

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Room
250 Student Union
December 14, 1999

President Halligan called the meeting to order with the following members present: Arquitt, Bost, Dickman, Eastman, Edgley, Fletcher, Fournier, Hallgren, Hoffer, Hsu, Hyle, Johannes, Locy, Masters, Mayer, Miller, Montgomery, Rhoten, Sanders, Sisson, Tilley, and Warde. Also present: Beer, Dahl, Harp, Hernandez, Houck, Mitchell, Oaks, Suedkamp, Traynor, and Watkins. Absent: Breazile, Gedra, Gregson, Joshi, Kimbrell, Martin, Peck, and Weeks

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Bill Warde moved acceptance of the November 23, 1999, Minutes. Chuck Edgley seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved. Robert Mayer moved acceptance of the December 14, 1999 Agenda. Jacque Fletcher seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved.

SPECIAL REPORT: Campus Facilities Plan — John Houck

Mr. Houck reported that in the Spring of 1999 a landscape master plan was reviewed and approved for Oklahoma State University (copies of which have been in the Edmon Low Library since June, 1999). Recognizing that plans are evolutionary, he hoped that this plan would serve as a conversation piece and generate discussion about the campus. Over the last 10 years, he noted that 258 million dollars had been spent on new facilities, renovations, hard and soft

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landscaping and other embellishments. Given predictions that enrollments will at worst be stable and have the potential to increase, future needs must be embraced, including traffic and pedestrian movements, and incorporate these into the facilities master plan. Questions following his brief presentation focused on efforts in the works to ease traffic through campus, Hester gates and its impact on Monroe, the possibility of making Cleveland a through street and efforts to design a “grand entrance” for the university from 6th Street north along Monroe.

SPECIAL REPORT: Ombuds Report — Carolyn Hernandez

Beginning in 1996, when the office was opened, a total of 28 faculty cases have been reviewed by the Ombudsperson (3 in 1996, 8 in 1997, 8 in 1998 and 9 in 1999 to date). The focus of these cases has been appraisal and development disagreements, reappointment decisions and sick leave. During this timeframe, 55 additional non-faculty cases have been opened in the Ombudsperson’s Office. Approximately one half of these were affirmative action issues with 12 cases being filed by individuals who applied for positions and believed they had been discriminated against.

REPORT OF STATUS OF FACULTY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS:

President Halligan, Executive Vice President and Vice Presidents

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| 99-11-02-RES
97-02-02-ADHOC
98-12-03-RES | <i>Patent Policy 1-0202</i> (copies were distributed at the FC Meeting)
and
<i>Changes to OSU Policy 1-0202:</i> Accepted with revisions (12/3/99). Revised draft approved by Legal Counsel was returned to Faculty Council for approval at their Nov. 23 meeting and was shared with deans via e:mail. Board approved the document at their Dec. 3 meeting after making several modifications. Deans are currently reviewing document. |
| 99-11-01-ASP
97-04-03-ASP | <i>Guidelines for Scheduling Common Evening and Final Exams:</i> Accepted in principle (12/9/99). Recommendation was approved by student academic services directors at their meeting on Dec. 8. Deans Council reviewed recommendation at their Dec. 9 meeting. Additional options for final exam course rotations were presented by Dahl. Deans approved in principle. Dahl will work with SAS directors on rotation options, with review by the Faculty Council committee prior to implementation. |
| 99-05-03-BUDG | <i>OSU-Tulsa Commuting Faculty Compensation:</i> Under review. Recommendation under discussion with Gary Trennepohl, President of OSU-Tulsa and Tony Brown. |
| 99-05-04-BUDG | <i>Guidelines for Third Summer Month Salary for 9- or 11-Month Appointments:</i> Under review. Research Directors approved the recommendation at their 10/17/99 meeting after making a modification |

to the original Faculty Council recommendation. Deans Council members received a packet of historical information during their Dec. meeting, with action expected at the Jan. meeting.

- 99-09-01-FAC *Criminal and Credit Background Checks for Potential Staff Employees:* Under review. Meetings to initiate further discussion with faculty and staff have been set in December. Faculty meeting is set for December 15, 2:00 p.m., 204 Whitehurst.
- 99-12-01-ASP *Proposed Modification of the OSU Policy for Priority Grade Appeals (Academic Affairs Policy #2-0821):* To President Halligan
- 99-12-02-SALR *Support of GSA Recommendation Regarding Health Care Benefits:*
To President Halligan

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICIES — Diane Montgomery

Dr. Montgomery provided an update on Spring 2000 work which includes instructor/course evaluations; course syllabi requirements; continuing refinement on the recommendation passed by the Council last month regarding Guidelines for Scheduling Final Exams; OSU-Tulsa's OU/OSU Graduate Research and Education Center and Graduate College policy; and excused absences, is there a need for policy?

