

FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES
250 Student Union
September 12, 2000

President Halligan called the meeting to order with the following members present: Achemire, Binigar, Bost, Breazile, Caneday, Comer, Dickman, Dohoney, Eastman, Edgley, Fletcher, Fournier, Hallgren, Hoffer, Holcombe, Hsu, Hyle, Johannes, Kimbrell, Masters, Peeper, Sanders, Schestokat, Veenstra, Warde and Weeks. Also present: Bird, Birdwell, Conway, Harp, Hundley, Huss, Keener, McNeill, E. Mitchell, V. Mitchell, Ryburn, Spurrier, and Vitek. Absent: Gregson, Mayer, Peck, and Wetzel

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Larry Sanders moved acceptance of the June 13, 2000, Minutes. Brenda Masters seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved. Ken Eastman moved acceptance of the September 12, 2000 Agenda. James Breazile seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved.

Bill Warde made a motion to approve the appointment of Jonathan Comer to a one-year term (through May 31, 2001) as a member of Faculty Council, to fill the seat vacated by Jim Lawler's resignation. Chuck Edgley seconded the motion. The motion carried. Jon was welcomed to Faculty Council.

SPECIAL REPORT: Update on Student Affairs and Student Housing — Lee Bird and Bob Huss

Lee Bird, OSU's new Vice President for Student Affairs, gave an update on recent activities associated with Student Affairs. She indicated that she had been meeting with all deans and academic student affairs representatives in colleges across campus to discuss awareness of issues

collectively faced with students. Her division will be working more closely with academic affairs this year to help students succeed at OSU. She also reported that OSU was “running hard” to make sure that a large portion of an 11 million dollar grant given by AmeriCorp to the Oklahoma State Board of Regents to support students doing community service could be maximized. Potentially, each student engaging in 450 hours of community service during the academic year could “earn” \$1200 to help defray the cost of their education. And, students who engage in 925 hours of service, could “earn” \$2500 of their bill for the next academic year. There was no cap on the number of OSU students who could participate and she was working to develop sites for student participation. Promotional materials are forthcoming. The contact person will be Joyce Montgomery in Volunteer Services in the Student Union. This opportunity will be open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Peeper asked if the money was tax-free and Dr. Bird said she believed it was.

Bob Huss, Director of Residential Life, provided a virtual video tour of the new student housing. This housing fosters building community but having privacy and is filled to 100% occupancy. In addition to the traditional Resident Assistants, Faculty Associates are also working with students in the 600 plus Phase I suites and apartments. Phase II is in process and will add an additional 300 suites and 500 apartments. Even with all the construction on campus, the net number of units is to stay the same. Old units will be torn down as new units are completed. Questions were asked about handicap accessibility and requests for adaptations for individuals with disabilities. No requests for adaptations were made for Phase I housing. President Halligan indicated that the most basic strategy was to wait for a request and then provide modifications specific to the individual. This recognized differing needs of individuals. Book standards do not work in all cases and it is better to individualize each apartment for each individual resident. Dr. Bird stated that all suites and apartments meet the ADA compliance requirements regarding buildings. Marcia Dickman, who served on the committee that picked the builder for the suites and apartments, indicated that advice from many was considered before a decision was made to not have elevators in the suites. Harry Birdwell reminded all that OSU is leasing these student housing facilities. Any plans for Phase III housing will be based upon demand. More firm plans can be made with the completion of Phase II suites and apartments. President Halligan indicated that plans for student housing are associated with the 25-Year Plan for the University. He hopes that faculty will engage in a lively debate of this plan as part of the Fall General Faculty meeting on November 21.

SPECIAL REPORT: Proposed Honors College — Jack Vitek and Bob Spurrier

Jack Vitek, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Bob Spurrier, Director of the University Honors Program, reported to the faculty a comparison of OSU and OU honors requirements. They noted that OU has used to their advantage the fact that their honors program is housed in an Honors College. They also asked that we change the name of our honors program to an Honors College, so that “we can catch up with the Jones’.” This is a name change only. This will not result in the creation of a new dean. Faculty will not be taken from departments. Deans will not lose students to an Honors College. Students will have dual citizenship with their home college and the Honors College. The only change is that transcripts will now reflect that the degree is from the Honors College instead of the Honors Program. This

is secondary to the degree awarded by the college. It is possible that the quality and number of students may increase with such a change. Ken Eastman made a motion, seconded by Chuck Edgley, that the Faculty Council supports this change in name. The motion carried.

REPORT OF STATUS OF FACULTY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS:

President Halligan, Executive Vice President and Vice Presidents

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 Dr. Keener forwarded their recommendation to President 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. Suggestions continue to be made to the proposed policy as issues are reviewed. Input from Legal Counsel and Personnel Services is pending. A meeting with Faculty and Staff Advisory Council representatives has been scheduled for September 22.

00-03-01-ASP *Student Assessment of Instruction Task Force:* Under review by Marvin Keener and Jack Vitek. A meeting was held with Diane Montgomery, ASP Chair, to discuss committee make-up and the review process. Committee members are being identified and an organizational meeting scheduled.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET — Janet Kimbrell

Janet provided an update in the absence of new Chair Robert Mayer. This year the committee will be reviewing guidelines for third summer month of salary and hope to bring a recommendation to the October meeting concerning this matter. Joe Weaver will be attending their next meeting to discuss general questions about budget issues. They plan to look at data on extension compensation and decide if they want to bring a recommendation forward regarding that issue. In December, they plan to look at salaries and comparisons with last year and other Big Twelve institutions. They have also been asked to look at the timing of salary increases.

