

Senate Chair's Report for 14 November, 2022  
Dave Hambright

During the last month, the Faculty Senate Officers (Secretary Sarah Robbins, Chair-elect Hunter Heyck, Chair Dave Hambright), with the assistance of Past Presidents Megan Elwood Madden and Keri Kornelson, as well as members of the Provost's office (Grey Allman and Lizi Young) succeeded in recruiting and hiring an Administrative Manager for the Faculty Senate. Ann Seeley will begin 12 December, marking the end to three months without our Staff Assistant.

Other events:

During the past month, I have received numerous communications from faculty regarding concerns over the newly announced space policy, the growing presence and interference of new OU IT policies in faculty lives with respect to computers acquired through OU, and the increase in required on-line training sessions, all of which are directly or indirectly harming faculty productivity. I have been reaching out to various relevant administrative offices and will continue to advocate for the faculty.

Meetings attended: Faculty Senate Officers Robbins, Heyck, and Hambright met 11, 18, 25 October, and 1, 8 November to discuss various issues facing the Faculty Senate and to plan the agendas for upcoming meetings. I attended an inter-governance meeting with members of the SGA and Staff Senate to discuss a possible future polling place on campus, the ongoing safety concerns regarding Veo scooters, and the tremendous successes being recorded by the OU Food Pantry. At the request of the Provost, FSEC provided faculty nominees to the newly formed President's Advisory Committee for Post-tenure review, Endowment limits, and Merit pay (PACPEM), as well as faculty nominees for the search committee for the Director of the Native Nations Center. FSEC met with President Harroz on 19 October, during which we discussed issues, such as the new campus space policy and staffing issues. I reviewed and ranked dossiers for the John H. and Jane M. Patten Teaching Award (donor agreement stipulates that the Chair of FS serve on the committee). On 28 October I met with Provost Wright to prepare for the 31 October meeting between him and FSEC, in which we discussed a range of topics, including the possibility of conducting exit interviews for faculty who are leaving the university, an update on the developments in PACS, and faculty concerns regarding apparent two-tiered hiring plans focused separately on instruction and research. On 7 November, Chair-elect Heyck and I met Dr. Scott Dunning, a candidate for Director of the OU Polytech Institute. Later that day, FSEC met with Dorothy Anderson, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, and Matt Marks, Director and Campus Care Coordinator, and Nitin Rangu, Student Director, OU Food Pantry. We also set the agenda for the 14 November Faculty Senate meeting. Saturday, 12 November, I attended virtually the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Committee general meeting.