

Ohio University Faculty Senate
Monday, May 1, 2017
Margaret M. Walter Hall, Room 135, 7:10pm
Meeting Minutes DRAFT

In attendance

Group I

- *College of Arts and Sciences:* J. Andrews, G. Buckley*, S. Gradin, K. Hicks, A. Houston [sub for G. Holcomb], N. Manring, J. McLaughlin, R. Muhammad, R. Palmer*, P. Patton, H. Perkins, N. Reynolds, W. Roosenburg*, N. Sandal*, B. Schoen, C. Snyder, E. Stinaff*, D. Tees, J. White*, S. Wyatt*
- *College of Business:* K. Hartman, A. Rosado Feger, R. Thacker
- *College of Fine Arts:* C. Buchanan, K. Geist, D. Thomas
- *College of Health Sciences and Professions:* R. Brannan, F-C. Jeng, A. Sergeev
- *Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine:* B. Franz*, S. Williams, J. Wolf
- *Patton College of Education:* G. Brooks, S. Helfrich, L. Harrison*, K. Machtmes
- *Regional Campus – Chillicothe:* n/a
- *Regional Campus – Eastern:* n/a
- *Regional Campus – Lancaster:* C. Thomas-Maddox
- *Regional Campus – Southern:* n/a
- *Regional Campus – Zanesville:* J. Taylor
- *Russ College of Engineering:* D. Arch, J. Cotton, D. Masel, G. Weckman
- *Scripps College of Communication:* A. Babrow, B. Bates, B. Debatin*, T. Roycroft*
- *Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs:* D. Kauneckis*, N. Kruse Daniels [sub for A. Ruhil]

Group II and Clinical

- *Athens At Large:* C. Schwirian
- *Clinical:* J. Balbo
- *College of Arts & Sciences:* H. Edwards*
- *College of Business:* T. Barnett
- *College of Health Sciences and Professions:* M. Clevidence
- *Patton College of Education:* C. Hartman*
- *Regional Higher Education:* D. Nickles*,

Excused: A. Chadwick, D. Clowe, A. Hibbit, K. Hicks, G. Holcomb [FFL], S. Inman, G. Kessler, F. Lewis, P. McMurray-Schwarz, R. Palmer, T. Pritchard, A. Ruhil [FFL], Amy White

Absent: R. Brannan, H. Castillo, S. Carson, O. Carter, D. Duvert, S. Helfrich, S. Inman, P. McMurray-Schwarz, H. Siebrits, J. Taylor, Allison White

*New Senators elected for 2017-18

MEETING AGENDA

- I Interim President David Descutner
- II Howard Dewald, Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Planning – Legislative Update
- III John Day, Associate Provost for Academic Budget & Planning - Budget Process Update
- IV Steve Wood, Associate VP for Facilities Management - Utility Master Plan Presentation
- V Roll Call and Approval of the March 13, 2017 Minutes
- VI Chair’s Report – Joe McLaughlin
 - Updates and Announcements
 - Status of Resolutions
 - Senate Committee Preferences & Assignments
- Upcoming Senate Meeting: September 11, 2017, 7:10pm, Walter Hall 235**
- VII Professional Relations Committee – Sherrie Gradin
- VIII Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee – Charles Buchanan
- IX Finance & Facilities Committee - Susan Williams
- X Promotion & Tenure Committee – Ben Bates
- XI New Business^[1]_[SEP]
- XII. Adjournment

Meeting called to order by Joe McLaughlin (Faculty Senate Chair) at 7:11 pm

I. Interim President David Descutner

Topic 1: **Interim President Descutner** provided a summary of the recent commencement ceremonies, include the inspiring student speakers as well as the speeches offered by David Crane, leading civil rights lawyers in the world, for the Graduate Commencement, Wes Lowery, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and OU alum, for the Undergraduate Commencement, and Dr. Risa Whitson, outstanding faculty member.

Topic 2: Descutner reported that the unfolding of the OHIO Health initiative will be providing a tremendous recruiting tool and benefits to existing and future OHIO employees.

