

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES

250 Student Union

April 11, 2000

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

HIGHLIGHTS

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A. J. Johannes moved acceptance of the March 14, 2000, Minutes. Jacque Fletcher seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved. James Breazile moved acceptance of the April 11, 2000 Agenda with the amendment of a Special Report from Bob Graalman about recent scholarship recipients – Truman and Goldwater. Bill Warde seconded. The Agenda was approved as amended.

SPECIAL REPORT: Introduction of Truman and Goldwater Scholarship Winners and Finalist — Bob Graalman

Bob Graalman, Director of Scholarship Development and Recognition, introduced three students who competed for and/or received the prestigious Truman and Goldwater scholarships. Maren Minnaert, from Sioux Falls, S. D., a Truman Scholarship finalist, reported to Council about the support and academic preparation provided by OSU’s faculty. Her competition took place in Minneapolis over Spring Break. Mario White, from McAlester, OK, a double major in Mathematics and History, competed for and received the Goldwater Scholarship. He thanked specifically Dr. Lisa Mantini for all of her assistance in refining and editing his application. He next introduced Kent Gardner, from Sharon, OK, a recent Truman Scholarship recipient from Agricultural Economics. Dr. Graalman noted that the faculty in Ag Econ had produced three Truman Scholars in the last four years as well as four Truman Finalists. Kent thanked the

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faculty of OSU for helping all of the applicants become well-rounded through their support and the variety of activities available for students to engage in.

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 by Marvin Keener, Gary Trennepohl, President of OSU-Tulsa, and Tony Brown. A meeting was held on March 20 to discuss options to be presented to and discussed with the Faculty Council and Deans Council in the near future.
- 99-05-04-BUDG ***Guidelines for Third Summer Month Salary for 9- or 11-Month Appointments:*** Under review. Waiting for input from Faculty Council. Deans Council reaffirmed that payment of a third month of summer salary should be from extramural sources, and M. Keener forwarded their recommendation to Pres. Halligan. This recommendation has been provided to Faculty Council for review.
- 99-09-01-FAC ***Criminal and Credit Background Checks for Potential Staff Employees:*** Under review. Additional meetings were held in January with Faculty Council and Staff Advisory Council representatives. Suggestions continue to be made to the proposed policy as issues are covered. Input pending from Legal Counsel and Personnel Services. Follow-up meetings will be scheduled for later this Spring.
- 99-12-01-ASP ***Proposed Modification of the OSU Policy for Priority Grade Appeals (Academic Affairs Policy #2-0821):*** Under review. The ad hoc committee, chaired by Jack Vitek and composed of current/past board chairs and Vet Med representatives, met twice to review proposed modifications. Discussions on policy modifications continue, including input from Diane Montgomery, ASP Chair; however, Vet Med has been granted approval to do emergency appeals between semesters if needed.
- 99-12-02-SALR ***Support of GPSA Recommendation Regarding Health Care Benefits:*** Accepted as clarified. Clarification received from FC Chair states that the FC voted to support the GPSA efforts to obtain appropriate health care benefits, not endorsing any specific plan. Estimated cost of the GPSA plan is \$0.4M, expanding to all grad students adds \$1.5M. This recommendation has been shared with members of the University Budget Committee for consideration with other FY2001 budget needs and a Task Force of grad students and faculty has been appointed to look at total benefits for grad students.
- 00-03-01-ASP ***Student Assessment of Instruction Task Force:*** Under review by Marvin Keener and Jack Vitek.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICIES — Diane Montgomery

The update focused on concerns about the application of OSU policies at OSU-Tulsa and the OSU-OU Graduate Research Center. The committee was going to continue to monitor academic issues as they evolved. They do believe that the Graduate College needs a physical presence in Tulsa for the purpose of being certain policies are in place. Dr. Halligan indicated that the same Graduate College calendars were being used in Stillwater and Tulsa. Ken Eastman, Jacque Fletcher, Bill Warde and Chuck Edgley noted potential problems.

BUDGET — Janet Kimbrell

In her update, she noted that the Big-12 Faculty Survey data had arrived. She has not had the time to compile her report, but was pleased to have the data. The committee was also looking into Extension reimbursements across campus. They were collecting data and hoped to report to Council shortly.