Jacque Fletcher then presented the committee's recommendation proposing a modification of the OSU Policy for Priority Grade Appeals (Academic Affairs Policy #2-0821). Justification for the recommendation has grown from the October 1999 proposal from the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) outlining procedures for handling Priority Appeals cases involving students in the CVM. The CVM proposal dealt only with grade appeals cases that did not include allegation of dishonesty or misconduct. Given this need and the ambiguity of current policy with reference to Priority Appeals, it was the initial goal of the Committee to design a Priority Appeals policy that would work for the entire university. However, review of the OSU academic calendar for the coming decade revealed that in many years the number of official working days between the end of Fall semester and the beginning of Spring semester will not accommodate the needs of the CVM. The proposed modifications, then, include one set of policies for the CVM (Section 4.0) and a slightly different set for OSU's other academic units (Section 3.0). In discussion that followed this presentation, Larry Sanders reminded all that the actions of the Appeals Board are not advisory; their decisions are final. The proposal passed with one abstention.

CAMPUS FACILITIES, SAFETY AND SECURITY — Steve Hallgren

Dr. Hallgren provided an update on changes planned on campus. There was to be a great amount of activity this year and, generally, students and faculty were not aware of these activities. Building on the earlier special report by John Houck, he reiterated the need for input from those

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impacted by these activities and indicated that his committee was considering a mechanism to distribute the master plan for OSU. He suggested that President Halligan could formally present the master plan at a reception in the Student Union. Larry Sanders then suggested that this information be included on the OSU website with built-in mechanisms for input and discussion. Alexandria Miller suggested that this information be included in all alumni communications because of their interest in happenings on campus as well. Heidi Hoffer also suggested that faculty could incorporate parts of the plan in their classes as student projects.

FACULTY — Chuck Edgley

Dr. Edgley reminded all that Wednesday, December 15 at 2:00 in 204 Whitehurst, the first Forum to discuss background checks was being held. All were encouraged to attend.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING — Ken Eastman

Dr. Eastman reported that there was no long-range plan at OSU. The committee did not let that deter them, and they will look long-range at “who we want to become” here at OSU. They are going to develop goals and goal statements with reference to tenure, service and research while at the same time creating discussion about these topics.

RETIREMENT AND FRINGE BENEFITS — Ed Arquitt

Dr. Arquitt reported that the committee will be working to develop an Emeriti Faculty Bill of Rights this next semester. It will address such questions as: What should we guarantee retired faculty? What roles might retired faculty play on campus? What benefits beyond health insurance, free campus parking, fishing license at Lark Carl Blackwell, etc., should exist? How might programs be developed beyond the Emeriti Association that could allow the university and the retiree to benefit from their ongoing involvement? And, how might we minimize the loss incurred when faculty take early retirement and leave the university and the state? (Brain drain - State Regents are dealing with this issue.) If individuals have ideas and/or concerns, please let a Retirement and Fringe Benefits Committee member know. Council members on the RFB Committee include Bjorn Martin, A. J. Johannes and Ed Arquitt.

RULES AND PROCEDURES — Alexandria Miller

Ms. Miller has been diligently searching for a history of the membership configurations of the Council. She now knows that the subject matter groups came into existence in the 1940s. In 1946, the Committee on Higher Degrees of the Graduate School recommended that the graduate faculty be organized in related subject-matter groups so that the Graduate Council could function more efficiently. The proposal was approved by the Committee in January 1947 and the groups were formed in January 1948. Faculty Council was chartered in 1953 and was originally composed of two representatives and one alternate representative from each of the general academic divisions of the College. In March 1955, the Rules Committee proposed that Article II, Section 1 be revised: The elected members... shall be.... one from each of the seven undergraduate schools or divisions and three from each of the subject-matter groups.... within the Graduate School faculty. That proposed amendment passed December 15, 1955 by a vote of the general faculty. Then, in November 1967, Dr. Kolch (Speech) wrote a letter requesting that the charter of the Faculty Council be restructured and amended. In February 1968, the Rules

