

**Ohio University Faculty Senate**  
**Meeting Minutes Monday, December 14, 2020**  
**Virtual Meeting Via MS Teams**

**7:10 – 9:00 p.m.**

- I. Provost Elizabeth Sayrs – Prioritized Academic Actions Toward Diversity  
Dr. Gillian Ice – COVID-19 Testing Plan Updates
- II. Roll Call and Approval of Minutes of the November 2, 2020 Meeting
- III. Chair’s Report – Robin Muhammad
- IV. Resolution Regarding the Reinstatement of Faculty Purchasing Card Privileges –Second Reading
- V. Executive Committee – Ben Bates  
  
Sense-of-the Senate Resolution to Support the Ohio Faculty Council’s Statement on the Reorganization and the Role of Faculty – Second Reading
- VI. Educational Policy & Student Affairs Committee – Andrew Pueschel  
  
Resolution to Modify Language about the Ohio Transfer Module in Undergraduate Catalog – Second Reading
- VII. Promotion & Tenure Committee – Jackie Wolf
- VIII. Professional Relations Committee – Char Miller
- IX. Finance & Facilities Committee – Doug Clowe
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment

In attendance:

Bates, Blau, Brown, Casebolt, Chen, Cirolì, Clowe, Cluse-Tolar, Crawford, Cronin, Duvert, Dyer, Farris-Brown, Franz, Garlington, Gurien, Haile, Hallman-Thrasher, Healy, Hendrickson, Hess, Hiler, Holcomb, House, Hurley, James, Johnson, Karney, Klein, Koestler, Kuruppallil, Lowery, Marchenkov, Matlack, McKean, McMills, McMurray-Schwartz, Michaud, Miller, Muhammad, Munhall, O’Keefe, Owens, Palmer, Pritchard, Pueschel, Raney, Reader, Ridpath, Riefler, Rosado Feger, Sandal, Sarver, Schwerha, Shao-Lucas, Shaw, Sindelar, Stork, Webb, Welser, White A., Williams K., Wolf, Wyatt, You, Young

Meeting called to order at 7:10

## Provost Says:

- Thanks everyone for their attendance, celebrated the virtual graduation and the terrific graduation address.
- New deans:
  - John McCarthy, Interim Dean, CHSP
  - Jackie Rees Ulmer, Dean, CoB, starting Feb 1, 2021
- Three things: Priority Academic Actions for Diversity and Inclusion, Update on Academic Planning and Strategy Group, and update on Planning for Spring.
- Priority Actions for Diversity and Inclusion, for next 8 months, a step towards long-term plan:
  - Recruit/retain diverse student body
    - Close equity gaps over next five years
    - Define and operationalize educational outcomes to support scholarship strategies
    - Redesign faculty orientation for Fall 2021 to support D&I goals
    - Apply for McNair Scholars grant
  - Recruit/retain diverse faculty
    - Diversity advocate training for every search committee
    - Update faculty data Spring 2021
    - Support work to define teaching effectiveness as first step towards reducing the role of student evaluations of teaching
    - Develop training for Chairs and P&T Chairs
  - Diversify Curricula
    - Share impact of faculty work on recruiting and success.
    - Support Inclusive Pedagogy Academy
    - Identify and share information about faculty expertise.
    - Chairs/directors training.
  - Diversify Research
    - Distribution of internal awards: topics and individuals
    - IRB: trends of approvals, reviewer composition
    - Chair/director training
    - Equitable P&T guidelines (with Faculty senate)
  - Align actions with long-term goals and Inclusive Excellence Strategic Plan Framework
- Feedback requested on Priority Actions, formation of work group/task force...but one that has impact. Is Provost endorsement considered important?
- Concern about who does this work, and not overloading minoritized faculty.
- Academic Planning and Strategy Group:
  - Faculty from all colleges, Dean's Council members, all campuses, both Tenure-track and Instructional faculty.
  - Part of broader academic planning process
  - Recommendations by March 1
  - Goals:
    - Recenter academic core
    - Align goals with priorities and strengths

- Develop structures that match academic offerings and the needs of current and future learners.
    - Maximize efficiency.
    - Develop long-term sustainable structures, processes and practices.
  - First task: worked out Principles for planning and for group roles.
    - Focus on the good of the institution as a whole and a long-term view.
  - Second task: three subgroups
    - Academic Offerings
    - Academic Structures
    - Academic Policy, Process, and Practice
  - Engagement: early Spring semester, seeking input and feedback
  - Website with group information
- Spring Planning
  - Vaccines delivered in OH today! At OBleness tomorrow!
  - Distribution will take time.
  - Campus positivity rates are down.
  - Awaiting guidance from state and federal leadership.
  - Start date pushed back. Watching conditions on the ground very closely.
- THANK YOU faculty for your hard work, creativity, care, and efforts. They have been noticed.

#### Q&A—None

- Dr. Gillian Ice Fall Summary and Spring Planning
  - Moderate disease levels on campus in Fall. 905 positive cases, 843 students.
  - Positivity rates have decreased.
  - Three residence halls quarantined.
  - New housing advisory system in place. Alert levels based on positive rates in building.
  - “Remain in room” protocol for high numbers.
  - Levels of prevention:
    - Primary: masks, distancing, etc.
    - Secondary: Testing/contact tracing
    - Tertiary: Intervention, quarantine/isolation; campus case control.
  - Reminder of COVID protocols
    - Emphasis on using the Incident Report form [www.ohio.edu/reportexposure](http://www.ohio.edu/reportexposure)
    - Exposure: within 6-feet, cumulative 15 minutes or more in a 24-hr period
  - Testing
    - Limit spread and prevent/manage outbreaks.
    - Provide support.
    - Spring: Adding vendor (Vault) but keeping CVS
    - Strategy tailored to OUR circumstances.
    - Symptomatic testing:
      - Athens: OhioHealth (Scott Quad, Herrold Ave.) + “close contact”
      - RHE/Dublin/Cleveland: referrals
    - Asymptomatic testing:

