr. Eodice (meodice@ou.edu) or Dr. Cusack (gcusack@ou.edu).

“On March 2, the FSEC met with President Boren for further discussion of the state’s current budget crisis as well as news of the recent legislative session. The President reported that the penny sales tax initiative is receiving a good deal of popular support. The petition drive has secured more signatures than expected at this point, and additional town hall meetings are planned in a number of communities around the state over the next few weeks. Turnout at these events so far has been good, and the response continues to be positive. The President also reported that despite the state’s economic difficulties, overall applications to the University have increased compared with previous years. The University has also shown encouraging gains in student retention.

“On a final note, the Faculty Senate Chair wishes to congratulate former Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Randy Hewes. Pending Regents’ approval, Dr. Hewes will be named Interim Dean of the Graduate College, replacing Dr. Lee Williams. Dr. Williams has announced plans to retire after many years of distinguished service as Dean of the Graduate College.”

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next regular session of the Faculty Senate will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2016, in Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 102.



Stacey L. Bedgood, Administrative Coordinator



Sarah Ellis, Faculty Senate Secretary

March 3, 2016

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Statement
Chancellor Glen D. Johnson
March 3, 2016

The additional \$32.1 million reduction to the state system of higher education announced today follows a \$24.1 million initial budget reduction in July 2015; a \$24 million budget reduction due to the first FY16 revenue shortfall in January 2016; and a \$26.3 million budget reduction resulting from the oil gross production shortage in February 2016. These figures reflect a cumulative higher education budget reduction exceeding \$106.6 million (-10.8 percent) for FY16.

These severe budget cuts have resulted in forced furloughs and the reduction of academic programs, personnel, student services, and college degree completion initiatives. Our public colleges and universities are implementing significant cost saving measures to address the FY16 revenue shortfall and to prepare for the anticipated FY17 budget deficit, including energy savings programs, sharing faculty and administrators between institutions, consolidation of back-office administrative functions, joint academic degree programs between institutions, early retirement options, consolidation of campus sites, and increased online course offerings.

Given Oklahoma higher education's unique role in advancing our state's degree completion agenda and meeting Oklahoma's workforce development needs, we will continue to make the case to the Governor and Legislature that higher education should be a top funding priority in the FY17 budget.

NOMINATIONS FOR FACULTY SENATE VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES (March 2016)
(Nominated by the Committee on Committees at March 7, 2016 meeting)

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
Academic Programs Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. de Beurs	Darren	Purcell	Geography & Environmental Sustainability
Academic Programs Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. Mortimer	Christopher	Sadler	Drama
Academic Regulations Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Gardner	Deborah	Trytten	Computer Science
Budget Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. Tsetsura	Ed	Sankowski	Philosophy
Campus Tenure Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Reches	Qi	Cheng	Computer Science
Campus Tenure Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Jourdan	David	Boeck	Architecture
Commencement Committee	(2016-18) replace Prof. Nichol	Richard	Sprecker	Drama
Conflict of Interest Advisory Committee	(2016-18) replace Prof. Swan	Hollie	Mackey	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Continuing Education Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. Shehab	Bruce	Hoagland	Geography & Environmental Sustainability
Employee Benefits Committee	(2016-20) replace Prof. Leseney	Shawn	Churchman	Musical Theatre
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Apanasov	Boris	Apanasov	Mathematics
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Glatzhofer	Daniel	Glatzhofer	Chemistry & Biochemistry
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Haltman	Robert	Lauer	Modern Languages, Literatures, & Linguistics
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Jiang	Peter	Kutner	Law
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Liu	Shaorong	Liu	Chemistry & Biochemistry
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Magnusson	Roberta	Magnusson	History
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Mao	Chuanbin	Mao	Chemistry & Biochemistry
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Marek	Ann-Marie	Szymanski	Political Science
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Matlick	Eldon	Matlick	Music
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Murphy	Molly	Murphy	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Robbins	Sarah	Robbins	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Robson	Sally	Beach	Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-20) replace Prof. Golomb	Liorah	Golomb	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2016-17) complete open term	Lisa	Frey	Educational Psychology
Faculty Awards & Honors Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. McPherson	Kirsten	Edwards	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Faculty Awards & Honors Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. Raman	Pradeep	Yadav	Finance
Goddard Health Center Advisory Board	(2016-19) replace Prof. Marshall	Betty	Harris	Anthropology
Information Technology Council	(2016-19) replace Prof. Drege	Andy	Fagg	Computer Science
Information Technology Council	(2016-19)	Elizabeth	Pober	Interior Design

