

Ohio University Faculty Senate
Monday, September 8, 2014
Room 235, Margaret M. Walter Hall, 7:10pm
Meeting Minutes

In attendance

- *College of Arts and Sciences*: E. Ammarell, N. Bernstein, C. Elster, S. Hays, G. Holcomb, N. Manring, K. Mattson, R. Palmer, B. Quitslund, L. Rice, D. Tees, K. Uhalde, S. Wyatt
- *College of Business*: K. Hartman, T. Luce, Z. Sarikas
- *College of Fine Arts*: C. Buchanan, G. Kamile, A. Hibbitt, D. Thomas
- *College of Health Sciences and Professions*: T. Basta, B. Sindelar, J. White
- *Group II*: D. Duvert
- *Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine*: S. Inman, S. Walkowski, S. Williams
- *Patton College of Education*: G. Brooks, D. Carr, K. Machtmes
- *Regional Campus – Chillicothe*: B. Trube
- *Regional Campus – Eastern*: J. Casebolt
- *Regional Campus – Lancaster*: L. Trautman
- *Regional Campus – Southern*: D. Marinski
- *Regional Campus – Zanesville*: A. White
- *Russ College of Engineering*: J. Cotton, B. Stuart, G. Suer
- *Scripps College of Communication*: A. Babrow, B. Reader
- *Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs*: A. Ruhil

Excused: R. Althaus, C. Bartone, B. Bates, S. Carson, H. Castillo, S. Doty, G. Kessler, C. Snyder, J. Taylor

Absent: (none)

MEETING AGENDA

- I. President Roderick McDavis and Executive Vice President & Provost Pam Benoit
- II. Vice President for Finance & Administration Steve Golding: Century Bond
- III. Roll Call and Approval of the May 5, 2014 Minutes
- IV. Chair's Report
 - College Ethics Committee Nominations
 - Updates and Announcements
 - Upcoming Senate Meeting: Monday, October 13, 2014 in Walter Hall 235
- V. Executive Committee (Beth Quitslund)
 - Resolution to Update the Composition of the Committee on Committees—First Reading
 - Resolution to Change the Date of Election for the Ohio Faculty Council Representative—First Reading
 - Resolution to Change the Update Methods of Notification for Faculty Senate Meetings—First Reading
- VI. Professional Relations Committee (Sarah Wyatt)
 - Resolution to Provide Consistent Language in Sections II.C and II.D of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to Faculty Rank and Status and Appointments—First Reading
 - Resolution to Provide Clarity in Sections II. C. of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to Faculty Rank and Status—First Reading

- Resolution to Provide Clarity in Sections II. C. of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to the Position of Assistant Lecturer—First Reading
 - VII. Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee (Ruth Palmer)
 - Resolution to Revise Language Concerning Notifications of Medical Visits—Second Reading
 - VIII. Finance & Facilities Committee (Ben Stuart)
 - IX. Promotion & Tenure Committee (Kevin Mattson)
 - X. New Business
 - XI. Adjournment
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Meeting called to order by Beth Quitsland (Faculty Senate Chair) at 7:12pm.

I. President McDavis

- ❖ McDavis extended a welcome back to all attendees.
- ❖ Topic 1: NCAA Division 1 Change of Governance. In July, the NCAA Division 1 Board of Directors voted 16-2 to adopt major revisions to its governance structure, which include the following modifications:
 - The number of Board members has been increased from 18 to 24, and includes the addition of an athletic director, a student-athlete, a member of the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association, and a campus senior woman athletics administrator. The Board will focus on oversight and strategic issues.
 - The Leadership and Legislative councils have been disbanded and replaced with a single Council. The Council will oversee day-to-day operations and legislative issues. The Council will include 40 members and will be comprised of 32 conference representatives, two student-athletes, two faculty, and four conference commissioners. At least 60% of the 32 conference representative seats will be held by athletic directors.
 - Each of the 65 schools involved in the governance process will receive one vote. Each conference will provide three student athlete representatives, who will also have one vote each.