- Pre-arrival for students in housing and anyone who has in-person class
- At-home test via Vault
- Regular testing on Athens campus
  - Weekly for on-campus students
  - Bi-weekly for off-campus students
- Regional: Vault At-home, every two weeks
- Wide-net testing: rapid result testing (CVS) to catch outbreaks
- Athletics: Quest/Binax, following MAC and NCAA protocols
- Wastewater testing
- Challenge: test compliance
  - The stick: Miss 1 test: reminder, request to immediately go to the CVS testing. Miss 2: block campus access. Miss 3: reported to Community Standards
  - The carrot: rewards for completing visits
  - Vault feature: can schedule tests for entire semester.
- Contact tracing: taking on the effort from Health Dept.
  - Athens campus only.
- Forecast for Spring Semester
  - Watch for post-holiday increases, looking for peak mid-January
  - Hospital bed shortages possible. Counties with OU campus, >70% ICU occupancy. Elective surgeries stop, moving to emergency expansions.
  - Peak flu season usually in January (Rec: get your flu shot!)

## Q&A

Will there be a vaccination distribution through the University?

We are a long way off from vaccination being available to students/faculty....possibly 6 months. Working on plan for distribution. CVS and other pharmacies will be part of the efforts. HCOM Community Health participating. Right now, rollout is slow and very targeted. We will be ready to go when it becomes available.

Test compliance plans: how would you like faculty to get tested? How can we help?

If regularly present on campus, pre-arrival test from Vault, and encouraged to test every other week. Athens (on campus) and other campuses (Vault at home).

How will students be tested?

Via Vault test, students who have scheduled classes or swipe into campus buildings, will be directed to schedule tests at the tennis center. Capacity: 1900 tests/day. There will be an exemption process for students who have tested positive prior.

I tested a couple of weeks ago, and got email encouraging me to test again.

When there are some extra tests, we send out extra opportunities for our employees. Last day of testing was DEC 13.

How high does the swab go for our testing?

Vault test is a saliva test, individuals spit into tubes. It is very accurate, with higher sensitivity and specificity. CVS uses a swab that doesn't go as far into the nasal passages.

When can we expect the at-home test? Zanesville CVS is running about a week for results.

Information sent out at the end of this week, continue sending updates throughout the holiday break.

Vault turn-around is 24-48 hrs, though sometimes slower due to surge in demand.

Roll Call and approval of minutes from Nov 2, 2020 meeting

Motion: Bates/Rosado Feger APPROVED

Chair's Report:

- Next meeting Feb 8, 2021. January meeting canceled.
- Board of Trustees meeting Jan 15, 2021, online.
- Attended Chairs and Directors Council, conversation about the role of Faculty Senate. Know who your senators are, share comments questions and concerns. Exchange information, provide support for each other.
- Always concerns with pace of decision making (sometimes too slow, sometimes too fast) but please reach out with any questions or comments.
- Launching Acknowledgement and Reconciliation Committee with Diversity and Inclusion.
  - Use of land
  - Impact on native communities and other groups
  - Seek funding to support community groups
  - Historic preservation

Resolution Regarding the Reinstatement of Faculty Purchasing Card Privileges –Second Reading (Art Smith, Gang Chen)

- Reviewed changes made in response to comments made in Nov.
- Motion to vote to approve: Clowe/Chen
- Roll call vote requested by Senator Reader
- Yes = 50      No = 0      Abstain = 0
- Resolution APPROVED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

SOS Resolution to Support the Ohio Faculty Council's Statement on the Reorganization and the Role of Faculty - Second Reading

Senator Bates: No comments received after Nov. meeting.

Voice vote: AYE: many      NAY: none      ABSTAIN: none

Resolution PASSES

EPSA: Andrew Pueschel

#### Resolution to Modify Undergraduate Catalog of Entry – First Reading

Sen. Pueschel: Current policy assigns a catalog of entry for the first time a student enters the university in any fashion. Students who participate in College Credit Plus could have a catalog of entry up to five years before they actually enroll as a degree-seeking student. This resolution updates language to declare a student's Catalog of Entry applies when the student is enrolled in a degree program.

To assist in expedient implementation, request for motion to suspend the rules and go to second reading/vote; (Hiler/Rosado) Feger    Vote: In favor: Many    Opposed/Abstain: None    Vote passes

Vote for Resolution: In favor: Many    Opposed: None    Abstentions: None    RESOLUTION PASSES

P&T Jackie Wolf

- Worked on P&T guidelines:
  - In light of OneOHIO
  - Creating fair and equitable culture across campuses and colleges
  - Sent to Provost on Nov 18.

PRC Char Miller

- Worked on P&T guidelines with P&T.
- Question: when will document be available?
  - Answer: unknown, it is still under discussion
  - Meeting with Provost this week.

F&F- Doug Clowe

- Met with Shawna Bolin about efforts to condense the footprint of the University, starting with administrative and support functions, with academic use next.
  - NOT about faculty offices, looking for larger spaces where it could be put to revenue-generating use.
- Benefits advisory committee meeting
  - Changes to medical insurance coming
  - Changes previously proposed to manage growth in expenses
  - Actual expenditures have been considerably lower due to pandemic stopping many doctor visits.
  - It may be possible to not have to make benefit changes.
    - Feedback requested: what would be faculty priority?
      - Premiums, Out of pocket, Deductibles

New business: none

MTA Sandal/McMills

Adjourned, 8:46 pm