Committee recommended that a Special Committee be appointed to study the structure of Faculty Council and make recommendations about changes. The committee was chaired by Ted Agnew. Mary Leidigh, Thomas Mayberry, J. R. Norton, Robert Price, John Thornton and Joe Whiteman were other members of the committee. The Special Committee submitted its recommendation to Faculty Council in a lengthy report on November 3, 1969. It was suggested that Article II, Section 1 on membership be changed as follows: The elected members of the Faculty Council shall be... three elected at large; one elected from each undergraduate college or division for each 50 members or any fraction thereof; and three elected from each of the subject-matter groups... within the Graduate College Faculty, plus one additional member from a group for each 50 faculty members or any fraction thereof in excess of 150. In March 1970, Faculty Council called a special meeting to discuss the Special Committee's recommendation. At that time, they passed a recommendation that membership should remain at "the present level" due to the controversial nature of the proposal. It was felt that if that part of the proposal was submitted for a vote it would delay action. The recommendation was made that membership should receive a special study, but she could find no record of any subsequent study. Charter changes were approved by the faculty in the Fall of 1970. Since then minor changes in composition have been made including adding a member from OSU-Okmulgee, one from the Library, one from OSU-COM and a Multicultural representative.

STUDENT AFFAIRS AND LEARNING RESOURCES — Steve Locy

Professor Locy reported that the committee had met with GSA and proposed Recommendation 99-12-02-SALR titled Support of GSA Recommendation Regarding Health Care Benefits. A great deal of discussion ensued. It was discovered that approximately half of the graduate and professional students who have at least a quarter time appointment (25% FTE) were predicted to need and take advantage of the proposed health care benefits. Robert Mayer noted that a finite pool of resources existed from which to support graduate and professional students. In other words, if students received these benefits, the dollars needed would not be replaced from another source. Chuck Edgley argued that this was a "0" sum game, and this "benefit" would translate into fewer graduate students. Steve Hallgren argued that this commitment would keep students here and serve as a recruitment tool for future graduate students as well. Council was assured that this "benefit" was preferred by graduate students. Tuition fee waivers and percentage increases in stipends were believed to be less likely. Larry Sanders noted that we needed to look more comprehensively to prepare a package to attract quality graduate students. Health care benefits were but one component of that comprehensive package. Ron Rhoten proposed the following amendment to the recommendation: The Student Affairs and Learning Resources Committee moves that Faculty Council support the Graduate Student Association in its efforts to obtain appropriate health care benefits for all graduate and professional students. The amendment passed.

REPORTS OF LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES:

Emeriti Association — Audrey Oaks noted that at the First Friday Dinner of the OSU Emeriti Association held December 3, 1999, the Association honored Dr. Idella Lohmann with a birthday party. Dr. Lohmann is the first Past President of the Association to reach the age of 90 years. Dr. Lohmann retired from the College of Education's Department of Curriculum and

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Instruction in 1975. She served as President of the Emeriti Association in 1994-1995. Ninety-two members and guests were in attendance at Willham Hall to celebrate the occasion.

Staff Advisory Council — Myra Traynor reported that the Staff Advisory Council meets in the Student Union the second Wednesday of each month at 1:15 p.m., and would like Faculty Council to have a representative in attendance at those meetings.

Graduate Student Association — Kimberly Suedkamp provided an update on the health insurance bids. Six were received (3 did not comply with bid specifications, two met specifications but were too expensive). The best option offered increased services for a comparable premium. If undergraduates and graduates were bid together with the best bid, premiums would be reduced by approximately \$40 per student per year. She noted that for the annual Graduate College Research Symposium, GSA has established three \$300 awards for best poster, best talk, and best interdisciplinary project. Also \$50 to \$75 awards for best of show in each subject area have been established. With SGA, GSA is working to sponsor undergraduate awards as well. The GSA Retreat is scheduled for January 15, 2000. It is open to all representatives and officers. GSA is also working with Dan Carlisle of CIS and Mark Oppel of SGA to improve relations and communication between students and CIS. The group hopes to improve e-mail and technological frustrations among students. GSA has also been involved in the searches for the Director of Student Services in the Graduate College as well as Ron Beer's replacement as Vice President for Student Services.

Task Force on Scholarship Committee — Dave Buchanan

Reporting for Dr. Buchanan, Marcia Tilley provided an update noting that the Scholarship Forums were beginning. The first one will be held Wednesday, Dec. 15th. All invited are encouraged to attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

A replacement for Malt Joshi was voted on by Council due to his resignation. Katye Perry has been recommended to complete his term from January through May, 2000. In the Spring 2000 Faculty Council elections, a replacement will be elected to complete Dr. Joshi's term from June 2000 through May 2001. Council voted to support this recommendation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is January 11, 2000.