This decision to adopt a new governance structure will provide limited autonomy for the 65 “Big 5” institutions in areas such as athletics recruiting, financial support, career planning, medical coverage and benefits. The restructuring will allow more resources to be used for academic support of student athletes and provide the ability to restrict the amount of time an athlete devotes to sports-related activities. There is a 60-day period following this announcement during which time universities can express concern and disapproval. The board may reverse, reconsider, or reject the decision, depending on the number of universities that comment.

- ❖ Topic 2: O’Bannon v. NCAA. In July 2009, Ed O’Bannon, former UCLA Bruins men’s basketball player for their 1995 NCAA champion team, became the lead plaintiff in an antitrust lawsuit after recognizing himself in a video game – his likeness was being used without his consent and without compensation. Last month, U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilkin “issued an injunction that prohibits the N.C.A.A. from enforcing rules that bar member schools and conferences from offering football players and men’s basketball players in the most prominent programs a limited share of the revenues generated from the use of their names, images, and likenesses.” If upheld, the injunction will affect prospective student-athletes who enroll in college before July 1, 2016. The ruling does not mandate that schools must pay players – likewise, the NCAA cannot prevent schools from doing so. At this point, it is unclear as to how this ruling will or will not affect Ohio University or if it will affect Ohio University.

- ❖ Topic 3: Presidential Advisory Council for Sexual Misconduct. In the State of the University address, McDavis announced plans to establish a Presidential Advisory Council on Sexual Misconduct. The council formalizes the good work that has been occurring in various Ohio University offices to address and prevent sexual misconduct of all types. The council expands the membership of that working group to specifically add faculty and student representatives. McDavis will be in touch for nominations for that council. The council will be charged with providing recommendations about modifications and improvements, providing recommendations for University-wide online resources, creating/administering campus climate surveys, and creating university-wide information campaigns. Ultimately, it will be up to the council to ensure we are doing everything possible to create a positive campus climate and culture. McDavis noted that he looks forward to the ways in which the Faculty Senate will bolster the existing cooperative approach to address sexual misconduct at Ohio University.

I. Executive Vice President & Provost Pam Benoit

- ❖ Benoit extended a welcome back to all attendees.
- ❖ Topic 1: Enrollment/Retention. Benoit provided updates about enrollment and retention information.
 - **Freshman** applications overall increased by 170 applicants for a total of 20,935. Total freshman enrollment is 4,378, which represents an increase of 134 students (3.1%). Total freshman enrollment is also a record. There was a slight decrease in out-of-state students (4.5%); most of the decrease was international students. As such, the increase was primarily from in-state students. The University had great growth of Appalachian county students to a total of 744, which is an increase of 67 students or 10%. This growth may be attributed to new need-based aid programs. The University had growth in students of first generation, highest since we started to record it in 2010. First generation student growth was 171 (19%) students, which could also be attributed to scholarship re-design. First generation students represent 26.2% of our freshman class. There was growth in freshman enrollment across colleges with the exception of the College of Fine Arts and University College. The freshman class has an average composite ACT- 23.9, a loss of 0.1 over last year (24.0 last year) and an average high school GPA- 3.43, an increase of 0.01 over last year (3.42 last year).
 - **Overall**, Athens undergraduate programs had a growth of 290 (378 FTE) to 17,663, which represents a record increase of 1.7%. Graduate programs including all campus and online graduation programs had a growth of 367 (208 FTE) to 4,912, which represents a record increase of 8.1%. The Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine had an increase of 71 (71 FTE) to 610, which represents a record increase of 13.1%. Enrollment in e-learning programs had a decrease of 260 to 5,498 (4.5%). Enrollment at the regional campuses had a decrease of 192 students to 9,889 (1.9%). Total OHIO enrollment is currently 38,572, which is an increase of 211 (0.72%).
 - **Benoit** mentioned that preliminary retention numbers look good. She thanked the faculty for their contributions and support of Ohio University students.
- ❖ Topic 2: Innovation Strategy. Benoit provided information about the Innovation Strategy and opportunities for feedback. Benoit stated that innovation is important in higher education due to changes in the internal and external environment. The [Ohio University Innovation Strategy report](http://www.ohio.edu/research/innovationstrategy.cfm) is available electronically through the Vice President for Research and Creative Activities (<http://www.ohio.edu/research/innovationstrategy.cfm>). The interim innovation report is an initial framework created by the Deans in collaboration with Eva Klein & Associates (EKA), which is a higher education consulting firm that specializes in strategic planning. The intent is to advance forward-looking strategies for collaborative research and innovative academic programs that benefit OHIO students and faculty, while engaging with communities regionally and globally. Benoit stated

