

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, December 10, 2018

**Ohio University Faculty Senate  
Monday, December 10, 2018  
Baker Center Theatre, Room 235, 7:10pm  
Meeting Minutes DRAFT**

In attendance

- *College of Arts and Sciences:* G. Buckley, D. Clowe, C. Crawford (sub. for M. Holt), S. Gradin, M. Gurien, J. Johnson, (sub. for W. Roosenberg), P. Jung, N. Manring, J. McLaughlin, L. McMills, R. Muhammad, R. Palmer, H. Perkins, N. Sandal, E. Stinaff, S. Wyatt
- *College of Business:* J. Adzukis (sub. for A. Rosado Feger) J. Hiler, A. Pueschel, D. Ridpath
- *College of Fine Arts:* M. Franz, K. Geist, V. Marchenkov, H. Siebrits
- *College of Health Sciences and Professions:* R. Brannan, M. Clevidence, A. Sergeev, B. Sindelar
- *Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine:* B. Franz, S. Williams, J. Wolf
- *Patton College of Education:* L. Harrison, C. Hartman, S. Helfrich, C. Lowery
- *Regional Campus – Chillicothe:* A. White
- *Regional Campus – Eastern:* P. McMurray-Schwarz
- *Regional Campus – Lancaster:* S. Doty
- *Regional Campus – Southern:* Y. Shao-Lucas
- *Regional Campus – Zanesville:* S. House, C. Vickers (sub. for J. Taylor)
- *Athens At Large:* G. Michaud, D. Nickles, T. Pritchard
- *Russ College of Engineering:* D. Arch, J. Cotton, D. Schwerha, G. Weckman
- *Scripps College of Communication:* S. Girton (sub. for F. Lewis)
- *Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs:* D. Kauneckis

Excused: B. Bates, B. Debatin, A. Chadwick, A. Rosado Feger, A. Healy, W. Roosenberg

Absent: H. Edwards, K. Hicks, J. White

**Ohio University Faculty Senate  
Agenda for Monday, December 10, 2018  
Room 235, Margaret M. Walter Hall, 7:10-9:00pm**

- I. Dave Scholl, Chair and Janelle Coleman, Vice Chair, Ohio University Board of Trustees
- II. Roll Call and Approval of the November 5, 2018 Minutes
- III. Chair's Report—Joe McLaughlin
  - a. Updates & Announcements
  - b. Upcoming Senate Meeting: **February 4, 2019, Walter Hall 235, 7:10-9:00pm**
- IV. Discussion: Report of the Regional Higher Education Study Group
- V. Professional Relations Committee—Sarah Wyatt
  - a. Resolution to Clarify Recusal Process for College Professional Ethics Committees (First Reading)
  - b. Resolution to Rename Faculty Classifications--Preview
- VI. Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee—Betty Sindelar
- VII. Promotion & Tenure Committee—Sherrie Gradin
- VIII. Finance & Facilities Committee—Susan Williams
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjournment

**I Dave Scholl, Chair and Janelle Coleman, Vice Chair, Ohio University Board of Trustees**

Meeting Called to Order at 7:15 p.m. by Chair McLaughlin

Chair McLaughlin welcomed the Ohio Board of Trustees (OBOT) Visit from OBOT Chair Dave Scholl and Vice-Chair Janelle Coleman.

Scholl and Coleman expressed their thanks to Faculty Senators for their involvement in university leadership and shared governance.

The floor was open to Q&A. Chair McLaughlin initiated the discussion by asking for the Trustees to comment on the recent RHE Study Group Report.

Scholl said the report would be part of a strategy with President Nellis's pathways to address the needs of the regional campuses and their surrounding communities. He discussed the need for meeting educational goals while addressing the budget concerns. He added that shared governance was very important to him.

Coleman underscored the Board's role as listeners and observers moving forward as the report is discussed. During several visits to the regional campuses she noted the need for more student interaction between the regional campuses and the main campus of Athens. The floor was open to questions and discussion. Chair McLaughlin asked senators to raise issues and questions to the visiting board members.