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
	replace Prof. Pober			
Legal Panel	(2016-19) replace Prof. Jourdan	Brenda	Barnes	Law
Libraries Committee, University	(2016-19) replace Prof. Lemon	Marie	Dallam	Honors College
Libraries Committee, University	(2016-19) replace Prof. Mason	Jenel	Cavazos	Psychology
Research Council (Social & Behavioral Sciences)	(2016-19) replace Prof. Williams-Diehm	Loretta	Bass	Sociology
Research Council (Fine Arts)	(2016-19) replace Prof. Ellis	Allison	Palmer	Art & Art History
Research Council (Humanities)	(2016-19) replace Prof. Wickersham	Su Fang	Ng	English
Rita Lottinville Prize for Freshmen Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Mitra	Jacquelyn Slater	Reese	University Libraries
ROTC Advisory Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Sadler	Scott	Lamothe	Political Science
Shared Leave Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Cusack	George	Cusack	Expository Writing
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Gordon	Hollie	Mackey	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Mullins	Monte	Cook	Philosophy
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Alavi	Ping	Zhu	Modern Languages, Literatures, & Linguistics
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Olberding	Dan	Butko	Architecture
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Steele	Andy	Madden	Geology & Geophysics
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2016-18) replace Prof. Black	Darren	Purcell	Geography & Environmental Sustainability
Tobacco and Parking Violation Appeals Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Anderson	Robert	Lauer	Modern Languages, Literatures, & Linguistics

Faculty appointments also will be made by the administration to:

Academic Programs Council
Academic Regulations Committee
Budget Council
Campus Tenure Committee
Continuing Education Council
Environmental Concerns Committee
University Fitness and Recreation Services Advisory Committee
Legal Panel
University Libraries Committee
Research Council
Retirement Plans Management Committee
Rita Lottinville Prize for Freshmen Committee
ROTC Advisory Committee
University Scholars Selection Committee
Speakers Bureau
Tobacco and Parking Violation Appeals Committee.

NOMINATIONS FOR VACANCIES ON FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES (MARCH 2016)

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
Faculty Senate - Committee on Committees	(2016-19) replace Prof. Foote	Deborah	Trytten	Computer Science
Faculty Senate - Committee on Committees	(2016-19) replace Prof. Lakshmivarahan	Fran	Ayres	Accounting
Faculty Senate - Committee on Committees	(2016-18) complete open term	Lawrence	Baines	Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Compensation	(2016-19) replace Prof. Vargas	Jeffery	Volz	Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Welfare	(2016-19) replace Prof. Mitra	Keri	Kornelson	Mathematics
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Welfare	(2016-19) replace Prof. Ramseyer	Daniel	Kimball	Psychology
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Committee	(2016-18) replace Prof. Schroeder	Jonathan	Hils	Art & Art History
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Committee	(2016-18) replace Prof. Karathanasis	Ying	Wang	Mathematics
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Committee	(2016-18) replace Prof. Wu	Kimberly	Marshall	Anthropology
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Committee (Arts & Sciences)	(2016-19) replace Prof. Sturtevant	Kenneth	Hodges	English
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Committee (Fine Arts)	(2016-19) replace Prof. Mortimer	Konstantinos	Karathanasis	Music
Research Advisory Committee to Vice President	(2016-19) replace Prof. Liu	Claude	Miller	Communication
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Shapiro	Dean	Hougen	Computer Science
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Committee	(2016-19) replace Prof. Palmer	John	Covaleskie	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA
POLICY OF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Preamble:

The University of Oklahoma is committed to assessing student learning as a means to continuously improve educational experience and overall success for all students.

