

Senate Chair's Report for 12 December, 2022
Dave Hambright

During the past short month (abbreviated by Thanksgiving Break, a freak accident, and a severe case of the flu), the Faculty Senate Chair-Elect and I met with Vice Provost Mark Morvant and Campus Space Manager Kacey Clark to finalize plans for the relocation of the Faculty Senate Office from 206 Jacobson Hall to 207/208 Chemistry. I received numerous communications from faculty regarding recent news of student strikes in the University of California system and the New School in NY.

Meetings attended: Faculty Senate Officers Robbins, Heyck, and Hambright met 15, 29 November, and 6, December to discuss various issues facing the Faculty Senate and to plan the agendas for upcoming meetings. I met with Vice President for Operations Brian Holderread to express faculty concerns regarding the new campus space policy that went into effect this semester. Discussion centered on the need for transparency and faculty involvement in such policies directly affecting faculty. We discussed the possibility of reinstating the Campus Planning Committee, as the current Campus Space Committee is void of faculty participation. I also met with CAS Associate Dean Georgia Kosmopoulou, Chair of the Faculty Honorifics and Awards Committee to discuss progress, process, and plans for the committee for the coming year. I met with OU Policy Director Jennifer Hembre to discuss her ongoing efforts to migrate the university's policy management program from the long-standing Faculty Handbook to an online policy management tool PolicyTech. To date, she has focused most of her attention on adding new policies, but will soon turn to migrating existing policies from the Faculty Handbook. I was unable to attend the November meeting of the OU Board of Regents due to an accident and illness.

FSEC met with Provost Wright on 28 November, during which we discussed various faculty issues, such as the new campus space policy and new encryption requirements from OUIT and their impacts on faculty research and morale. The Provost also shared updates on the OU Polytechnic Institute, including the search for its Director. Again, due to my illness, Chair-Elect Heyck and Secretary Sarah Robbins met with one of the candidates for the Polytechnic Institute Director. On 1 December, members of FSEC met with HR to discuss collection of faculty LGBTQ+ data, as is currently done only for students. FSEC also voted to appoint Xinyu Dai (Physics and Astronomy) to fill the at-large FSEC seat vacated by Amy McGovern (Computer Science). On 5 December, FSEC met with Stewart Berkinshaw, Associate Vice President and Chief Budget Officer (Norman Campus); Amy Noah, Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer, OU Foundation, and Gregg Garn, Vice President for Online Learning and Interim Dean, PACS. VP Berkinshaw addressed recent developments in Research Financial Services and the Shared Business Services Center. VP Noah gave a brief presentation on the OU Foundation and the new \$2 billion fund-raising campaign. VP Garn provided an overview of OU Online. On 6 (by phone) and 8 Dec (in person), I spoke with Vice President of Executive Affairs Sean Burrage regarding various recent discussions between members of FSEC, HR, and the President's Office.