that the development of an Innovation Strategy and a process to make targeted investment in multi-college, interdisciplinary research and teaching is the purpose of this endeavor. The next step is to collect feedback from faculty and staff. Interested faculty and staff are encouraged to review the report and attend an informational session to provide input about the process, which will be finalized and rolled out in the next few months. Open forums are being held in the Baker University Center Theater on Wednesday, September 10 from 9 to 10 AM and Tuesday, September 16 from 1 to 2 PM. Benoit encourages faculty who are unable to attend the sessions to review the interim report and provide written feedback.

- The Innovation Strategy Interim Report details four key portfolios that EKA identifies as key areas of potential focus as the University moves forward in the next few decades. Niches within these portfolios have been identified as potential candidates for investment, based on their importance to society, the University's existing strengths in these areas, and the potential for high-level impact. By construction, niches called out in this process are interdisciplinary in character and have the potential to build from the resources of more than one academic college. The identified portfolios include the following: (1) Digitally Connected World: This portfolio encompasses new communication technologies, digital literacy, and the means by which innovation can create new forms of community; (2) Energy, Environment, and the Economy: This portfolio looks at society's long-term energy future, energy generation, environmentally responsible technologies, and environmental mediation and remediation; (3) Health and Wellness: This portfolio addresses public health, outreach to underserved populations, the art and science of health care delivery, and emerging and novel technologies; and (4) Vibrant Societies and Economies: This portfolio investigates human capital, arts and culture as forces for economic prosperity, and entrepreneurship and economic development. Participation by the faculty is needed in order to review the niches for potential investment identified in the interim report, and to address potential revisions to be included in a final report. Written comments will be solicited from all interested faculty and staff. The final report will be accompanied by a call for proposals that specify a proposal submission and review process leading to a selection of initiatives to be awarded central funding.
- ❖ Topic 3: ModernThink Survey. Benoit reminded the Faculty Senate about the high faculty participation rates (60%) in the ModernThink survey in Spring 2014 and thanked Senate leaders for initiating the project, engaging in the first phases of the project including instrument evaluation/selection, and encouraging participation. The next phase of the project is to appoint a Campus Climate Task Force. Invitations for this group have been sent to 18 faculty and staff; replies are in process. The Task Force will have members from across the campus including representatives from the Senates and representatives from offices who can provide input into recommendations including Facilities, Human Resources, Culinary, Office of the Provost, etc. The Task Force will interpret the results and determine what action steps can be recommended. The quantitative results were received this summer; the qualitative results have not been received. Based upon a review of other institutions who participate in the ModernThink survey, there are several next steps: interpreting the results, developing a communication plan for disseminating the results (including a website that is already in the process of development), developing recommendations for campus climate "quick wins" (i.e., recommendations that can be quickly and immediately implemented), and developing recommendations for campus climate action plans. The timeline for submitting recommendations to President McDavis is set for March 2015.
- ❖ Questions and Discussions
 - **Wyatt** asked a question about scheduling the Innovation Strategy open forums during times that interfere with multiple classes. Benoit responded by stating that space large enough to accommodate potential attendees across the campus is limited. Unfortunately, this was the only

time that rooms were available. Benoit asked for written comments for any faculty who are unable to attend.