Q&A: No questions.

II. Howard Dewald, Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Planning (EVPP is traveling)

Topic 1: **Associate Provost Dewald** announced the Presidential Teaching Awardee Britney Peterson (Communications) and the Provost Teaching Awardee Jody Foster (Biological Sciences)

Topic 2: **Dewald** reported the following updates on the pending House Bill 49:

The state operating budget is being debated in the Ohio House Finance Committee. All indications are the House will pass the budget bill later this week. When the bill passes from the House to the Senate, it is about 40% of the way through the process. **Dewald** emphasized that all of the information being shared is subject to change.

STATE SHARE OF INSTRUCTION

Governor Kasich's proposed budget contained a 1% increase in State Share of Instruction (SSI). Declining state revenue has caused the governor and legislative leadership to decide to cut \$800 million from Fiscal Years 2018 – 2019. The modest SSI increase the governor proposed was cut in the House Finance Committee. SSI will be flat funded in FYs 18 and 19. The cut will cost Ohio University a total of \$3M -- \$1.5M in each fiscal year.

TEXTBOOKS

The House Finance Committee removed the Governor's proposed textbook plan that would have required public institutions to provide textbooks and materials for students.

In lieu of the governor's proposal, the House has included language requiring institutions to study their textbook costs annually and report costs to the Chancellor. In addition, universities will be required to report annually to the Efficiency Advisory Committee on efforts to reduce textbook costs.

TUITION FLEXIBILITY

This provision removes tuition caps from institutions that have implemented a tuition guarantee program. Currently, only Ohio University and Miami have implemented a guarantee plan. The board of trustees of an institution operating a guarantee plan will be permitted to establish a one-time tuition increase for each new cohort.

TENURE

Tenure is getting a lot of attention in the first few months of the 132nd General Assembly. Two stand-alone tenure bills have been introduced in the House.

In addition, tenure language was added to the budget, in the House Committee that will require each public institution to adopt a policy for post-tenure review. The provision requires public institutions to conduct a post-tenure review of each faculty member at least once every five years. The review needs to indicate whether the faculty member "exceeds expectations," "meets expectations," or "does not meet expectations." Any faculty member who "does not meet expectations" will be required to submit a professional performance improvement plan and demonstrate improvement to avoid discipline, including a reduction in academic rank and dismissal, if appropriate.

SICK LEAVE

The House Finance Committee added language to reduce the sick leave time all public university employees can earn. If passed, the provision will reduce the amount of sick leave a university employee, including faculty, can earn from 4.6 hours for each 80 hours of service to 3.1 hours. Effectively, reducing the number of days that can be earned in a 12 month period from 15 to 10 days. The language prohibits a university from collectively bargaining contract language that will provide more than 3.1 hours for each 80 hours of service.

FACULTY TEXTBOOK REPORTING

This proposed measure would require a faculty member of a state institution of higher education that assigns textbooks for a course taught by the faculty member to file an annual financial disclosure statement. Faculty would be required to pay a \$35 filing fee and file the statement no later than May 15th of each year. This measure expands existing Ethics Law criminal penalties to apply to faculty members failing to file or that knowingly file a false financial disclosure statement and requires the financial statement to include all of the following:

- (1) Name of the faculty member filing the statement and each member of the faculty member's immediate family and all names under which the faculty member or members of the faculty member's immediate family do business;
- (2) Source of each gift over \$25 received from any person that represents or has an interest in supplying or making available textbooks for purchase;

(3) Identification of the source of payment of expenses incurred for travel that is received by the faculty member in connection with the faculty member's official duties, except for travel to meetings or conventions of a national or state organization to which any state institution of higher education pays membership dues;

(4) Identification of the source of payment of expenses for meals and other beverages, other than for meals and other food and beverages provided at a meeting where the faculty member participated in a panel, seminar, or speaking engagement.