CAMPUS FACILITIES, SAFETY AND SECURITY — Steve Hallgren

They will meet soon with Walker Parking Consultants, the firm designing the master parking plan for OSU. September 26, 27 and 28 are the dates for open meetings with interested individuals on campus. They are still concerned about ADA, particularly in terms of housing and will also explore issues associated with bicycle safety on campus.

FACULTY — Larry Sanders

In terms of old business, the Faculty Committee will watch carefully progress made in terms of background credit/criminal checks and policy related to same. They are involved with the Sabbatical Leave Taskforce and concerned with policies supporting sabbatical leaves. Larry noted that among the Big 12, OSU is at the bottom in terms of sabbatical leaves. Student participation in athletics, specifically, and the role of athletics at the university, more generally, will also be reviewed. Ron Elliott and Sue Williams recently submitted the 1998-99 Annual Report of the Athletic Council Academic Integrity Committee. There is the possibility that it will be presented at the next meeting. The committee also plans a follow-up with Dr. Keener on RPT actions from last Spring to clarify any questions and issues there. In terms of new business, they have provided a faculty member's name to the proposed committee, that Dr. Keener is considering, to review evaluation of instruction on campus. There are several computer-related issues and SIS issues that they hope to pursue with the appropriate people on campus. They are also going to work towards forming a new committee on information technology. They still want to review tenure/promotion issues (role of deans; transparency of the process; historical trends by department; etc.). There is also concern about recent abuse of student social security numbers on other campuses. The committee will explore what needs to be done on this campus to reduce the likelihood of problems for both students and faculty. Also, they will probably be looking at different types of parking issues.

RESEARCH — Richard Bost

Several members of the committee have been attending the Research Initiatives and Research Council meetings to gain information to inform recommendations in support of the university's research enterprise. More information is needed and recommendations will be forthcoming later this Fall or early in the Spring.. The 5th revision of the University-Wide Copyright Taskforce has been completed and the taskforce is in the process of gathering informal input from various members of the university community. The hope is to build a consensus about the policy. They anticipate that within the next month or two the proposed policy will be ready for formal review and circulation throughout the university community. At that point, the policy will come for formal review by the Faculty Council. Since this policy will affect the entire faculty and most of the university community, it is hoped that will stimulate widespread discussion. A list of Frequently Asked Questions may be distributed to the campus along with text being proposed in the policy. Because this policy represents significant cultural change within the university, it is believed that the best way to enable cultural change is not to dictate the policy but facilitate widespread discussion. If you have other ideas about ways of disseminating the policy and facilitating the establishment of consensus about this policy, Richard would be very eager to have this information. October 13 is the date of the next Research Initiatives meeting. It is to be held in the Student Union Building, Room 211, from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m.

RULES AND PROCEDURES — Dave Fournier

On May 9, 2000, Faculty Council approved a change as to how members are elected to Council. Unfortunately, the recommendation was not clear specifically with reference to voting for Council officers in general and the faculty Secretary in particular. No information indicated why the faculty Secretary had not been a voting member in the past but it was speculated that the Secretary had not always been a faculty member. Since the Secretary is a member of the faculty it seems logical that the Secretary be allowed to vote. A motion was made by Bill Warde that all officers be able to vote. James Breazile seconded the motion. By unanimous vote the original motion was amended to make all officers voting members of Faculty Council. Such a change in membership of Faculty Council and the voting rights of Council officers requires a vote of the General Faculty. A ballot will be distributed through Campus Mail within the next month.

REPORTS OF LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES:**Emeriti Association — Russell Conway**

Russell Conway represented the Emeriti Association in the absence of Roscoe Rouse, President. Professor Rouse is home completing his recovery from by-pass surgery and should be able to attend meetings again in the next few months.

Staff Advisory Council — Rita Hundley

The regular meetings of SAC are the second Wednesday of each month at 1:15 p.m., 419 Student Union. Faculty are encouraged to attend. Every couple of months there will be special Brown Bag lunches with a speaker and all are welcome to attend. New officers are Mary Kay Jennings, Chair; Nancy Swann, Vice-Chair; Camille Jardot, Secretary; and Sherry Curd, Treasurer. Fundraising efforts paid off well this past year with over \$3,000 raised. Nine scholarships were given. The SAC will continue fundraising this year with Dip N Dots at the Football and Basketball games. They appreciate Faculty Council's support and will welcome any and all help Council wishes to give this year. Contact any SAC member to volunteer. Items being worked on this year include: 1. Policy and Benefits Committee: A few additional revisions of the Family Medical Leave Act Policy; low pay for entry-level staff positions; and the Background Check Proposal which does not address any of their concerns. 2. Awards and Recognition Committee: Staff Appreciation Day is November 20, 2000. The SAC appreciates faculty support by letting staff have time off to attend. All faculty are invited to attend. Lunch is free for staff; faculty can purchase a meal for a nominal charge. 3. Public Relations Committee: Brown Bag lunch promotion and Staff Appreciation Day promotion top their list.

Graduate and Professional Student Association — Adam Ryburn

All counselors received a brochure detailing GPSA goals, benefits and contact information. Details are being ironed out concerning healthcare for graduate students. Advertisements will appear in the O'Colly for an information meeting. All graduate students are encouraged to

attend. One of the main goals of the GPSA was to increase attendance at their meetings by department representatives. To that end, 35 attended the first meeting, almost double average attendance last year. The name change from Graduate Student Association to Graduate and Professional Student Association was designed to embrace both graduate students and students seeking professional degrees at OSU. This would also make it possible to keep the door open for GPSA to work with students from the School of Osteopathic Medicine in the future.

Graduate Faculty — Bill Warde

The next meeting of the Graduate Council is Friday, September 15. They are reviewing new degree programs from the College of Education. They will also receive a report from the Rules Committee on changing requirements for graduate degrees. Information about this should be disseminated through Group meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is October 10, 2000.