- **Casebolt** asked for clarification about whether or not Regional campuses would be involved with the Campus Climate Task Force given that Regional campuses participated in the ModernThink survey. Benoit responded by stating that Regional campuses should be involved in the process and should have representation on the Task Force. Benoit noted that she would follow-up to ensure that Regional campuses were represented and involved in the process.
- **Geist** asked if the Innovation Strategies Forums would be webcast for those who are unable to attend. Benoit responded in the affirmative. Benoit also stated that the webcasts should be available online for review after the Forums as well.
- **Mattson** asked if the ModernThink survey results will just be released as raw data. Benoit stated that the quantitative data will be released via the website. Benoit also stated that the qualitative data is also important to provide context.
- **Rice** asked for clarification about the innovation strategy as related to global issues. Specifically, does the Innovation Strategy include collaboration between OHIO and other institutions? Benoit responded by stating that the interim report had a number of global issues across the niches. In addition, proposals for collaboration may be possible for the future.
- **Hibbitt** asked about funding for projects and plans related to the Innovation Strategy. Specifically, if the money is considered as one-time, seed money or permanent money? Benoit said that the money should be considered as one-time money yet there may be more permanent money from other opportunities for funding.
- **Quitslund** asked Vice President for Research and Creative Activity Joseph **Shields** to provide information about the process for the Innovation Strategy after the forums. Shields stated that the public forums are just one means for generating feedback and discussion. Shields stated that they are asking for written feedback until October 20, 2014. Written feedback may be provided via e-mail to research@ohio.edu.

II. Vice President for Finance & Administration Steve Golding: Century Bond

- ❖ Topic 1: Deferred Maintenance Problem. Golding provided some information about the deferred maintenance backlog on the Athens campus. During the past four years, the OHIO backlog has grown from \$78 per square foot to \$86 per square foot, which is an increase from \$413M to \$456M. That manifests in tunnel collapses, heating/cooling issues, plumbing failures, water failures, electric failures, etc. Golding stated that continuing with previous practices will not address the problems. In addition, it is not likely that the State of Ohio will change its practices related to capital investments/improvements that will give OHIO the kind of funding it needs to take care of the facility issues that we have. Therefore, finding a solution to address the needs year over year is important.
- ❖ Topic 2: Century Bond. With the help of investment bankers, OHIO would like to develop a central “bank” that is capitalized with \$250M. The Central Bank model is built on the assumption that OHIO will issue an additional \$250 million in debt in order to fund deferred maintenance projects. The issuance will likely be in the form of taxable Century Bonds. The bank would have a process to provide a revolving program to that allows for \$13-\$15M per year for deferred maintenance problems across the Athens campus. The theory is to sell Century Bonds in which the principal does not need to be paid back for 100 years. This model would allow OHIO to reduce the need to take out more external debt, where the Central Bank can be used as a means to reinvest existing funds into University infrastructure. The model would provide a process for internal loans that would then have payback to the University. OHIO would have the principal available for major investments and will have reasonable withdraws such that interest earned will pay for interest owed. Golding stated that

OHIO would need to set aside an annual amount of \$13 million for loan payments yet this would reduce the amount of borrowing over time. The idea has been presented to the OHIO Board of Trustees twice. OHIO has met with rating agencies as recently as today (September 8, 2014). Rating agencies have been on the Athens campus and recognize needs, risks, and innovation of the strategy to address the need. Golding stated that OHIO will go to market in October.