Q&A:

Senator Schwerha asked what was the main driver behind the plan of integrating all the campuses in one university? What are other universities in similar circumstances doing, and are there models for us to consider?

Scholl and Coleman responded that these were important questions. Scholl added that at the Board's January 2019 meeting the resources for this transition and the overall plan would be discussed.

Senator House raised the issue of tuition differentials among the regional and main campus. Scholl responded saying that lower tuition at some of the regional campuses was intended to retain students with competitive tuition levels.

Senator Doty pointed out that recruiting is inadequate and many students are dissuaded by the perceived by the lack of interest in bringing regional students to the Athens campus.

Senator Geist added that there seemed to be poor communication throughout the campuses of what programs were available at each campus.

Senator Sandal asked for an explanation of the priorities of the budget.

The discussion continued involving the importance of class size, retention rates, and the impact of College Cost Plus on the regional campuses.

Chair McLaughlin raised the issue of the erosion of tenure and other faculty conversations about the role of credentialing vs. the role educating at the university.

## **II Roll Call and Approval of the November 5, 2018 Minutes**

Roll Call was conducted by Secretary Robin Muhammad and Chair McLaughlin called for Approval of the Minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously.

## **III Chair's Report**

The Chair of Faculty Senate, Joe McLaughlin, reported on the following:

- 1) The Biennial Budget from the State is forthcoming in spring 2019. Tuition caps on one of the items we are monitoring.
- 2) Candidates for the Dean of Libraries search will take place this week. Please attend one or more forum for the search if you are able.
- 3) A focus group on changes in travel policies is convening and a report is expected next semester.
- 4) The Outstanding Advisor Award Committee is accepting nominations.
- 5) The resolution regarding the loss of tenure has not been signed yet.
- 6) Fall Commencement will take place on Saturday.
- 7) There will be no January 2019 meeting of Faculty Senate. We will meet on February 4, 2019.

## **IV Discussion: Report of the Regional Higher Education Study Group (RHE)**

Senator Doty reported on behalf of several regional campus senators who met to discuss the recent report. Several points were highlighted from that discussion:

- 1) The report speaks to big, broad changes but less on implementation.
- 2) Senators from the regional campuses have concerns about equal faculty representation on the study group and moving forward as details are being confirmed.

- 3) There are differing views on access to a university education and those should be reflected in the ongoing discussion.
- 4) Curricular changes will be significant.
- 5) Time and resources are needed to implement the change.

The discussion as opened to further comment and questions:

Senator Hiler asked about accreditation and pointed out that expectations for research and teaching might vary depending on accreditation required for different programs.

Senator Sandal noted that the report prompted department-level conversations but offered no guidance for those conversations.

Several senators commented that the fear of losing faculty and the persistence of administrative bloat.

#### **V Professional Relations Committee – Sarah Wyatt**

Resolutions to Clarify Recusal Process for College Professional Ethics Committees (First Reading). See Appendix A

Several senators discussed the need for clarification of the current policy. Specifically the issue of finding a faculty member outside a given college to fill a vacancy was discussed. Several issues were identified include the challenges of filling vacancies.

Resolution to Rename Faculty Classifications (Preview). See Appendix B

The resolution was introduced or previewed with the intention of a more lengthy discussion at the next meeting.

#### **VI Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee – Betty Sindelar**

Faculty Presentations will occur in February 2019.

#### **VII Promotion & Tenure Committee – Sherrie Gradin**

The committee is reviewing its third appeal of the year.

#### **VIII Finance & Facilities Committee – Susan Williams**

No plan designs

**IX New Business**

None

**X Adjournment.**

A motion to adjourn was carried and approved at 9:23 p.m.

