

JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE
The University of Oklahoma (Norman campus)
Regular session – May 8, 2017 – 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 Wayne Riggs, Chair.

PRESENT: Anderson (1), Asprey (1), Barker (0), Bemben (1), Bradshaw (0), Burke (0), Burns (1), Burstein (2), Churchman (2), Cifelli (2), Coleman (3), Cox-Fuenzalida (1), Demir (0), Ellis (0), Fiedler (0), Gutierrez (2), Hall (0), Hart (1), Houser (0), Jamili (0), Johnson (2), Keppel (2), Koch (1), Lawson (3), Pepper (2), Riggs (0), Safiejko-Mrocza (1), Schmeltzer (3), Scrivener (0), Shah (3), Sikavitsas (1), Sprecker (0), Stewart (1), Trafalis (3), Volz (2), Warren (1), Woodfin (2)

Provost's Representative: ---

Staff Senate: Matthew Rom

ISA representative(s): Chris Cooke

SGA Representative(s): --

Others: Joe Castiglione, Joshua Nelson (FSEC member), Kelly Damphousse (Faculty Athletics Representative)

ABSENT: Barrett (5), Bradley (2), Cheng (3), Davidson (5), Elwood Madden (1), Karr (3), Livingood (3), Markham (3), Martens (1), Martin (3), Moxley (5), Stock (1), Swinkin (3), Wang (2)

Note: During the period from June 2016 to May 2017, the Senate held eight regular sessions and no special sessions. The figures in parentheses above indicate the number of absences.

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APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular session of April 10, 2017 was approved by consensus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The regular meetings of the Faculty Senate for Fall 2017 will be held at 3:30 p.m. in Jacobson Faculty Hall 102 on the following Mondays: September 11, October 4, November 13, and December 11.

The Faculty Senate is sad to report the death of retired faculty member Marcia McKay Goodman (University Libraries) on April 20, 2017.

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.

The annual Bike to Work Day for central Oklahoma is Friday, May 19, 2017 (see <http://www.acogok.org/transportation-planning/bicycle-and-pedestrian/bikeday/>). It is part of a national campaign to promote bicycling as a healthy and efficient transportation alternative.

OU's Commencement ceremony will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12, 2017 at the Gaylord Family - Oklahoma Memorial Stadium.

ELECTION, FACULTY DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

The Senate approved the list of nominations from the Committee on Committees given below for the newly formed Faculty Senate Faculty Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

Term	Name	Department
3-year (2017-2020)	Randa Shehab	Industrial & Systems Engineering
3-year (2017-2020)	Lupe Davidson	Women's & Gender Studies
3-year (2017-2020)	Ben Keppel	History
2-year (2017-2019)	L. Eugenia Cox-Fuenzalida	Psychology
2-year (2017-2019)	Shawn Churchman	Musical Theatre
1-year (2017-2018)	Catalin Teodoriu	Petroleum and Geological Engineering
1-year (2017-2018)	Kathrine Gutierrez	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies

ELECTION, FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2017-18

The following slate was proposed for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for 2017-18:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Amy Bradshaw

Associate Professor of Educational Psychology,
Ph.D. Arizona State University, at OU since 1998

Lupe Davidson

Director and Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies,
Ph.D., Duquesne University, at OU since 2007

Matthias Nollert

Associate Professor of Chemical, Biological, and Materials Engineering,
Ph.D. Cornell University, at OU since 1991

SECRETARY

Joshua Nelson

Director of Film and Media Studies and Associate Professor of English,
Ph.D. Cornell University, at OU since 2009

CHAIR-ELECT

Megan Elwood Madden

Associate Professor of Geology & Geophysics,
Ph.D. Virginia Tech, at OU since 2007

The Senate approved the nominations on a voice vote.

REMARKS BY JOE CASTIGLIONE, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Prof. Riggs introduced Joe Castiglione, OU's Athletics Director. Mr. Castiglione speaks each year to the Senate about OU's Athletics Program to provide insight into the organization, and he noted that this is the 19th year he has done so. Mr. Castiglione said that he does this to create transparency in what OU is doing in intercollegiate athletics and engage with faculty regarding the Athletics program's mission. He distributed the 2016 Athletics Annual Report to the Senators.