❖ Questions and Discussions

- **Quitslund** asked for clarification about the Central Bank model. Golding stated that the University essentially borrows from itself and pays itself back. For example, if a program or unit or whatnot borrows from the central administration, then the program pays it back. This will formalize that process such that repayment is made in a timeframe required by the debt.
- **Casebolt** asked about needs at the Regional campuses. Golding stated that the regional campuses do not have the same needs as the Athens campus because several of the buildings at regional are newer, etc. However, the program is not necessarily restricted to Athens campus.
- **Hays** asked for clarification for the borrowing – payback system under the RCM model. Golding stated that the OHIO is working with RCM leaders such that units will be fairly charged for borrowing.
- **Hays** asked for clarification about how the Century Bond is designed in terms of interest rates. Golding stated that it is a fixed rated and taxable; recommendations have been for less than 5.5%. Golding emphasized that now is a good time for Century Bonds given the recent results of other institutions. However, the program can be set-up such that we could sell 50 year bonds if we could not sell 100 year bonds. Golding also stated that debt is relatively inexpensive in current market conditions.
- **Inman** asked for clarification about whether or not facilities associated with the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine would be eligible for the money. Golding stated that all programs are eligible for deferred maintenance funding. Golding also stated that other capital funds will also be available in different ways.
- **Elster** asked if there is a clear path for how to order or prioritize projects across campus. Golding stated that, until two years ago, there was no budget for deferred maintenance. Currently, using the state appropriation, there is a guarantee to spend \$10M per year on deferred maintenance. After we have capital resources, we will have the tools to deal with the problems and will be able to prioritize projects even if the path will be years long given that the need is currently \$456M.
- **Holcomb** asked about the risk of investment. Golding stated that the program would initiate on a small scale and then launch on a larger scale after testing. Golding also stated that the approach is relatively conservative.
- **Holcomb** asked about socially-responsible investing. Golding stated that there has been a socially-responsible portfolio established through the University Foundation. Currently, there are three student groups – Fixed Income Management (College of Business), Student Equity Management (College of Business), and the Sustainable Investing Advisory Committee (Office of Sustainability)- managing a \$4M investment each. Half of the money is allocated to a socially-responsible portfolio and half of the money is allocated to a traditional portfolio. To the best of his knowledge, this is the only program like this in the United States.

III. Roll Call and Approval of the May 5, 2014 Minutes

- ❖ Roll call (**Hartman**)
- ❖ **Wyatt** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **Casebolt**. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

IV. Chair's Report (Beth Quitslund)

- ❖ Topic 1: College Professional Ethics Committee and Dean Evaluation Committee Nominations. The Chair announced the need for committee nominations from Senators. First, Quitslund announced that all colleges/campuses need a new Professional Ethics Committee appointee except for *Russ College of Engineering* and *Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs*. Quitslund noted that identifying committee members prior to needing the committee is important. Second, Quitslund announced that all colleges/campuses need nominees for the Dean Evaluation Committee except for the Southern Regional Campus and Zanesville Regional Campus. It was also noted that Dean Evaluations might be earlier this academic year as compared to the previous academic year. Quitslund asked senators to please caucus at the end of the meeting. If Senators were unable to stay until the end of the meeting, Quitslund asked that nominees be submitted using an individual form before leaving.
- ❖ Topic 2: Updating Dates
 - **Innovation Strategy Open Forums** will be held in in the Baker Center Theater. The two forums are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 9 to 10 AM and Tuesday, Sept. 16 from 1 to 2 PM. If anyone is unable to attend in person, they will be livestreamed. The link for the Sept. 10 meeting is <http://www.ohio.edu/mediaserver/live.cfm?videoid=d4732baaad08>. The link for Sept. 16 is <http://www.ohio.edu/mediaserver/live.cfm?videoid=15fedel1a3dd8>.
 - There will be informational events for the **Passport to the OHIO Guarantee** to familiarize faculty and staff with the guaranteed tuition and fees that will roll out for new incoming students next year. Although the guaranteed tuition rates are only applied to student while they are taking Athens campus classes, all faculty are encouraged to attend. Quitslund strongly encouraged attendance for all who have a role in student recruitment. Dates are Wednesday, September 10, Tuesday, October 7, or Wednesday, Nov. 12. Meetings for half-hour timeslots between 2:30-4:00 PM in the Walter Hall Rotunda. There will be refreshments. Those who want to attend should RSVP through the following website: https://jfe.qualtrics.com/form/SV_bJWxgLmOFIFbx3v.
 - **Chat with the 'Cats** is an event sponsored by the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee to promote conversation between faculty and the Athletics Department. The event will take place from 12-1 on Thursday, September 25 in Baker Center.
 - **Nominations for the Awards for Excellence in Global Engagement** are due Friday, September 12. These are sponsored by Ohio University's International Education Week Committee and will be presented during this year's International Education Week, Nov. 15-20. Faculty, staff and alumni are eligible for the awards. Details on the awards and nomination process are available at <http://www.ohio.edu/compass/stories/13-14/6/nominations-awards-excellence-global-engagement-2014.cfm>.
- ❖ Topic 3: Email Migration. The University's email migration has had some delays due to delay with migrating graduate students. To date, most graduate and medical students have been shifted onto the cloud-based service. The shift means that calendars are no longer on our systems, which has been problematic in some cases. On September 20th, the Office of Information Technology plans to add an Exchange Hybrid server that will allow faculty and staff on Exchange the ability to see free/busy status of students on Catmail and vice versa, which should alleviate some of the problems. For any graduate students who need to access Exchange, we can accommodate them with Guest Accounts. Faculty migration is now scheduled to start sometime in October.
- ❖ Topic 4: Questions for the Board of Trustees. The Board would like to have questions prior to presenting to the Faculty Senate at the next meeting. Any questions for the Board of Trustees should

