

Senate Chair's Report for Summer 2022, Dave Hambright

I became Chair of the Faculty Senate on 9 May 2022. My first duties were to introduce resolutions of appreciation to Stacey Bedgood (Faculty Senate Administrative Manager) and Keri Kornelson (Outgoing Chair). On 11 May, FSEC met with Grant Thornton representatives to provide additional feedback on *Lead On* Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). I met with Provost Wright on 25 May to hear about the soon to be announced renovation of Jacobson Hall and the need for Faculty Senate offices to be relocated, most likely to Chemistry Building on the north oval, with FS meetings being moved to the Scholars' Room in the Union. Later that day, I met with OU Director of Benefits, Lee Camargo Quinn, to discuss possible changes (2023) in faculty benefits (the full Senate will receive an HR update in October.) Still later in the day, FSEC met with President Harroz and VP Sean Burrage. The President shared with FSEC that all executive officers and deans had undergone 360 evaluations. The process will be completed every three years going forward. The President also discussed the new Polytechnic Institute in Tulsa, the new record achieved in private donations, the upcoming raise program, the proposed tuition increases, and other university budget issues. President Harroz also indicated that the low staffing in Housekeeping and Food Services was temporary. On 25 and 31 May and 7 and 8 June, FSEC participated in interviews of four candidates for the University Ombudsperson Position. On 27 May, Provost Wright shared with FSEC the current Covid update from OU's Chief Covid Officer, Dr. Dale Bratzler.

On 13 June and again on 5 July, I met with VP Brian Holderead and Vice Provost Mark Morvant to discuss and tour potential new Faculty Senate Office space in Chemistry and Senate meeting space in the Union. Chair-elect Hunter Heyck and I joined new OU Regents Braught and Ross, and Regents Executive Secretary Tim Rhodes for lunch on 14 June as part of the new Regent Orientation program. We discussed various issues facing OU faculty and heard about their priorities for OU. FSEC met on 15 Jun to discuss and finalize our assessments of each Ombudsperson candidate which were then forwarded to VP Burrage for consideration. I had lunch with VP Burrage on 16 June to discuss various legislative topics and upcoming President/FSEC meetings. I attended the OU Regents meeting at the Health Sciences Center on 22 June. Provost Wright and I met on 24 June to discuss upcoming and potential reorganizations of PACS, CAGS, and CAS. On 27 June, invitations were issued to members of the new VPRP/Provost/FSEC Faculty Honorifics Committee, which is charged with enhancing the national and international profile of individual faculty members, as well as that of their department, college, and the entire University.

FSEC held a regular meeting on 11 July to prepare the FS officers for an upcoming meeting with the administration regarding the Dobbs decision and subsequent OK legislative action. FS Secretary Sarah Robbins and I met with President Harroz, Provost Wright, VP/Dean David Surratt, VP Burrage, and Interim Vice President & General Counsel Susanna Gattoni on 14 July to discuss potential impacts of recent legislative rulings on faculty, staff, and student retention and recruitment.

I was scheduled to participate in the New Faculty Orientation on the morning of 15 August, but due to a case of Covid, Chair-elect Heyck stood in for me. I was however able to hold a brief meeting of FSEC over zoom that day to discuss faculty questions submitted for the Presidential

State of the University (SOTU) Address and Discussion. I attended the VPRP Townhall remotely on 18 August. On 19 Aug, FSEC met to finalize the list of questions that would be asked of President Harroz during his SOTU address. FSEC met with Provost Wright on 22 August. He updated FSEC on the search for the director of the Tulsa Polytechnic Institute, the PACS reorganization, and H.B. 3702 and its potential impact on the University Libraries and the Gateway to Belonging Course. We asked the Provost about the possibility of upgrades to the Faculty Activity System, including increases in user-friendliness and discussed technology and staffing support for converting course materials to accessible educational materials. FSEC hosted the President's SOTU Address and Discussion on 24 August, after which I received Administrative Manager Stacey Bedgood's resignation letter along with news that she had landed an incredibly opportunistic position off campus. The following day, I began conversations with Provost Wright regarding the hiring of a new Administrative Manager. Several members of FSEC and I represented the faculty at Boyd House reception by President Harroz. On 29 August, FSEC met with Vice Provost Morvant to hear more about general academic issues; Associate Vice President of Tribal Relations, Tana Fitzpatrick, to learn about her plans for work with tribes; and Chief Government Affairs Officer, Hollye Hunt, regarding the upcoming legislative session. I led New Senator Orientation workshop on 31 Aug.

On 2 September, I interviewed the top candidates for the FS student assistant position. I met with Associate Provost Grey Allman on 7 September to discuss the FS Administrative Manager job description and position classification and salary and to begin the search. I met with VPRP Diaz de la Rubia to discuss impact of new legislation on faculty retention and recruitment in relation to the research components of the *Lead On* strategic plan.