

In Case You Missed It: An Unofficial (and a little tardy) Recap of the November 2021 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 highlights interpreted and presented by FS Secretary Kalenda Eaton, based on general meeting notes from Stacey Bedgood (Administrative Coordinator).

November 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Kornelson. Chair Kornelson read the [Land Acknowledgement](#). The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular meeting of October 11, 2021, was approved without revisions.

Announcements (via Chair Kornelson):

- Chair Kornelson recognized our new senator from Fine Arts, Prof. Lloyd Cracknell of Drama. Welcome!
- The remaining regular meetings of the Faculty Senate for 2021-22 will be held at 3:30 p.m. on the following Mondays: December 13, January 25 (if needed), February 14, March 21, April 11, and May 9. Meetings of the Senate are regularly open to attendance by all members of the University Community and representatives of the press.
- The following faculty will serve on the 2021-22 Academic Program Review Committee (APRC): Roksana Alavi-Robb (PACS), Michael Bearden (Dance), Khosrow Bozorgi (Architecture), John Paul Broussard (Finance), Peter Froslic (Visual Arts), Rita Keresztesi (English), Mukremin Kilic (Physics and Astronomy), Lara Mayeux (Psychology), and Li Song (Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering). The units to be reviewed are African and African American Studies, Film and Media Studies, Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, and Human and Health Services Admin (PACS).
- Details/FAQs of the OU Vaccine Requirement for employees will be added to <https://www.ou.edu/together/vaccine> as they become available. Questions may be submitted to vaccine@ou.edu. The deadline to meet the requirement is ~~now January 4, 2022...~~ **[Breaking News Update: the enforcement of the federal COVID-19 vaccine requirement for federal subcontractors has been temporarily blocked by a federal court. Therefore, the January 4, 2022, deadline is not currently being enforced by the university, unless you fall in one of the categories described in the Human Resources memo sent on December 8, 2021. If you have further questions about this development, contact Human Resources at vaccine@ou.edu].**
- The Faculty Senate is sad to report the death of retired faculty member William Shelton (Biology) on October 14, 2021.

Chair Kornelson asked if there were questions or comments about any of the items in the Chair’s report. There were none; however, a senator expressed concern about potential resignations among OU staff members due to the employee vaccine mandate.

Chair Kornelson introduced the Director of the “Gateway to Belonging at OU” (UCOL 1523-GBO) course, Dr. Adrienne Carter-Sowell. Dr. Carter-Sowell presented a thorough overview of the GBO course including information about the original timeline to launch the course; activities during the pilot semesters (fall 2021 and winter session 2021), including a review of student feedback; ideas for revising

the course for spring 2022; and research relevant to the course. After the presentation, senators asked questions about: the number of course offerings (Ans: currently sufficient at fifty sections), the role of the additional courses added: “Ethical Leadership” and “Global Engagement” (Ans: they will be coordinated and overseen separately by the University College Dean’s office), if data will be collected to assess if the intended student needs are being addressed with the GBO course (Ans: yes, this is an ongoing process), and if the course might be opened to other students in the future (Ans: possibly, but right now the resources only allow for a focus on incoming first-year and transfer students). Director Carter-Sowell welcomed senators to reach out to her directly at arcartersowell@ou.edu with any additional questions or comments.

Next, Chair Kornelson introduced Andrew Pollock, Interim Executive Director, Office of Technology Commercialization who presented proposed changes to the Intellectual Property Policy. The Faculty Senate will vote on the changes at the December meeting. Andrew Pollock stated that many of the proposed modifications are focused on updating outdated administrative positions and titles in the document. However, other changes discussed in the meeting focused on revenue distribution, licensing, and risk-sharing for intellectual property. The new options for sponsors “will either result in a commercial nonexclusive royalty-free license or a prepaid commercial exclusive license.” Sponsors can select at the time of award which they want, but the PI must approve. For example, “...if the faculty does not want to grant access to the intellectual property (if they would rather wait until the time at the end) as part of the negotiation then the Office of Research Services team” will work with the sponsor to inform them that this option is not currently available.

After the presentation, there were questions about if peer institutions have developed similar models (Ans: the office reviewed similar policies at Purdue, Georgia Tech, Kansas State, Iowa State, Minnesota, and Oklahoma State University). Mr. Pollock stated that “some universities granted the full inventor’s share upfront while others waited until the end to compensate the inventor.” [OU is choosing] “a path that both incentivizes faculty to engage in the program and disclosure of intellectual property so that the team can be compensated on the back end.”

There were no additional questions and Chair Kornelson reminded the senators that they will be voting on this proposal at the December Senate meeting. Mr. Pollock asked that anyone with questions email him at arpollock@ou.edu.

Next, Chair Kornelson introduced Prof. Jenel Cavazos, a member of the Teaching Scholars Initiative Steering Committee (TSISC) and Prof. Megan Elwood Madden, Director of the Center for Faculty Excellence to discuss a proposal for “repurposing” the committee. The new initiative would be for the former TSISC to be renamed to the “Faculty Scholars Steering Committee” for the Center for Faculty Excellence. Under the new title, it would also have a new charge including reviewing programming, meeting with program directors, yet would still maintain the teaching mission of the committee. A senator asked if there was a connection between the TSISC committee and the Teaching Scholars award currently given in the College of Engineering. Director Elwood Madden said that she was not aware of a connection.

After further discussion about the history of the award, there were no additional questions about the proposal. Chair Kornelson thanked both Profs. Cavazos and Elwood Madden. Chair Kornelson reminded senators there will be a vote on this change at the December Faculty Senate meeting.

Next, Chair Kornelson brought a few items up for vote:

(A) The Senate voted to approve the nominations by the Senate's Committee on Committees of Prof. Dave Parsons (Meteorology) for a term of 2021-24 and Prof. Greg McFarquhar (Meteorology) for a term of 2021-25 to fill vacancies on the Faculty Appeals Board (FAB).

(B) The Senate was presented with the Minors on Campus, Accessible Course Materials, Data Governance, and Data Privacy items for a vote.

1. There was no further discussion about the Minors on Campus policy and the Senate voted to approve the updates to the Minors on Campus policy.
2. There was no further discussion about the Accessible Course Materials policy and the Senate voted to approve the updates to the Accessible Course Materials policy.
3. There was a discussion about the Data Governance Policy and questions about personal research data on OU computers. Ms. Livingood said that generally, the policy would include data that is discoverable under an open records request. She added that it may apply to data created under federal funding, but not data that was not created under a federal grant. After further discussion, (and an important clarification from Senator Raymond explaining that the responsibilities defined by the research project decide whether the data is accessible or not) the majority of the Senate voted to approve updates to the Data Governance policy.
4. There was no further discussion about the Data Privacy policy and the Senate voted to approve the updates to the Data Privacy policy.

Chair Kornelson called for new business. There was none.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:58 p.m. (Woohoo!)

The official Faculty Senate Journal will be made available in draft form prior to the next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting (December 13, 2021) for approval during that meeting.

Kalenda Eaton
Faculty Senate Secretary