be submitted to the Faculty Senate Chair by September 25. The Faculty Senate Chair will put together summary of questions.

- ❖ Topic 5: Minor Changes to the Faculty Handbook. In accordance with a recently passed resolution granting rights to make minor grammar or consistency changes to the Faculty Handbook, a revised version of the Faculty Handbook with suggested corrections has been available via the Faculty Senate website over the past few weeks. This meeting marks the last time anyone can object to grammar changes to the faculty handbook. Quitslund mentioned two additional corrections for approval: (1) changing the name “College of Osteopathic Medicine” to “Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine” in Section II.C.3.d and (2) changing the “Centers for Osteopathic Regional Education” to “Centers for Osteopathic Research and Education (CORE) System.” These are parallel to name change updates incorporated in the marked corrections. A revised version of the Faculty Handbook will be available next week.
- ❖ Topic 6: Upcoming Senate Meeting. Monday, October 13, Walter Hall 235
- ❖ Questions and Discussions
 - **Casebolt** asked about whether or not there was a tentative date was set for completing the e-mail migration. Quitslund stated that there were currently no stated expectations regarding how long the e-mail migration for faculty will take.

V. Executive Committee (Beth Quitslund)

- ❖ Resolution to Update the Composition of the Committee on Committees—First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the Executive Committee to amend language in Section VII.A (“University Committees”) of the Faculty Handbook. The Committee on Committee requires representation from each of the campus constituents who provide nominations for standing committees. The Committee’s practice is well established and differs from the description in the Faculty Handbook. The amended language modifies select position titles from chairperson to chair, adds the chair of the Classified Senate, and adjusts the Student Senate representative from Vice-President to President.
- ❖ Resolution to Change the Date of Election for the Ohio Faculty Council Representative—First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the Executive Committee to amend language of the faculty senate bylaws in Section VI.C (“Ohio University Representative to the Ohio Faculty Council”) of the Faculty Handbook. The amended language modifies the month of the Ohio Faculty Council Representation election from April to May. Electing the Representative in May is consistent with the Faculty Senate chair’s term start date.
- ❖ Resolution to Change the Update Methods of Notification for Faculty Senate Meetings—First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the Executive Committee to amend language of the faculty senate bylaws in Section VI.B.4.a of the Faculty Handbook. The current language requires notification of meetings by campus mail, U.S. mail, or telephone. The current language also requires telephone notification to be provided to a responsible person at the member’s house or office in the event that the member cannot be reached personally. The amended language allows for notification via electronic communication and removes the requirement that telephone messages must be provided to a person.
- ❖ There were no questions or discussions.