Mr. Castiglione discussed some of the academic, legal, social, and financial challenges and changes that are being faced by intercollegiate athletics. The OU Athletics program has developed an acronym for their core values: MAGIC – masterful, accountable, gracious, inclusive, and competitive. He mentioned a group of former OU athletes, 'Sooners helping Sooners,' that assists former student athletes when they run into challenges or difficult circumstances. There is also a focus on creating leaders among OU's student athletes.

There continues to be improvement in our academic progress, highlighted by the fact that this fall was the tenth consecutive semester where OU's student athletes had a cumulative GPA above a 3.0, 3.07 to be exact. Over 10% of OU's student athletes finished the Fall 2016 term with a 4.0.

The NCAA has developed a graduation success rate (GSR) and academic progress rate (APR) which is meant to be more of a true picture of what's happening inside intercollegiate athletics, as sometimes student athletes leave an institution for professional opportunities or competitive reasons, which are outside of the control of the institution. OU's GSR graduation rate was a record 85%.

We continue to improve our academics. This week we anticipate 108 student athletes will graduate, 7 with advanced degrees. Over 57 student athletes have taken advantage of OU's study abroad program, 30 of them this year alone going to eleven different countries. He also highlighted the work of our Academic Review Committee, which reviews the records and scores of any athletic recruits whose academic preparation falls below OU's typical academic standards, which are higher than NCAA requirements. They also continue to monitor and review the classes and majors chosen by student athletes. Faculty Athletics Representative Kelly Damphousse and Executive Director of Athletics Compliance Jason Leonard also review our student athletes' academic performance.

We had national championships for both men's and women's gymnastics as well as softball. We are putting the finishing touches on the football stadium's end zone construction project. He highlighted the level of diversity and inclusiveness among our student athletes. He noted that we have 33 international student athletes, representing 20 different countries, and many of those are first-generation college students. He also mentioned that Headington Hall is 49% student athletes and 51% non-athletes.

Mr. Castiglione stated that Athletics does not receive a subsidy from OU, which is rare for collegiate athletics programs. Due to the budgetary strategy that has been in place for 18 years, Athletics has been able to find ways to provide financial support the institution. This past year that amounted to \$6,000,000.

Prof. Burns thanked Mr. Castiglione for opening the track to non-athletes in the University community. He expressed concern that it is sometimes locked in the evening. Mr. Castiglione said he knows that it is open at 5:30 am, but will check to see what time it is locked.

Prof. Fiedler said that he has heard about a tutoring service for athletics and he would like some information on that and metrics on its success. Mr. Castiglione said that the tutoring program is open by appointment to all student athletes.

Prof. Woodfin said that he led a study abroad group last summer that included several student athletes. He thanked Mr. Castiglione for encouraging student athletes to experience this opportunity. Prof. Cifelli said that he has been impressed in recent years with the academic improvement of OU's student athletes. There were no further questions. Prof. Riggs thanked Mr. Castiglione for speaking to the Senate.

NEW BUSINESS – Changes to March 2017 minutes

Prof. Shah asked about the motion at the last meeting to amend the minutes from the March meeting to include the transcript of Prof. Fiedler's statements. Prof. Shah made a new motion to that effect that was seconded by Prof. Houser.

Prof. Riggs stated that the purpose of minutes is to record actions. It is not the purpose of the minutes to record everything that was said at a meeting. He also noted that the transcript is not intended to be a publicly available document. It is simply prepared to assist the Senate staff and Senate Secretary in creating the minutes. He also said that the Executive Committee agreed to not include the transcripts and that senators can contact one another after meetings to discuss their concerns.

Prof. Demir expressed support of inserting a transcript of Prof. Fiedler's comments in the March minutes. Prof. Riggs said that including transcripts will discourage free speech and will stifle conversation in this deliberative body. Prof. Cifelli is supportive of not changing the minutes as he feels that they adequately describe what occurred. Prof. Houser would like both the March and April minutes to show there was concern about various statements made by senators. Prof. Schmeltzer asked for clarification that the motion at the last meeting did not 'fail'. Prof. Riggs stated that it was not voted on due to lack of a quorum.

