

**Ohio University Faculty Senate**  
**Meeting Minutes Monday, May 2, 2022**  
**Live and Virtual Meeting Via MS Teams**  
**7:10 – 9:00 p.m.**

I Invited Speaker: EVPP Elizabeth Sayrs

II Roll Call and Approval of the Minutes (April 4, 2022)

III Chair's Report – Robin Muhammad

- A. Updates and Announcements
- B. Upcoming Senate Meeting: September 12, 2022 (first meeting of the academic year)

IV Elections of Faculty Senate Officers – Nomination Committee

V Professional Relations Committee – Char Miller

- A. Resolution to Clarify Differential Workload Distributions for RHE Faculty in the Faculty Handbook – Third Reading
- B. Resolution to Update Policy on Sexual Harassment and Other Sexual Misconduct – First Reading

VI Promotion and Tenure Committee – Jackie Wolf

VII Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee – Jennie Klein

- A. Resolution to Allow Accelerated Graduate Pathways and Early Admission to Non-Degree Graduate Programs - Second Reading
- B. Sense of the Senate Resolution Regarding the Textbook Auto Adoption Policy – First Reading

VIII Finance and Facilities Committee – Doug Clowe

IX New Business

X Adjournment

In attendance:

Agensky, Anderson, Andzulis, Bates, Brandau, Brown, Butler, Casebolt, Challenger, Chen, Cirolis, Clowe, Coschigano, Cox, Crawford, DeTar, Dowell, Drogula, Duvert, Eisworth, Gordon, Guseman, Hallman-Thrasher, Hartman, Hendrickson, Hess, Holcomb, Hurley, Karney, Klein, Kuruppallil, LaPalombara, Littell, Marchenkov, Marinski, Matlack, McDiarmid, McKean, Miller B., Miller C., Muhammad, O'Keefe, Ostermann, Phillips, Popa, Porter, Pritchard, Raffle, Reader, Roche, Rosado Feger, Ruhil, Sarver, Simon, Shovlin, Srivastava, Steele, Stowe, Suetzel, Webb, Webster, White A., White J., Wilson, Wyatt, You, Young

Meeting called to order at 7:05

Provost Elizabeth Sayrs

- Searches:
  - VPFA, VP Student Affairs: on-campus interviews completed
  - Deans CHSP and Education: Committees formed/met anticipate on-campus interviews in October
  - Interim Dean of Southern Campus: nominations requested, finalize3d/announced this week
  - Executive Dean of Regional Higher Education: role has changed and is under review
- Updates
  - New funding opportunity for probationary faculty for research, scholarship and creative activity. Details coming soon, available summer and upcoming year.
  - Faculty DEI workshop, inclusion in pedagogy. Additional faculty development opportunities expected throughout the year.
  - Joined National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. Institutional membership starts June 1. Faculty have access to all materials.
  - Post-pandemic Pedagogy Group got 70 nominations, rethinking how to structure group to include more than the original target of 5-10.
  - Thanked the senators for their work this past year, and particularly the Executive Committee for their work in the past two years.
- Budget Update (John Day)
  - Presented balanced budget at Board of Trustees meeting in April.
    - Since 2017, enrollment decreased 20%, significant reductions in expenditures
    - Still have challenges, particularly in regional campuses.
    - Athens campus still has a structural gap due to small classes.
    - FY 2023 built 3711 incoming freshmen, now at 4000+ deposits.
    - Auxiliaries increasing contributions to scholarships.
    - Budgeting practices tightened, for example 3% vacancy savings.
    - Working with Deans to create incentives in budget to tie academic metrics to resource allocation, to create a system to segregate course fees, and to create a model for expanding eCampus programs.

## QUESTIONS:

Senator Steele: Will the Interim Exec Dean of RHE be an internal posting for an interim position or a permanent replacement? Will there be a call for RHE faculty to volunteer to be on the committee?

Provost Sayers: Unclear yet, depends on final job description and how long the search might be expected to take. We do not know yet how we will solicit nominations for the committee but it will include RHE faculty regardless of the type of position.

Can you expand on the problem of RHE regarding the FY 24 budget?

John Day: RHE is still projecting declines in enrollment. We are adding programs such as the Regional Promise to boost enrollment. Continued enrollment declines put pressures on the budget.

Senator Karney: Article from WOUB describes a fundamental change in how the University presents its budget forecast. Can you explain what this means?

John Day: It's about the way that the budget has been described vs what we are doing now. We are currently focusing on Results of Operations: are our revenues and expenditures in line? Prior presentations were focusing on an "Overall Use of Reserves" approach, which included the Results of Operations but also included expenditures for capital projects, etc. *which are funded from reserves*, so it presented a larger "use of reserves" number that some interpreted as a budget gap.

Senator O'Keefe: The OU Black Faculty Association has been in touch with you regarding their concerns. Would you discuss commitment to retaining positions in African American Studies and the plan for starting faculty searches for those positions.

Provost Sayers: Waiting for final recommendation or request from the College of Fine Arts, already talked to the African American Studies department and they know that I am committed to building that department. President Sherman has supported those as well.

Senator Anderson: What is the status of the VP for DEI search?

Provost Sayers: Interim has been appointed, search committee has not been formed. Dr. Salome Nnoromele is the Interim VP of DEI. Dr. Secuban will be with us until mid-June.