Q&A:

A senator asked if evaluation copies received by faculty would be considered gifts under the proposed legislation. **Dewald** responded that his best guess would be that evaluation copies would fall under this legislation if their value exceeded the value of \$25. He suggested that further clarification would be needed.

A senator asked if a financial disclosure statement would be required only in cases where the textbook was required by the author/instructor in a given class. **Dewald** surmised that it would whether or not it was assigned in a class.

A senator asked for clarification on the proposed post-tenure review, focusing on faculty who already had tenure and were seeking promotion. **Dewald** noted that post-tenure review would apply to all tenured faculty and for those under review for promotion then that review would count toward the post-tenure review within the five-year cycle.

Finally, a senator asked if salary bumps would accompany successful post-tenure reviews. Dewald said he doubted it.

III. John Day, Associate Provost for Academic Budget & Planning—Budget Process Update

Topic 1: **Day** reported that enrollment was down 384, a wider gap indicated by fewer housing deposits than this time last year.

Topic 2: The Cap Plus inflation adjustment (1.3% % tuition increase to each cohort) would not recover the enrollment short-fall. Enrollment and assumptions are being coordinated; Colleges are providing scenarios of various cuts. By the third week of May a balance budget will be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

Q&A:

A senator asked about the source of decline and whether the gap was typical. **Day** responded that the sources of the gap are being investigated. There was concern that the high number of applicants under the newly-instituted Common App had not sustained a large number of confirmation of acceptances.

Two senators asked a series of questions surrounding the decline of female applicants and the rise in reports of sexual assaults on campus. The senators queried whether the decline could be attributed to safety issues on campus and what was being done to make the campus safer. Day replied that the branding and PR surrounding these issues had focused on discussions with parent groups. One senator that future discussions, while acknowledging the branding issue, should focus on the safety of students and the responsiveness of the administration to their needs.

A senator asked about the confirmation of acceptances of international students. **Candace Boeninger** was asked to respond: Currently the tenuous connections of international students reflect a very different process for them when compared to domestic students. Nevertheless, the number of international students who have submitted housing deposits stands at 21.

Vice Chair Thomas asked for clarification on the basis of comparison. Day confirmed that we are comparing numbers at a slightly earlier point in the calendar than with the data from last year.

Faculty Senate Chair McLaughlin added that he would welcome feedback on suggested presentations to the Faculty Senate for next year including issues surrounding sexual assault, regional campuses, and first generation students to name but a few.

IV. Steve Wood, Associate VP, for Facilities Management—Utility Master Plan Presentation

Topic 1: **Wood** provided an extensive slide presentation on the current issues facing the utility master plan. (See Appendix C, Timeline)

Topic 2: In summary, the UMP Team recommends the following:

1. Install a new chilled water plant on the east side of campus
2. Upgrade electrical distribution and address deferred maintenance; replace aging switch gear
3. Address failing condensate and steam lines; make long-term transition to medium temperature hot water; install new energy plant on east side of campus
4. Transition to building based domestic hot water generation

Topic 3: The UMP Team, **Wood** reports, the following next steps:

1. Reconcile energy infrastructures needs with the current and future Capital Improvement Plans and respective funding strategies.
2. Reprioritize deferred maintenance projects to emphasize short-term energy needs.
3. Vet draft of the UMP with campus and local community.
4. Review of the draft UMP and input from the Board of Trustees

Q&A:

Faculty Senate Chair McLaughlin and another senator asked about the efficiency of switching from steam and whether solar energy was an option. Wood replied that switching from steam would provide better energy and simplify addressing system problems. Solar energy is not an option since most buildings are not adequate to support the panels.

A senator asked if the cost of solar would go down. **Wood** responded that it was unlikely to be cheaper than gas since there are no federal tax credits we can take advantage of and the cost of gas is 6 cents vs. 9 cents for solar energy.

A senator asked if the state legislature hinders the investment in alternative energy? Wood said he did not know.

Vice-Chair Thomas asked whether cooperative options were available with city or other users. **Wood** replied that since OHIO was the 20th highest user of electricity in the state, other energy sources, even in a cooperative arrangement would not be competitive.