The motion to amend the already approved minutes from the March meeting was approved by a majority with several abstentions.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT, by Prof. Wayne Riggs

"The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on May 1, 2017. The Executive Committee discussed the items that were covered in the agenda today and met with Provost Harper. There was some general discussion of topics that might be addressed by the Executive Committee next year, but no actions were taken. Some very minor proposed changes to the Information Technology Council (ITC) charge were approved.

"The monthly Dean's Council meeting was cancelled.

"President Boren was unable to meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee due to his continuing recovery from heart surgery. Instead, the FSEC met with Vice President Nick Hathaway On Wednesday, May 3. There was a very frank and detailed conversation about the current state of the budget, with little updated news since VP Hathaway presented the same information to the full Senate at the April meeting. As usual, the final budget from the legislature as well as the determination of what level of tuition hike, if any, will be permitted will not be known until after the Spring semester is over. The FSEC arranged with VP Hathaway that both the outgoing and incoming Faculty Senate Chairs would be involved in the final deliberations about the FY18 budget once that information is available. The FSEC also urged that the Budget Council be more involved in administrative budget conversations next year on an ongoing basis. VP Hathaway was very forthcoming and welcomed faculty involvement.

As this is my final Chair's report, I would like to thank the members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for their sound judgment, keen spirit of collaboration, and especially for all the hard work that they have put in on behalf of the Faculty Senate this year. And thanks to the vital staff who keep this show on the road. Stacey Bedgood provides institutional continuity and tireless support for the administration of the FSEC. And Sam Quick has been her outstanding assistant this year, doing whatever is asked of him with unfailing competence and good cheer. And, finally, thanks to all the Faculty Senators for contributing your time and resources to the important task of shared governance."

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Prof. Riggs thanked the outgoing senators for their contributions and presented them with certificates of appreciation for their service. Certificates of Appreciation were prepared for the following outgoing senators who completed full three-year terms (2014-17): Michael Bemben, Amy Bradshaw, Rich Cifelli, Joyce Coleman, James Hart, Brian Johnson, Paul Lawson, Patrick Livingood, Laurie Scrivener, Vassillios Sikavitsas, Duane Stock, Chris Weaver. Certificates also were also prepared for all senators whose terms expired and to the outgoing members of the Senate Executive Committee.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION TO PROF. WAYNE RIGGS, OUTGOING SENATE CHAIR

Prof. Riggs transferred the gavel to Prof. Ellis to represent her transition to Chair of the Faculty Senate for 2017-18. Prof. Ellis introduced a resolution of appreciation for Prof. Riggs, which was approved by applause.

WHEREAS Wayne has guided the Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate Executive Committee through a difficult year of continuing budget cuts, heightened concerns for external support for education and our international community, and changes in healthcare benefits, and

WHEREAS Wayne has diligently worked behind the scenes to advocate for faculty, staff, and their families for quick and significant improvements to the new healthcare coverage, and

WHEREAS, to that end Wayne has developed a close and effective working relationship with the University administration, and

WHEREAS Wayne has sought to create systemic change within our university, and

WHEREAS Wayne has valued and listened to diverse faculty input while leading the Faculty Senate, and

WHEREAS Wayne has set a new single meeting record for shortest Faculty Senate meeting, and

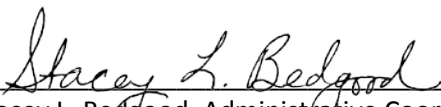
WHEREAS Wayne has served as a wise mentor, a compassionate sounding board, and good humored source of support for all who come into his sphere,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate expresses its appreciation to Wayne Riggs for his outstanding leadership and service for the academic year of 2016-2017.

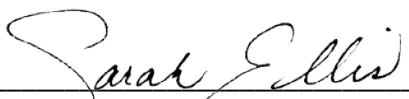
Prof. Ellis presented Prof. Riggs with an engraved clock and a certificate of appreciation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m. The next regular session of the Faculty Senate will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, September 11, 2017, in Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 102.



Stacey L. Bedgood, Administrative Coordinator



Sarah Ellis, Faculty Senate Chair-elect