Senator Wilson: with rampant inflation, what impact will that have on future tuition?

John Day: it will factor into the rolling average that is used for the tuition cap. Our modeling for future years is projecting a higher cap. We will have an ability to rise tuition to a higher cap, but we still decide tuition one year at a time.

Provost Sayers: we also watch what other institutions are doing so we understand where we are compared to competitors.

Senator Young: OU is advertising for an Executive Director for University Service Center, a posting that closes on May 5<sup>th</sup> at a salary of up to \$270k. The stated primary responsibility of this position is to establish a university-wide shared services model. In the absence of comprehensive evidence about the outcome of the shared services experiment in Arts and Sciences, why is the university moving to

centralize financial services further, eliminating positions that directly interact with our students and faculty?

Provost Sayers: Shared services is not equivalent to centralization and does not mean there won't be support staff. This project originally came out of the Deloitte study that talked about inefficient processes and the TPP report that talked about inefficient processes with procurement. The main goal of the shared service model is to define and streamline transactional processes and the goal is to improve service. It is about restructuring processes and adding the support where it needs to be provided so faculty can spend less time on these transactional processes. The search committee has not met yet, it is co-chaired by Brad Cohen and Zaki Kurrapallil.

Brad Cohen: The Executive Director has the responsibility to create a service culture. That is a fundamental shift from the current model. We have been committed to a compliance and risk-elimination focused. This center is connected to those functions but builds compliance and risk into the service. The measure of success should be that faculty and staff can do their jobs without having to focus on the compliance and risk management of the transactions. If you hear something that startles you about this project please reach out to the committee and ask your questions there.

Senator Kuruppallil: first meeting for the search is scheduled for Monday May 10. The due date was moved back to give other candidates a chance to apply. Please reach out with any questions and the committee is happy to answer.

Senator Steele: Earlier it was said that RHE was declining in enrollment, how do we tell which campus is declining when students are not assigned a home campus?

John Day: they are pooled as "RHE", not identified as a particular campus.

Provost Sayers: The Registrar is working on a notation of "service campus" so students know where they can go for advising, etc.

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes      Miller/Andzulis    Minutes from April 4 meeting approved.

Chair's Report:

- Dean's Evaluations concluded. Many thanks to all participants.
- Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics having discussions on Knights Committee Report, context of athletics in higher education, promoting education within athletics. For future consideration.
- Thank all officers, committee chairs and senators for your work. We have worked through turbulent pandemic times in the past year and your work is appreciated.

Faculty Senate Officer Elections

- Nominations Committee received a single nomination for each position:
  - Chair: Senator Sarah Wyatt, Arts & Sciences
    - Endorsed by Senators Rosado Feger, Sandal, and Duvert
  - Vice-Chair: Todd Eisworth, Arts & Sciences
    - Endorsed by Senators Rosado Feger and Anderson
  - Secretary: Mick Andzulis, Business
    - Endorsed by Senators Rosado Feger and Wilson
- Proposal to present the candidates as a slate is accepted.

- Slate is voted in. Congratulations to the new officers!

PRC: Senator Miller

A. Resolution to Clarify Differential Workload Distributions for RHE Faculty in the Faculty Handbook – Third Reading

- Version change: strike paragraph 6.
- Senator Reader: is there a change to paragraph c?
  - Senator Miller, this was a change from a previous version to this version.
- Senator Casebolt: about the same paragraph, is there a resolution process if there is conflict?
  - Senator Miller: this was discussed in committee and is to be resolved in the future
- Motion to approve: Rosado Feger/Bates                    AYE: Many NAY: 0 ABS: 0
- Resolution passes

B. Resolution to Update Policy on Sexual Harassment and Other Sexual Misconduct – First Reading

- Emerges from a change in the law and requirements to comply with Title IV.
- Carries over for Second Reading at the September meeting

P&T: No new report

EPSA: Senator Klein

A. Resolution to Allow Accelerated Graduate Pathways and Early Admission to Non-Degree Graduate Programs - Second Reading

- Resolution aligns Catalog and Faculty Handbook to allow Non-Degree (certificate) as well as Degree Programs
- Motion to approve: Andzulis/Clowe                    AYE: Many NAY: 0 ABS: 0
- Resolution passes

B. Sense of the Senate Resolution Regarding the Textbook Auto Adoption Policy – First Reading

- Legislation requires faculty senates to submit policy for the Provost to present to Board of Trustees for their approval
- Discussion regarding clarification for faculty assigned late to class sections, timing of notification, academic freedom as it relates to course materials, and challenges to auto-adoption.
- Motion to suspend the rules to allow second reading: Bates/Brown AYE: Many
- Motion to approve: Wyatt/Bates                    AYE: Many NAY: 1 ABS: 0

F&F: Senator Clowe

- Benefits looking more challenging, will be over by \$7-8M.
- Capital facilities committee: Porter Hall roof needs repairs.
- \$4M left in several areas, some projects may be moved forward.

Senator Duvert: There was a message that the cost of insurance will not increase?

Senator Clowe: Because rates are printed, they will not increase, but if the money runs out, then action will be required, either increase premiums or increase a buffer to rebuild the surplus.

New business

None

Move to adjourn: Rosado Feger/Eisworth

Adjourned, 8:52 pm