

## **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.*

### **March 08, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Bradshaw. The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular meeting of 08 February 2021 was approved without revisions.

#### **Announcements:**

Chair Bradshaw:

- Announced that the Office of the Vice President for Research & Partnerships has announced six new Norman Campus-Wide Research and Creative Activity Awards. The deadline for nominations was 19 March 2021.
- Called for volunteers for faculty interested in running for an At-Large Member role on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Interested faculty should contact Chair-Elect and Chair, Committee on Committees Keri Kornelson (kkornelson@ou.edu) and submit brief bios by 02 April 2021.
- Reported the death of retired faculty member Louis Ederington (Finance) on 04 February 2021.
- Announced that the Senate Executive Committee elected Wayne Riggs (Philosophy) to replace Rick Tepker (Law) as Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate and Regular Faculty for the remainder of the 2020-21 academic year. Prof. Tepker resigned from the Faculty Senate because of a class conflict this semester.

Chair Bradshaw turned to the monthly Chair’s Report and asked for any questions or comments. There were none.

Chair Bradshaw then introduced University Libraries Scholarly Communication Taskforce. Prof. Katherine Pandora and Prof. J.P. Masly spoke on behalf of the taskforce, which was formed in the fall of 2019 and tasked with identifying actions and best practices from peer institutions that OU community members can take to have the most positive impact upon the creation of an open, sustainable scholarly communication system at OU. During the last year, the taskforce studied multiple scholarly communications issues and identified some of the most prominent challenges which were presented to the Faculty Senate, along with ten recommendations for addressing these challenges. Details will be made available in their report, “Finding the Balance: Creating an Open, Sustainable Future for OU,” which can be found at <https://libraries.ou.edu/content/university-libraries-committee-%E2%80%93-scholarly-communication-taskforce>. The taskforce will spend the coming months engaging OU community members regarding the report and their recommendations. Subsequent discussion included the possibility of departmental presentations by the taskforce and impacts of recommendations of the tenure and promotion process.

Chair Bradshaw then asked Chair-Elect and Chair, Committee on Committees Keri Kornelson to update the Senate on the upcoming elections for the Senate officers. Prof. Kornelson said that we have two candidates for Chair-elect and three candidates for Secretary. There are statements from each candidate provided in the agenda. She added that the Senate would invite all the candidates to the next meeting to answer any questions, followed by a vote. Candidates could also be nominated from the floor at the next meeting before the vote.

Chair Bradshaw then turned to a proposed change to the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee (FCBC) and asked Chair, FCBC Anthony Natale to detail the proposal, which was included in agenda. Chair Natale said that the FCBC has been very active and requests that the membership be increased from five to seven members. There were no questions. Since this is a change to the bylaws, Parliamentarian Riggs recommended that the proposed change will be voted on at the April Faculty Senate meeting to give senators time to consult with their constituents.

Chair Bradshaw then opened discussion of an ad hoc non-regular faculty advisory committee. Chair Bradshaw said that the Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) and the FSEC have been discussing for several months the situation of non-regular faculty and their possible lack of participation in shared governance as they are not represented by the Faculty or Staff Senates. The FWC and the FSEC recommend the formation of Non-Regular Faculty Advisory (ad hoc) Committee to explore, consider, and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding shared governance representation for faculty not included in OU's definition of Regular Faculty. The Faculty Senate voted to affirm the creation of this ad hoc committee by the FSEC.

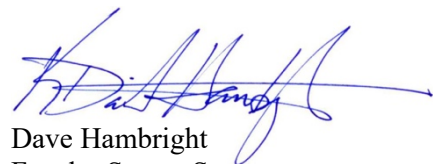
Finally, Chair Bradshaw said that the FSEC was contacted by several OU retired faculty members regarding the changes that were made to the retiree medical insurance coverage. After several comments reflecting poor communication about changes to the OU Benefits plan in general, Chair Bradshaw recognized retired Prof. Steve Livesey who said that the concern from many is the shift from a traditional Medicare supplement to a Medicare advantage plan and that this was communicated too late for retirees to look for alternatives. He said that there are also restrictions on the ability of retirees to shift between plans under Medicare. Prof. Livesey agreed to put together a few slides that describe retiree concerns that can be shared with Human Resources, the Senate, and other retirees.

FCBC Chair Natale stated in the chat that the next meeting of the FCBC is 13 April 2021 from 10:00 - 11:30 am. He asked concerned faculty and retirees to contact him at [anatale@ou.edu](mailto:anatale@ou.edu) if they would like a Zoom invite to the meeting. Chair Bradshaw said that we would have an opportunity to revisit this issue at the April Faculty Senate meeting.

Chair Bradshaw then moved to New Business, for which there was none.

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

The official Faculty Senate Journal will be made available in draft form prior to the next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting (12 April 2021) for approval during that meeting.

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

Dave Hambricht  
Faculty Senate Secretary