

Volume 35
Number 6
February 21, 2008
Regular Meeting Minutes of the OUHSC Faculty Senate

SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Stacy Anderson	Jean Goodman	Laura McGuinn
Steve Blevins	Vesper Grantham	Thubi Kolobe
Deborah Booton-Hiser	Peter Johnson	Frank Lawler
Carol Dionne	Satish Kumar	Milton Olsen
Colin Foster	Renee Leasure	E. Michael Smith
Michael Gold	Mary Ann McClellan	

SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS ABSENT

A.F. Al-Assaf	Elena Cuaderes	Lourdes Planas
Mark Anderson	Emma Kientz	Lida Radfar
Jo Azzarello	David Lewis	Larry Regens
Frank Boutsen	Teodora Nicolescu	Winter Smith
Jack Conway	Marilee Obritsch	Douglas Stewart
Vicki Coury	Julie Parke	Steve Walston

EX-OFFICIOS AND GUESTS PRESENT

Alberto J. de Armendi	Joe Hight	Cheryl Williams
Doug Myers	Kathy Walker	

GUEST SPEAKER – *Joe Hight, Dir. of Information/Development, The Oklahoman and NewsOK.com.* Dr. Haney introduced and welcomed Mr. Joe Hight. Mr. Hight discussed how The Oklahoman determines which stories to print in the newspaper. Television news and printed news are competitors in the media market. He gave tips on sending information and/or press releases to the newspaper, based on the market or audience it will most affect. Categories include breaking news stories, human interest articles, science or health issues, articles recognizing individual achievement, and business-related pieces. He stated that all media have different needs and target different demographic groups. The NewsOK.com online edition gives breaking news, with follow up and/or expanded information in The Oklahoman. NewsOK.com provides the “wrap-up.” Story deadlines must be considered when releasing information. The editorial news staff is attentive to embargoes requested by the those submitted the news item. With the flood of press releases and emails that are received by the news staff, it is sometimes difficult to pick topics for inclusion in the newspaper and online editions. “Blanket emails” are not an effective way to get information to the media. Press releases should include information about the organization, as well as updated contact information. For visual appeal, photos, pictures, artist renditions, and logos are welcome.

Finally, he stated that reporters and editors enjoy being thanked for work well done. He invited those who are interested in learning more about the editorial process visit The Oklahoman and meet with editors. He distributed a handout, “Avoiding the Black Hole,”

which contains contact information for the various departments and editorial staff. Mr. Hight answered several questions from those in attendance. Dr. Haney thanked Mr. Hight for visiting with the Faculty Senate and providing such useful information.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kevin Haney, Chair, at 5:51 p.m. with a quorum present.

II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2008 MINUTES

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Haney reported that during the Executive Committee meeting with Dr. Ferretti, they discussed the recent editorial on NewsOK.com entitled "Sweet and Sour: Doctor Education Program at Crossroads" that was published on Sunday, February 17th. Everyone felt it would be important to send a thank you to the writer of the editorial, Christy Watson.

Dr. Haney asked Dr. Blevins to announce an upcoming Faculty Senate event. Dr. Blevins announced that President Boren has agreed to bring Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. to the HSC campus on Friday, April 18th. He will be speaking on Environmentalism and the University. The event will be held in the College of Health Auditorium at 1:30 p.m. with President Boren attending. There will be a 15-minute question/answer session following his 45-minute presentation. After the event, there will be a reception and a book-signing. Early notice will be sent to the faculty, staff, and students on all three campuses.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Academic Programs Council:** Printed minutes from their last meeting were provided.

B. **Parking Committee Report:** Doug Myers provided an update on parking on campus:

- a. The majority of the employees from D Lot were moved to the Center for Healthy Living (CHL) Center. Republic Parking manages the parking spaces in the CHL Lot for the OU Medical Center with OUHSC leasing the spaces for our employees and patients. Construction on the new ambulatory surgery unit is scheduled to begin in February, taking approximately 200 parking spaces while the project is being completed.
- b. Williams Pavilion Parking Garage Repairs Update – This project is currently on schedule with an estimated completion date at the end of April. There could be delays due to the weather in the completion of the project. The NE corner will be reopened soon with the next phase beginning shortly thereafter. The SW sides of levels 4 and 5 will be closed, along with Stairwell F of levels 4 and 5. There will be no parking on the up or down ramp of level 4 going to level 5. The guard rail on the 2nd level that fell has been fixed. Since this was the second guard rail to fall within a relatively short period of time, Zal-Ford Structural Investigators & Consultants will provide a recommendation on what to do with the other guard rails on the second floor to prevent additional falls.

- c. Shuttle Services Changes – The Central and Crayon Routes have been combined. The ridership has increased drastically, 541% over last year, primarily attributed to the students. Combining the Central and the Crayon Routes is providing a 7½ minute service from 7 am to 6 pm. Overall the ridership has increased 25 percent and VA ridership increased 6 percent over the last calendar year.
- d. Purchase of New Shuttle Buses – Three new shuttle buses have been ordered and will be delivered within 365 days. The buses cost approximately \$310,000.00 each, with HSC are required to pay 17%, or approximately \$175,000, with COPTA’s federal funds paying the balance. The Regents approved the request at their December Meeting.
- e. Update on Access and Revenue Control System - Software problems continue with this system resulting in the 30-day acceptance test not beginning until the software problems are fixed.

C. **Employee Benefits Committee** – Dr. Olsen reported on today’s meeting. The RFP process is currently underway, with specifics in each bid that has been received being held in strictest confidence.

- a. Several companies have submitted bids through the RFP process: Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Shields, and United Healthcare submitted bids on the employee healthcare; Humana submitted a bid on the retiree healthcare; MetLife and Delta Dental submitted bids on the dental insurance.
- b. Subcommittee is reviewing the bids and will select the finalists;
- c. March 12 and 13, finalists will be interviewed
- d. Negotiations with the company and/or companies selected will be done for the best possible offer. The goal will be to have a 3-year rate that has the maximum rate for any increase per year locked in.
- e. Final decision will be made in late April.
- f. Please email any concerns to Julius Hilburn, Director of Human Resources.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Lack of Access to the OU-Norman Library by OUHSC Faculty** - Dr. Haney requested this issue be sent to the Library Committee. There could be some faculty with dual professorships, as well as faculty from one campus who are located on other campus, unable to access the library on their campus. We will ask the Library Committee to investigate the access of all libraries by faculty within the OU system and report back to the full Faculty Senate.
 - a. The Information Technology Advisory Committee will also include check into this concern.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Faculty Awards Ceremony will be held on Monday, April 28th at 5:15 p.m. President Boren will be in attendance. Location is to be announced.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m. Next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2008, with Glen Johnson, Chancellor for Higher Education. *NOTE: Due to Spring Break, the March meeting has been moved to the 4th Thursday of March.*

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Blevins
Secretary

Handouts:

February 2008 Agenda

January 2008 Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Academic Programs Council Minutes

Employee Benefits Council, January 2008 minutes