V. Roll Call and Approval of the April 3, 2017 Minutes

Roll call (R. Muhammad)

Senator Patton moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **Senator Bates**. The minutes were approved by a voice vote unanimously.

VI. Chair's Report (Joe McLaughlin)

Updates and Announcements: **Faculty Senate Chair McLaughlin** reported that over the past year the Faculty Senate had been involved in several important efforts, including the OHIO Presidential search and DACA and other sources of student activism on campus. Recently the Executive Committee also met with the student athlete liaisons to discuss health and wellness initiatives, including reducing the amount of time students have to practice and increase their study time. Future events will include the Board of Trustees meeting on the Zanesville campus. With the departure of Brian Benchoff, a search committee will meet over the summer to begin the search.

Status of Resolutions: After two months the EVPP responded to resolutions passed by Faculty Senate in support of students arrested on February 1. The EVPP noted that all issues related to these resolutions are moot; the resolutions were not signed by the EVPP.

Senate Committee Preferences and Assignments: Forms for committee preferences were made available. Senators are urged to make appointments to professional ethics committees in their colleges. In the future, dean's evaluations committees will also need to be filled.

Upcoming Senate Meeting: September 11, 2017, 7:10 pm, Walter Hall 235

VII. Professional Relations Committee (Sherrie Gradin)

Senator Gradin reported several completed tasks from the past year including the resolutions coordinating Deans' Evaluations with reappointments and the completion of a complicated grievance and other cases moving forward. Ongoing tasks involve faculty categorization,

surveillance cameras in instructional places, ECRC and Title IX processes, and library staff and faculty designations.

VIII. Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee (Charles Buchanan)

Senator Buchanan outlined the major point of the resolution on High School Equivalency (See Appendix B) and suggested the possibility of a suspension of the rules for immediate vote.

Q&A:

A senator asked if there was a time concern to meet deadline for the catalog. **Buchanan** said there was a desire to do so.

A senator asked if ACT requirements were part of the consideration for the resolution. **Candace Boeninger** said that if the students had been out of high school for more than one year, then we do to require it.

A senator asked whether the benchmarks are consistent across states for the “GED?” **Boeninger** said yes.

Senator Bates move to suspend the rules. **Geist** seconded the motion. A hand vote was tallied in excess of two-thirds of the senators present. A second reading was put forward immediately. **Buchanan** made a motion for a vote. The vote was unanimously in favor; the resolution passed.

Regional Accreditation

Senator Buchanan outlined the major point of the resolution on Regional Accreditation (See Appendix C) and suggested the possibility of a suspension of the rules for immediate vote.

Q&A:

A senator asked two related questions: Do we know why they (NCCU) pulled out of CHEA? Is this related to Western Governors into Ohio’s CHEA?

Boeninger replied that we do not know why. And, we are not sure if there will be additional moves of this nature in the future.

The discussion continued on the issue of changes in accrediting bodies. **Boeninger** reflected that most of these groups date back to the 1950s and additional splits cannot be ruled out.

... **Senator Bates** move to suspend the rules. **Geist** seconded the motion. A hand vote was tallied in excess of two-thirds of the senators present. A second reading was put forward immediately. **Buchanan** made a motion for a vote. The vote was unanimously in favor; the resolution passed.

IX. Finance & Facilities Committee (Susan Williams)

Senator Williams provided a brief summary of the scope of the standing committee's work in the past year. Having conducted a survey of RCM liaisons this year, **Williams** recommends that being done in the future as well.

X. Promotion & Tenure Committee (Ben Bates)

Senator Bates gave a brief summary of the past year's work, including the Group I II appeals. There will be future work with the PRC on ECRC and Title IX issues.