## Appendix A

### Resolution to clarify recusal process for the college professional ethics committees.

Professional Relations Committee  
Faculty Senate  
Dec 10, 2018 – First Reading

*Whereas the procedure for recusal from and appointment of replacements to the college professional ethics committees is not clearly stated,*

*Be it resolved that the language of the Faculty Handbook be revised to include the following*

#### IV. L.3 Establishment of Professional Ethics Committees

##### a. College/School Professional Ethics Committee<sup>[1]</sup>

Each college, regional campus, and the Voinovich School will have a standing Professional Ethics Committee (PEC) consisting of six faculty members in the college, regional campus, or the Voinovich School unless it is necessary to supplement the Committee by faculty from other colleges or regional campuses. At least four of the six faculty must be tenured Group I faculty. The other two may be selected from among the untenured Group I or the Group II faculty. Three of the six members of the college Professional Ethics Committee are selected by the faculty senators from that college or regional campus, while the remaining three are appointed by the dean of the college, regional campus, and the Voinovich School (the director is the dean's equivalent in the case of the Voinovich School)<sup>[2]</sup>. The chair of the committee will be appointed by the dean from among the Group I faculty on the committee. The term length for members on the college Professional Ethics Committee will be three years, and service is restricted to two successive terms. Initial appointments will be staggered so that each year the senators from the college or regional campus and the dean will each need to select a new committee member. Each college Professional Ethics Committee will be provided access to appropriate university resources to assist it in carrying out its investigations.

**Recusals.** When an allegation of a violation of professional ethics is received by the chair of the college Professional Ethics Committee, the committee chair will inform the members of the committee of the pending case. Any committee member who is from the same

department shall be disqualified from service. Typically recusals occur when someone has close personal or professional relationships with the faculty member (accused or complainant). The dean or the chair of Faculty Senate shall then fill any vacancy with faculty from another college PEC depending on the selection criteria (chosen by faculty senators or by the dean) and faculty classification of the person recused.



## Appendix B

### Resolution to Rename Faculty Classifications

Professional Relations Committee

Faculty Senate

Dec 10, 2018 – Preview

*Whereas the use of Group 1,2,3,4 is not descriptive of the position, is cumbersome and leads to confusion,*

*Whereas the current classification system has not been responsive to modifications or new types of faculty positions,*

*Be it resolved that the language of the Faculty Handbook be revised to include the following language revising faculty classification*

#### **II.B.1. Professional Courtesy Appointments**

A department at Ohio University may provide an academic home to professional persons through special courtesy appointments as a Research Scholar, Research Scientist, or Artist when mutually beneficial to the individual and the department.

Appointments are made by the dean of a college upon recommendation from a department or regional campus division, and copies of the letter of appointment go to the Provost and President. Persons granted these appointments must have the appropriate qualifications to pursue a program of research, scholarship, or creative activity. This program may also include proposal and report writing, grant solicitation, publication of results, and/or performance and exhibition. Persons with these appointments receive an annual letter of appointment that describes the nature of their work with an appropriate title.

Such appointees are given computer accounts, faculty ID cards, parking, and faculty library privileges, and are listed in the campus directory, but receive no salary. Additional resources may be made available to them by departments or regional campuses depending on availability.

Suitably qualified appointees may teach regularly scheduled classes upon the issuance of a contract specifying both an appropriate salary and faculty classification.

**II.B.2 Other Special Appointments**

- a. Research Professor (administrative lines). The Ohio University Policy #01.015 states “The vice-president for research and graduate studies, with the concurrence of an appropriate academic department and college dean, may recommend to the president that center staff who are supported solely on external funds (grants or contracts), with appropriate academic credentials and background, be given a non-tenure track position and be designated as assistant research professor, associate research professor, or research professor within the employing center or institute. The appointment is coterminous with the external funding.”

These positions do not hold faculty rank, faculty status nor teaching responsibilities. The research positions/people are not governed nor protected by the Faculty Handbook. Their actions would be governed by the administrative handbook.

Suitably qualified appointees may teach regularly scheduled classes upon the issuance of an additional contract specifying both an appropriate salary and faculty classification.

- b. It is recognized that in some departments and divisions of the University there are positions, such as Technical Assistant and Curator that do not necessarily require advanced degrees. Appointees to these positions will not ordinarily receive tenure. In addition to a formal contract, such appointees will be given a written statement describing the character as well as the probable minimum and maximum duration of their work.