

**Volume 34  
Number 8  
June 28, 2007  
Regular Meeting Minutes of the Faculty Senate**

**SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS PRESENT**

A.F. Al-Assaf	Andy Goldbeck	Milton Olsen
Stacy Anderson	Kevin Haney	Anne Pereira
Steve Blevins	Joy Hasebe	Lourdes Planas
Carol Dionne	Emma Kientz	Nathan Shankar
Michael Gold	Satish Kumar	E. Michael Smith

**SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS ABSENT**

Mark Anderson	Holly Hoffman	Su Phipps
Jo Azzarello	Frank Lawler	Larry Regens
Jane Bowers	Renee Leasure	David Staats
Nancy Chu	Linda Machado	Douglas Stewart
Vicki Coury	Laura McGuinn	Eleni Tolma
Frans Currier	Philip McHale	Jani Van Grevenhof
Susan Ellerbee	Mike McShan	Stephen Walston
Winter Gibbs	Marilee Obritsch	
Susan Gilmore	Jennifer Peck	

**EX-OFFICIOS AND GUESTS PRESENT**

Colin Foster	Heather Markgraf	Francene Weatherby
Jean Goodman	Mary Anne McClellan	Cheryl Williams
Vesper Grantham	Julie Parke	
David Lewis	Kathy Walker	

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Satish Kumar, at 5:07 p.m. with introductions of everyone in attendance.

**II. APPROVAL OF MAY 2007 MINUTES**

The May 2007 Minutes were approved as circulated.

**III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Dr. Kumar recognized the 2006-07 Senators and Alternates who were in attendance and presented certificates to those who are completing their term. He welcomed the 2007-08 Senators and Alternates. He expressed his appreciation for their involvement in Faculty Senate and their willingness to serve.

Results of the Officer Election for 2007-08 were announced: Chair-Elect is Dr. Michael Gold and Secretary-Elect is Dr. Laura McGuinn. Dr. Kevin Haney will serve as Chair and Dr. Steve Blevins will serve as Secretary.

Dr. Kumar related his observations on the past year's accomplishments. He noted that the Faculty Senate is an important body within the University. The purpose of the Faculty Senate is to protect the rights of the faculty, provide a forum for interaction between faculty, as well as reinforcement of the reputation of the University on a national level. He suggested that the Faculty Senate recognize its role and encouraged the Senators and Alternates to fulfill their part in the Faculty Senate, including participation and attendance at meetings.

Dr. Kumar reviewed his goals as Chair of the Faculty Senate during this past year. This included encouraging the general faculty to participate more in the matters of the Faculty Senate and was accomplished by inviting the faculty to all meetings, inviting community leaders to speak at the meetings, and conducting a major event that showcased the Health Science Center through the debate on healthcare policy for the nation. He reported that we experienced increased attendance and participation. A second goal was to invigorate all of the committees to address the concerns of the faculty through the committee process. The survey from the previous year reflected that healthcare benefits were a priority and the Faculty Senate was instrumental in presenting these concerns to the administration. As a result, a committee is reviewing the healthcare benefits provided through the University and developing a new plan to deal with the market forces as well as the concerns of the faculty. Discussion was held on various other topics and concerns. Dr. Kumar led a discussion on what the focus of the Faculty Senate might be during the upcoming year.

Dr. Kevin Haney, incoming Chair, articulated his vision for the Faculty Senate and what he would like us to accomplish during his term as Chair. He would like to reinvigorate all of the committees through regular meetings, development of a charge for each committee, and publicizing the role of the Faculty Senate to all faculty. He mentioned specific projects that the Faculty Senate could impact on the campus (i.e., signage, parking, pedestrian access). Several other topics of concern for the Faculty Senate to consider were mentioned.

#### **IV.COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Committee on Committee printed report was provided. The Faculty Senate will need to determine which nominee to forward to the President for appointment to the Employee Benefits Committee. This will be done through an email vote. Several recommendations are pending from the College of Pharmacy. It was determined that the COC report would be held for consideration until these names could be sent in to the committee.

Academic Programs Council printed report was reviewed. Francene Weatherbey, Chairman of the APC, requested feedback on the Add/Drop forms that will be going into effect on July 1, 2007.

The following committees provided printed reports: Commencement Committee; Continuing Education Council; Employee Benefits Committee; Council on Faculty Awards and Honors; Shared Leave Committee; and, Tenure Committee.

University Scholarship Selection Committee - Stacy Anderson reported on the selection process for scholarships. With only 10 scholarships awarded from the 104 applicants, she will be working with this committee to develop better defined criteria for the selection process instead of relying solely on a ranking based on GPA.

Parking Committee – Stacy Anderson reported that the minutes from this committee can be found on their website and are very informational. Any concerns presented to her will be taken to the committee.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the committee reports as presented. The motion passed.

## **V.UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Dr. Haney reviewed the purpose of the Faculty Senate on the campus and the importance of OUHSC to the community and state. Plans for the Faculty Senate during the upcoming year were discussed.

The Contribution Strategy and Health Insurance Options Committee will be completing their review of the healthcare benefits provided through the University and Dr. Andrews will be invited to speak to Faculty Senate regarding the recommendations, etc. of this committee.

Other suggestions for the Faculty Senate to undertake during the next year included sponsoring several opportunities for fellowship among colleges, attending the Board of Regents meetings, improving communication between the Faculty Senate and administration which may include ways to recruit and retain faculty.

The role of the Senator and Alternate were discussed, including the importance of attending Faculty Senate meetings. It will be important to develop an overall strategic plan for the Faculty Senate to accomplish over several years and should not be limited to the term of a specific Chair.

## **VI.NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Al-Assaf presented a Resolution to thank the outgoing Chair and Secretary for their efforts during the last year. The Resolution passed unanimously.

Dr. Kumar presented plaques to the incoming officers and encouraged everyone to support their efforts through the next year.

## **VII.ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Nathan Shankar,  
Secretary

Handouts:  
June 2007 Agenda  
May 2007 Meeting Minutes (Draft)  
Committee Reports