VI. Professional Relations Committee (Sarah Wyatt)

- ❖ Resolution to Provide Consistent Language in Sections II.C and II.D of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to Faculty Rank and Status and Appointments—First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the PR Committee to amend language in Section II.C and Section II.D of the Faculty Handbook. The current language pertaining to faculty rank, status, and appointments is inconsistent with recently passed resolutions. The amended language revises the Handbook such that it is consistent with recently passed resolutions.
- ❖ Resolution to Provide Clarity in Sections II. C. of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to Faculty Rank and Status—First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the PR Committee to amend language in Section II.C of the Faculty Handbook. The current language pertaining to faculty rank and status has resulted in confusion due to lack of clarity. The amended language revises the Handbook such that it provides better clarification of existing policy.
- ❖ Resolution to Provide Clarity in Sections II. C. of the Faculty Handbook Pertaining to the Position of Assistant Lecturer —First Reading
 - The resolution is offered by the PR Committee to amend language in Section II.C of the Faculty Handbook. The current language pertaining to faculty rank and status has resulted in confusion due to lack of clarity. The amended language revises the Handbook such that it uses the term instructor for all part-time faculty.
- ❖ Questions and Discussions
 - **Duvert** asked for clarification about the use of the term “Instructor” for Group III faculty. Wyatt explained how the new language clarifies and distinguishes Group III faculty from Career Teaching Faculty.

VII. Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee (Ruth Palmer)

- ❖ Palmer provided a summary of the composition of EPSA including the portion of committee members assigned to the University Curriculum Council and the portion of members assigned to the EPSA only. Palmer briefly described some topics of consideration for EPSA for the next academic year including revisions to the faculty handbook, exploring excused absences for online courses, and the general education goals. Meeting times have yet to be determined.
- ❖ Resolution to Revise Language Concerning Notifications of Medical Visits—Second Reading
 - The resolution is offered for second reading by the EPSA Committee to amend language of relevant sections of the Faculty Handbook (Section VIII.C.2-4), the Undergraduate Catalog (Section VIII.C), and Graduate Catalog (3.6.A). The resolution proposes revisions to policies on how students can ask for a written notification of the visit to use as documentation for an excused absence for medical reasons at Ohio University Campus Care and OhioHealth O’Bleness Hospital.
 - Palmer called for a vote. The motion passed by voice vote.
- ❖ There were no questions or discussions.

VIII. Finance & Facilities Committee (Ben Stuart)

- ❖ Topic 1: Central Bank and Century Bonds. Stuart thanked Golding for his explanation of the Central Bank model and asked faculty to share questions or concerns with the F&F committee. Stuart also mentioned that the Century Bond proposal is different than the debt issued previously for six-year

capital improvement plan. For the debt previously issued for the six-year capital improvement plan, there is a public list of priorities available [online](#). However, there are instances in which emergencies shift priorities.

- ❖ Topic 2: Salary Implementation Year 2. Salary implementation for Year 1 was good for some cases yet problematic in others. F&F is seeking feedback from Year 1 and will be asking for plans for Year 2.
- ❖ Topic 3: RCM Liaison. Senators have been asked to indicate whether or not they will serve as an RCM liaison. There is a need to have new and/or returning liaisons for this year. Stuart plans to create a report of RCM liaison activities and best practices.
- ❖ Topic 4: Benefits Advisory Committee. The Benefits Advisory Committee had several meetings this summer. There may still be some differences between perspectives about the charge of the committee. The committee is working on developing guiding principles for new benefits, revised benefits, etc. The committee is also working on determining the appropriate portfolio of benefits. For example, the life insurance language is somewhat outdated. If you have opinions, please contact Stuart or Quitslund. This fall, there will be open forums for the campus community as a whole. Stuart also mentioned that there will likely be cost increases in health care benefits.
- ❖ Topic 5: Cost of Intercollegiate Athletics. F&F will be undertaking an investigation of the cost of intercollegiate athletics. If you have questions, concerns, or insights, faculty are asked to contact Hays or Sindelar. Stuart said that the Athletics department is willing to provide information as requested. Stuart noted that F&F wants this to be an open process and investigation of the true costs of athletics.

IX. Promotion & Tenure Committee (Kevin Mattson)

- ❖ Topic 1: Appeals. Mattson announced that the Promotion & Tenure Committee has a new appeal that will be under review by the Committee. The Committee intends to meet in the next ten days. Mattson also mentioned that there may be another appeal in the near future.
- ❖ There were no questions or discussions.

X. New Business

- ❖ There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment

- ❖ **Reader** moved to adjourn, seconded by **Carr**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.