Statement of Purpose:

The purpose of assessment at the University of Oklahoma is to facilitate continuous improvement of academic programs. The assessment process gives faculty important information about the success of each program of study by allowing comparison between actual learning outcomes and intended learning outcomes. Therefore, the *Provost Advisory Committee for Learning Outcomes Assessment* (PACLOA) has developed this policy to govern the process of regular and ongoing assessment of student learning in undergraduate and graduate programs.

The Committee affirms the importance of continuous, institution-wide process for:

- Assessing the extent to which students achieve program level intended learning outcomes, and
- Using the results to improve programs and enhance student learning.

This policy aims to:

- A. Support the institution-wide culture of assessment of student learning and continuous improvement of academic programs.
- B. Ensure compliance with:
 - i. Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) assessment criteria.
 - ii. Oklahoma State Regents assessment requirements.
- C. Establish a process of systematic documentation of program level assessment activities.

Policy:

All academic programs at OU should be assessed systematically and the data obtained through the assessment process used to facilitate continuous improvement of degree programs.

- A. Assessment is a collaborative initiative involving faculty, staff, administrators, and students. The administration, through the Office of Academic Assessment, supports assessment activities by providing professional development opportunities, sharing information on assessment tools and activities, coordinating assessments to minimize unnecessary duplication and providing resources to conduct assessments. The faculty of each academic unit should play a central role in the design and implementation of assessment programs for that unit, and should work collaboratively with the office of Academic Assessment and the administration to use assessment data to facilitate continuous improvement of academic programs.
- B. The Chair or Director in each academic department or school will maintain oversight of assessment activities. Assessment Liaisons will generally prepare the annual assessment reports. The annual program assessment reports for each department or school should be submitted through the Chair or Director.
- C. Assessment reports are required annually for each academic degree program or major.
- D. Assessment reports should be submitted by **October 1 of every year** to assessment@ou.edu.
- E. Each academic unit is expected to document assessment activities using the *OU Program Assessment Template*. Each report should contain the following components at the minimum:
 - 1. Mission of the degree program.
 - 2. Intended program level student learning outcomes (SLO's) that clearly and succinctly describe the knowledge, skills, and competencies that students should be able to demonstrate upon

completion of the program.

3. At least two assessment methods, one of which must be a direct method (for each SLO).
4. Detailed description of actual student performance (for each SLO).
5. Detailed description of the use or intended use of assessment results for program improvement (for each SLO).

Academic programs with discipline-specific accreditation may elect to use templates and report formats provided by their accrediting agencies. However, their assessment reports must include students learning outcomes, direct assessment methods, assessment results and use of assessment results for improvement.

For detailed program assessment guidelines, please e-mail assessment@ou.edu or refer to the Office of Academic Assessment website: <http://www.ou.edu/assessment>

Approved by the Provost Advisory Council for Learning Outcomes Assessment (PACLOA)

Date: January 29, 2016

Definitions:

Assessment: A systematic and ongoing process of collecting, analyzing and using information to improve student learning at the program level. For the purposes of this policy, the focus is on student learning in the program study for a degree.

Assessment Report: A document that describes assessment activities, information/data collected and actions taken for the purpose of continuous improvement of student learning and academic programs.

Direct Assessment Method: Measures that require students to demonstrate acquired learning (e.g., examinations, portfolios, research projects, performances, etc.). Appropriate measures should directly address to one or more student learning outcomes.

Indirect Assessment Method: Measures that require students to provide opinions or perceptions regarding acquired learning (e.g., surveys, focus groups, interviews, course evaluations, etc.). Survey items or interview questions should directly address student learning outcomes.

Program: A sequence of credit-awarding courses and experiences designed to equip students with specific knowledge, skills and competencies intended for a degree major. Departments can elect to develop assessment reports at either *Level III* (Degree) or *Level IV* (Major) as reflected in the OU Degree Inventory accessible at the following link: <https://www.ou.edu/content/irr/degree-program-inventory.html>

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO's): Statements that clearly specify the accumulated knowledge, skills/abilities and competencies that students are expected to be able to demonstrate upon completion of a program of study, degree or major.