

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES  
250 Student Union  
January 11, 2000

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

**HIGHLIGHTS**

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Brenda Masters moved acceptance of the December 14, 1999, Minutes. James Breazile seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved. Bill Warde moved acceptance of the January 11, 2000, Agenda. Adrienne Hyle seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved.

President Halligan ask to amend the Agenda to allow Anne Matoy to give a Special Report on the proposed health insurance increases. Kathryn Jones was unable to give her report to Council, at this time, and the report on health insurance substituted. The motion was approved.

**FACULTY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Marcia Tilley reported in Dr. Edgley’s absence. The first meeting of a group of faculty and administrators, led by Harry Birdwell, met to discuss criminal and credit background checks. Although the meeting was very productive, not all matters were covered and the group will be meeting again January 27, 2000, 1:30-3:00 p.m., in 204 Whitehurst. Chuck is also working on the RPT summary to present to Council, hopefully at the next meeting.

**SPECIAL REPORT: Health Insurance Update — Anne Matoy**

Proposed rates for plans were reported. Two handouts were distributed. One was proposed rates for those plans and the second was a Question and Answer sheet. Terminology is changing for some plans but of greatest interest is the proposed 13% increase in HealthChoice standard coverage for OSU employees. These costs are projected to increase the OSU-Stillwater costs of insurance \$525,000. Medical claims are up 8% over last year and prescription claims are up 20% over the same time period. Marcia Tilley asked why spousal rates increased as much as reported. Anne responded that based on experience, spouses have more claims than employees. Ken Eastman wondered if the documents distributed were for public consumption and Anne indicated that they could be distributed to all interested. Look for additional information provided in a “Benefits Extra” that will probably be distributed later this month. On a final note, the faculty health insurance is not related to student insurance.

**REPORT OF STATUS OF FACULTY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

President Halligan, Executive Vice President and Vice Presidents

- 99-05-03-BUDG     ***OSU-Tulsa Commuting Faculty Compensation:*** Under review. Recommendation under discussion with Gary Trennepohl, President of OSU-Tulsa and Tony Brown.
- 99-05-04-BUDG     ***Guidelines for Third Summer Month Salary for 9- or 11-Month Appointments:*** 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 at 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 were held in December with Faculty Council and Staff Advisory Council representatives. Based on suggestions received during these meetings, university officials are redrafting the proposed policy. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled to review the new document.
- 99-12-01-ASP     ***Proposed Modification of the OSU Policy for Priority Grade Appeals (Academic Affairs Policy #2-0821):*** Under review. An ad hoc committee, composed of current/past board chairs and Academic Affairs and Vet Med representatives, will be appointed to review proposed modifications.
- 99-12-02-SALR     ***Support of GSA Recommendation Regarding Health Care Benefits:*** Under review. Administration will share this recommendation with members of the University Budget Committee for consideration with other FY’01 budget needs.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:****ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICIES — Diane Montgomery**

A new and improved Common Final Exam Schedule was distributed. The revised schedule was “fine-tuned” and hopefully more convenient for students. With the revised schedule, students would not have all their exams on a single day. Fall 2000 is the date for implementation of this schedule. As always, feedback is welcomed.

**BUDGET — Janet Kimbrell**

No update from The University Budget Committee, they did not meet in December. One of the projects they are working on is the Big 12 Faculty Salaries Comparison. Updated information is needed to make the report and that information has not yet been provided to the Office of Institutional Research. Another project in process is a cross-campus Extension Compensation comparison. Data has been collected from four colleges. When the others colleges and University Extension have given their input the report can be completed. Steve Hallgren wondered if Big 12 staff and/or administrator comparisons have been made. Budget Committee will look into that.

**RULES AND PROCEDURES — Alexandria Miller**

Just a reminder that Faculty Council Vice-Chair nominations will be made at the next Council meeting. Two nominations are needed before the end of the meeting.

**REPORTS OF LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES:****Staff Advisory Council — Mary Kay Jennings**

SAC is working on Criminal and Background Check issues as well. They will meet again with Dr. Birdwell on January 26. In addition, they are working on fundraisers for staff scholarships that will be awarded on Staff Appreciation Day. They hope to raise \$1500 to be matched by administration. They are also working on an Ombudsman for the staff and SAC is working on a recommendation to go forward to the administration. Again, they welcome a representative from Faculty Council at their meetings the second Wednesday of each month in the Student Union at 1:15 p.m.

**Graduate Student Association — Kimberly Suedkamp**

Their next meeting is January 18 at 5:00 in 103 Classroom Building. The AFAP deadline for applications for funding are due in 040A Student Union by 5:00 p.m. on January 28 (firm). They are also considering making a donation to the Edmon Low Library. Pilot satisfaction surveys for graduate students are in process. Kim is working on the NCAA accreditation team. They have formed a Technology Committee to look into graduate student e-mail frustrations and other technology problems. The committee will be meeting monthly. A Health Insurance Proposal will also be made to the legislature and Kim is eager to get the committee of faculty together to discuss further graduate student concerns. Marcia Tilley noted that her recommendations for

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membership are almost complete.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Marcia Tilley reported that there was a copy of a letter attached to the Agenda, from the Board of Regents, that stated what their response was after the meeting with representatives of Faculty Council and the OSU administration, on Monday, December 6, 1999, in regard to “title changes.”

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Evolution Disclaimer — Bill Warde:** A petition is being circulated opposing the Evolution Disclaimer being placed in public school textbooks. He brought copies of the petition for those to sign who might be interested in supporting this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is February 8, 2000.

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Adrienne E. Hyle, Secretary