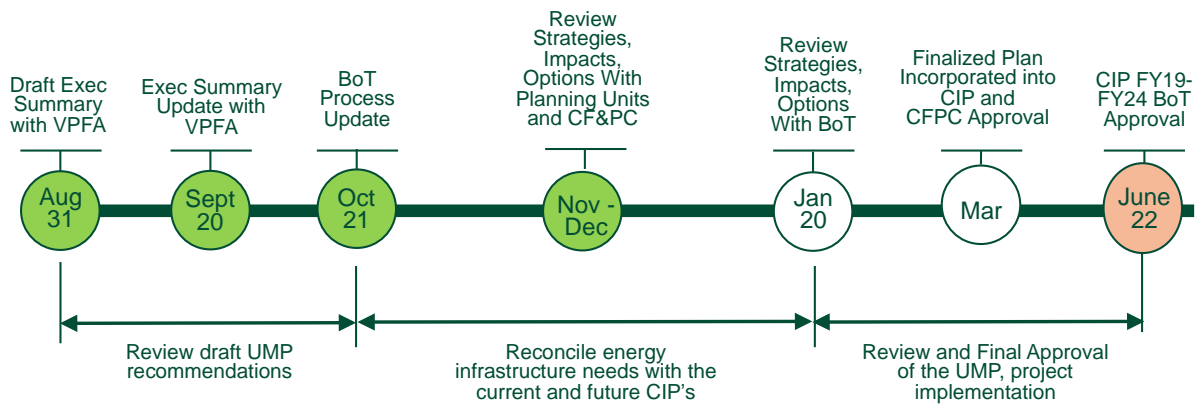
XI. New Business

No new business.

XII. Adjournment

Senator Bates made a motion for adjournment; it was seconded by **Senator Gradin**. There was an unanimous vote in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Proposed Timeline



Appendix B

RESOLUTION ON CLARIFYING MEANS TO DEMONSTRATE EQUIVALENCE OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA CREDENTIAL

Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee

Faculty Senate

May 1, 2017

Whereas the admission policies and practices on Ohio University's Athens and regional campuses advance a dual mission of excellence and access,

Whereas Ohio University offers a pathway to admission on all campuses through demonstration of high school equivalency via submission of the G.E.D., a commercial product jointly administered by the American Council on Education and Pearson VUE,

Whereas a recent proliferation in alternatives to the G.E.D. have emerged, including measures such as the Ohio Adult Diploma and other state-recognized proprietary exams,

Whereas current Catalog policy can be interpreted as ambiguous whether these instruments of high school equivalency are acceptable for admission consideration,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate endorses the OHIO Undergraduate Catalog be amended as follows to clarify the various means by which a student can demonstrate high school equivalency:

You must have a high school diploma **or successfully demonstrated attainment of a state-recognized high school equivalent** and must have passed all sections of the applicable state assessments by the time you enter college.

Appendix C

RESOLUTION ON CLARIFYING REGIONAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENT IN TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY

Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee, Approved

Faculty Senate

May 1, 2017

Whereas Ohio University's transfer credit policy is a collaborative effort owned by academic leadership and executed by administrative units of the institution at the faculty's discretion,

Whereas Ohio University follows best practices of peer institutions as defined by the Higher Learning Commission's Assumed Practices when determining what is transferable credit,

Whereas the Higher Learning Commission's Assumed Practices recognizes college-level coursework from institutions with accreditation from a major regional accrediting body as the foundation of credit transferability,

Whereas in 2009 the Ohio Department of Higher Education directed that public institutions should further define a regional accrediting body as one that is a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA),

Whereas in 2011, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NCCU), the regional accrediting body for a number of western states, opted out of its membership with CHEA and is now recognized as a previous member but remains the regional accreditor for a number of flagship universities,

Whereas current catalog language now restricts Ohio University from accepting external credit from NCCU-accredited institutions,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate endorses the OHIO Undergraduate Catalog be amended as follows to clarify the regional accreditation requirement in transfer credit policy:

Specifically, transfer credit will be accepted for successfully completed (as defined below), college-level courses from institutions of higher education that are accredited by regional accrediting commissions that have been recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), or the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.