FACULTY — Chuck Edgley

The update concerned CIS complaints, Criminal Background Checks, the new Sabbatical Task Force, handicapped access to facilities, discontinuance of the Speech Communication Program and the Drake Group Proposal. A number of individuals had requested that the Committee look into the recent failures and/or problems with the Computer Information System on campus. The Academic Computing Advisory Committee is also involved in this concern. It seems that an internal report from CIS blames system users for problems and argues for the need to exercise greater control over system users. This worries many. Members of the committee are awaiting the third meeting with Harry Birdwell about Criminal Background Checks. With the Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security Committee, Faculty Committee is concerned about access to student housing for handicapped students. It seems that the new housing facilities do not provide full access. Dr. Halligan indicated that he thought, because a private firm was constructing the housing, full access was not necessary. Chuck Edgley noted that we were morally obligated to provide handicapped access to all, private firm or not. Dr. Halligan indicated that student protection was difficult in facilities with elevators and that the facilities met all federal laws. Chuck Edgley noted that he was looking into whether or not the appropriate procedures were followed during the program discontinuation of Speech Communication. The Drake Group proposal asks for reform in college athletics, based on, in part, the Dexter Manley case. The committee is going to review the findings of this group. A. J. Johannes asked Chuck to be certain to include the Director of Athletics as a visitor to the meeting. He further indicated that possibly other people should be invited as well. As a related item, Richard Bost reported that there would be a Faculty Governance Workshop at OSU-COM April 21, 2000. Given the model of governance he and others had observed associated with the OSU Faculty Council, faculty at the College of Osteopathic Medicine needed grounding in the traditional university values. Ed Lawry was presenting on shared governance, promotion and tenure issues, as well as academic freedom. Dave Buchanan was presenting on scholarship and Marvin Keener was providing an administrative perspective.

RETIREMENT AND FRINGE BENEFITS — A. J. Johannes

A. J. chaired the last committee meeting in Ed Arquitt's absence. They had recently visited the Emeriti facilities in Bennett Hall and reported that they were less than impressive and that the

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Committee was working to help improve their plight. Their future, at least two to three years down the road, is to be housed in the new Alumni Association facility, but until then they need help. Marcia Tilley announced a letter had been distributed, written by Ron du Bois, regarding retired educators benefits and diminished standard of living. He was hoping for a vote of support at today's meeting but Marcia thought the R&FB committee should look at it and come back with specific data regarding the situation.

RULES AND PROCEDURES — Alexandria Miller

2000 Spring Faculty Council Election Results were announced. Those elected are as follows: Vice Chair, Chuck Edgley; Group I, Biological Sciences – Thomas Peeper; Group II, Humanities – Karin Schestokat; Group III, Physical Sciences – Birne Binegar; Group IV, Social Sciences – T. Sterling Wetzel; Group V, Teacher Education (three-year term) – Lowell Caneday; Group V, Teacher Education (one-year term) – Paula Dohoney; College of Arts & Sciences – James Lawler; College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology – John Veenstra; Library – Suzanne Holcombe; OSU-Okmulgee – Roy Achemire. New Councilors will take office at the June 13 Faculty Council Meeting.

STUDENT AFFAIRS & LEARNING RESOURCES — Steve Locy

Copies of a table were distributed entitled "FY1999 Budgets of University-wide and College Student Technical Fee Committees for Student Assessed Technology Fee." This information was compiled starting in November 1999. To better understand how the self-assessed technology fee is spent, the colleges and University Wide Student Technology Committee was contacted. Currently, students are assessed \$5/credit hour, of which \$3 goes to the University Wide Student Technology Committee and \$2 goes to student's college. Except CEAT which charges \$19/credit hour, of which \$3 goes to the University Wide Student Technology Committee and \$16 to CEAT. Vet Med and other branches of OSU, like OSU-Tulsa and OSU-OKC were not included. The breakdown of the various budgets reflected on this sheet is difficult to interpret. Many of the college committees carry forward a balance which they will use to purchase computers and other hardware, in most cases a 3-year cycle. Thus, this FY99 budget only shows expenditures and not actual money available. If there are any questions, faculty members can contact those listed on the sheet affiliated with each committee. They are: University Wide Student Technology: Tracie Brown; Arts and Sciences, Bruce Crauder; Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Ed Miller; Business, Rudy Greer; Engineering, Architecture and Technology, David Thompson; Education, Linda Myers; and Human Environmental Sciences, Cindy Haseley.

REPORTS OF LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES:

Emeriti Association — Audrey Oaks

Since this week is National Volunteers' Week, Dr. Oaks thought it might be appropriate to showcase the Emeriti Ambassadors, who are the official volunteer group of the OSU Emeriti Association. For those who know little or nothing about the history of the group, Dr. Oaks thought they might be interested in knowing that the group originated at the time of the Centennial Celebration at OSU, and have continued to serve in various capacities at events on the campus up to the present time. Russell Conway, who served in the Office of High School and College Relations, was asked to coordinate a group of retirees who would be willing to serve at various events during the Centennial year. Of the 25 people in the original group, referred to

