

In Case You Missed It: Unofficial Recap of the Faculty Senate Meeting

These “ICYMI - meeting update” notes do not replace the formal Journal of the Faculty Senate that will be distributed later, and that will be approved at the next monthly meeting. Rather, these are notes and highlights from the perspective of FS Secretary Dave Hambright, with input from Stacey Bedgood (Administrative Coordinator), Chair-Elect Keri Kornelson, and Chair Amy Bradshaw.

April 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m. via phone call by Chair Bradshaw as she was experiencing Zoom™ issues on her computer. The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular meeting of 08 March 2021 was approved without revisions.

Announcements:

Chair Bradshaw:

- Reported the death of retired faculty member Robert J. Block (Chemical and Materials Engineering) on February 15, 2021.
- Announced that the Senate Executive Committee appointed Jonathan Lee (Mathematics), Christina Giacona (Music), Karen Feiner (First Year Comp/English), Rokhsana Alavi (PACS), Mike Weiser (Biology), Eric Bosse (Expository Writing), and Andreea Marculescu (MLLL) to serve on the Non-Regular Faculty Advisory (ad hoc) Committee.

Chair Bradshaw turned to the monthly Chair’s Report and asked for any questions or comments. Senator Butler asked for additional information about Academic Analytics. Chair Bradshaw said that the FSEC had given feedback and that a link in for additional information could be found in the Chair’s Report, and that faculty should expect to receive more information and training on Academic Analytics later. There were no other questions.

Chair Bradshaw then introduced Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Belinda Hyppolite, who provided Senators with a brief overview of her activities since first joining OU a year ago. VP Hyppolite also reported on the broad campus participation in the required diversity training and that the feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive. She pointed to her office’s newsletter at <https://www.ou.edu/diversity> as the best way to stay up-to-date with her office.

Chair Bradshaw then asked for approval of the Faculty Compensation and Benefits committee’s proposed expansion by two additional members. The proposal had been distributed at The March FS meeting. There were no additional questions or discussion, and the Faculty Senate voted to approve the change.

Chair Bradshaw then turned to the election of the new FS officers for 2021-22, reminding Senators that candidate statements had been previously distributed. She also called for additional nominations from the floor, but there were none. Electronic voting resulting in electing Secretary Hambright for Chair-Elect, and At-large FSEC Member Eaton as Secretary.

Chair Bradshaw then turned to discussion of the new retiree health benefits and invited Prof. (emeritus) Steve Livesey, who was joined by retirees Fran Ayres, Connie Dillon, and Janis Paul, to present the retiree concerns regarding the new 2021 OU health plan. Following the presentation and voicing of grave concerns, FCBC Chair Natale indicated that the FCBC would be meeting the following day with the retiree representatives and HR representatives.

Chair Bradshaw introduced VP for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Surratt, who is also Co-Chair of the Provost Search Committee, to provide a brief update on the provost search. Following that update, VP/Dean Surratt invited questions from the Senate, but there were none.

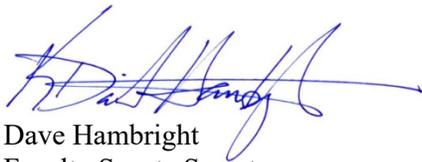
Chair-elect Kornelson announced that the Committee on Committees has nominated two candidates for each of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at-large member vacancies, that statements from each candidate were provided in the meeting's agenda, and that the Senate will vote in the new at-large members during the May 2021 meeting.

Chair-elect Kornelson then presented the list (provided in the meeting agenda) of Committee on Committees nominees to fill vacant positions on university and campus councils, committees, and boards and Faculty Senate standing committees, and stated that the Senate will vote on these nominees at the May Faculty Senate meeting.

Finally, Chair Bradshaw called for New Business, of which there was none.

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

The official Faculty Senate Journal will be made available in draft form prior to the next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting (10 May 2021) for approval during that meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Hambright", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dave Hambright
Faculty Senate Secretary