as the Centennial Ambassadors, 14 are still actively involved as Ambassadors. Of the original Ambassadors, 7 are not deceased. Except for two years, Russell Conway has continued to serve as the coordinator. Following the Centennial Celebration the name of the Ambassadors was changed from Centennial Ambassadors to Emeriti Ambassadors. The Ambassadors have continued to serve the university at convocations, student elections, homecoming events, workshops, commencement and much more. Currently we have 34 Ambassadors who serve at various events. Since July 1, 1999 until the present time 24 Ambassadors served during 48 events. In another matter, Dr. Oaks had invited Ronald du Bois, Professor Emeritus, Fine Arts Department, to the Faculty Council meeting. He was introduced to Council and asked to speak. A handout he authored had been distributed earlier entitled "Diminished Standard of Living for Retired Educators." He was going to send this letter to Senator Mike Morgan, Chair of the Retirements and Employee Benefits Subcommittee at the State Capitol. Prof. du Bois asked Councilors to read what he had written and was asking for their endorsement before he sent it. He had also contacted the Oklahoma Retired Educators Association and the Payne County Retired Educators Association for their endorsements. Chuck Edgley asked if this letter would go to the FC Retirements and Fringe Benefits Committee. A. J. Johannes said it had been presented to the committee with all the facts and they had supported it and asked him to attend the FC meeting.

Graduate and Professional Student Association — Kimberly Suedkamp

New GPSA officers for May 2000-May 2001 were announced. Adam Ryburn (Botany Dept.) will serve as president. Research Symposium winners were announced with checks being mailed to the winners. The Phoenix and Research Awards Ceremony will be held Thursday, April 13 at 7 p.m. in SU 300. All are invited and research award winners will be presented plaques. GPSA successfully co-hosted the NAGPS South Central Regional Conference with OU/OSU-Tulsa in Tulsa April 7-9. They had 25 attendees from 9 member schools. Drs. Wayne Powell and Molly Tovar made presentations for Enhancing Graduate Diversity and from Dr. Satterfield about portfolio development. Dr. Anthony Brown, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Kathryn Jones, Director of the Graduate Education and Research Center, and Dr. Ken Lackey, President of OU-Tulsa gave keynote addresses. Abstracts and the full program can be viewed on the GPSA web page at: www.okstate.edu/osu_orgs/gsa.

Graduate Faculty — Bill Warde

Graduate Council has been charged, to some degree, at looking at the possibility of restructuring the Graduate College and providing faculty input on the hiring of an Interim Dean to replace Dr. Powell who has resigned. A special meeting will be held on Friday, April 14, at 1:30 p.m. to look at ideas on the potential restructuring of the college at the request of Dr. Keener. If anyone has any input, contact a member of the Graduate Council.

Task Force on Scholarship — Dave Buchanan

Fifteen forums were held recently with approximately 100 faculty in attendance. Many faculty feel very passionately about scholarship and the various things that are done to contribute to scholarship. At one of the forums a married couple, which had very different views about scholarship, at times were very vigorous in their disagreement. The committee plans to have a report to Council before the end of this Faculty Council cycle. Dr. Buchanan will be speaking

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regarding this subject at the Spring General Faculty Meeting on April 18 and to the faculty at OSU-COM during the same week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Marcia Tilley reminded everyone about the Spring General Faculty Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 3:00 p.m., Student Union Theater.

A. J. Johannes commented in regard to President Clinton signing into law that people who are 65 years and older can draw Social Security, continue to work, make as much as they want, and not be penalized. The implementation is that faculty who are 65 right now can collect Social Security even before they retire.

Janet Kimbrell mentioned that a couple of faculty, from the College of Business, had come to her in regard to the students who were arrested in Stout Hall for stealing access to the OSU computer network. Some faculty feel the punishment is a little severe. They felt that if the students had been "hacking" it would have been different. They did not know where to take this complaint. President Halligan said Dr. Kimbrell could send him the faculty names.

Natalea Watkins announced that this coming weekend, April 15-16 is Mom's Weekend at OSU. A special panel discussion will be held on Saturday about "What My Mom Never Told Me" and will begin at 3 p.m. in the Student Union Little Theater. The panel include: Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin, OSU Regent Lou Watkins, Nicole Dobbins, Outstanding Female Graduate, 1995, and Cathy Bolton, a female entrepreneur. These are four very successful alums, from four different generations, with four career fields, and they will be talking about what they face in the world.

The President asked Natalea Watkins to give the statistics regarding the academic performance of the spring 2000 WILL participants. OSU specifically chose this group of young women to reflect a range of hometowns and a range of ethnic groups in order to test the impact of the program on more than just top students. At the end of the first semester, there was 100 percent retention and their average GPA was 3.46 – higher than the campus average for freshmen of 2.78 and the female new freshman average of 2.91.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is May 9, 2000.