

**Volume 36  
Number 5  
February 19, 2009  
Regular Meeting Minutes of the OUHSC Faculty Senate**

**SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS PRESENT**

Deborah Booton-Hiser	Donald Harrison	Abbey Onan
Kari Boyce	Mary Hudson	Larry Regens
Pramod Chetty	Robert John	Winter Smith
Vicki Coury	Peter Johnson	Douglas Stewart
Elena Cuaderes	Renee Leasure	Steve Walston
Colin Foster	Deborah Lockwood	
Vesper Grantham	Laura McGuinn	

**SENATORS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS ABSENT**

Al Al-Assaf	Jean Goodman	Voncella McCleary-Jones
Stacy Anderson	Kevin Haney	W. Mike McShan
Kim Coon	Karl Hansen	Julie Parke
Sheila Crow	Satish Kumar	Lida Radfar
Carol Dionne	Betty Kupperschmidt	Patsy Smith
Deborah Espen	Frank Lawler	Julie Stoner
Kevin Farmer	David Lewis	

**EX-OFFICIOS AND GUESTS PRESENT**

Dianne Miller Boyle	Francene Weatherby
Kathy Walker	Cheryl Williams

- I. CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Larry Regens, Chair, at 5:02 p.m. A quorum was in attendance.
- II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2009 MINUTES** – Addition to the January 2009 minutes to reflect the following action at the January 2009 meeting: *At the February meeting of Faculty Senate, an ad hoc committee will be appointed to begin identifying green initiatives on campus. The committee will develop a mission statement and objectives.* Motion was made Stephen Walston and seconded by Renee Leasure to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed.
- III. PARKING REPORT** – no report
- IV. CAMPUS CAMPAIGN 2009** – Sharukh Khajotia, Faculty Chair for the Campus Campaign, and Kathy Walker, Staff Chair for the Campus Campaign, presented information about this annual drive to raise funds from faculty and staff to support the university. This year, they are striving for 25% of the faculty and staff to contribute toward the campaign. The amount of the donation is not as important as the number of employees participating. One example of how these funds have benefited the campus was the replacement of trees after last year’s ice storm. Another example is the Sooner Heritage Scholarships which are available to all dependent children of active and retired faculty and staff. The scholarship is for \$600 per semester for undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Oklahoma

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and are not needs based. All unrestricted funds given to the Campus Campaign this year are used for the Sooner Heritage Scholarship fund. Checks, credit card and payroll deductions are available to donate towards the campaign. There will also be an online auction to be held March 30 through April 3, 2009. Ghost Marathon shirts are also available for purchase.

- V. UPDATE ON RETIREE MEDICAL BENEFITS** – Julius Hilburn, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, reviewed the process that the Employee Benefits Committee has used to look at the medical benefits provided to retirees. The cost of this benefit continues to grow by double digits each year and is projected to quadruple in 10 years if left unchanged. The committee believes it is important for the university to plan for the future while anticipating the needs of the retiree. Long term gradual changes are expected. A preliminary recommendation will be reviewed at the March meeting of the EBC with a final recommendation sent to President Boren. Hilburn provided a presentation to the attendees and reviewed the group eligibility dates being considered. The three criteria for eligibility for retiree medical benefits are: age + university service = 80; 25 years of service; or, 62 years of age with minimum of 10 years of service. In addition to meeting the age and service requirements, an individual must be enrolled in the active employee medical plan for the 5 consecutive years prior to retirement. Questions were raised and answered by several attending. It was suggested that HR might develop a preliminary guidebook where an employee could begin considering their retirement choices and options. Julius stated that HR is very aware of the maze of information which an employee must go through when considering their retirement options.
- VI. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** - Dr. Regens stated that the Executive Committee had met with Dr. Ferretti prior to the Faculty Senate meeting. The following items were discussed:
- A.** The Allied Health Building is behind schedule and moving slowly toward completion.
  - B.** Budget situation is unclear at this time to project the final numbers. Various scenarios are being considered and reviewed so that minimal cuts are made on the least paid staff and faculty. With the proposed federal stimulus package, a possible \$300 million to \$400 million could be available for education (Oklahoma allotment). The Provost is looking for potential research dollars which may be included in the federal stimulus plan that could provide opportunities for research on campus. One type of funding could be the 2-year R-21 with potential funding of about \$150,000 per year. The provost encourages the faculty to pursue their ideas for research, especially watching for opportunities with the NIH and NSF. The anticipated amount of state funding available is down from previous projections. VA will possibly experience reduced funding as well as the Department of Defense may reduce direct dollars.
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- A. Academic Program Council** (printed report) – Francene Weatherby stated that all faculty should be aware of the timeline for the APC to review existing courses and/or curricula changes. The Graduate College would like to have time to review proposed changes prior to being presented to the APC.

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**B. Employee Benefits Committee** (printed report)

- C. Information Technology Advisory Committee, ITAC** (printed report) – It was noted that the Provost will be testing the VPN system while on an upcoming international trip.
- i. A concern that the VPN is not accessible through the OUMC hospital computers was discussed. They have installed firewalls which limit access to the internet.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

- A. Billing Issues** – Becky Benoit, HCA, is interested in conducting a survey with emphasis to the HSC faculty and staff regarding billing issues. The results could be used to improve their billing and collection process.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Media Release Forms, etc.** – Kari Boyce provided an update on the issue. After preliminary conversations with legal council and academic technology, she has found that a new form had been developed with language designed for one scenario which had been circulated as a new form. This was just an error in distribution of this form.
- B. Concealed Carry on Campus Legislation** – Resolution from 2008 was presented. Changes were suggested and will be incorporated into a new Resolution. Dr. Pramod Chetty made a motion that the Faculty Senate approve the updated Resolution. Dr. Stephen Walston seconded the motion and the motion passed. Resolution will be sent to President Boren and Provost Ferretti to deliver to the Legislature.
- C. Green Initiatives** – Dr. Regens reported that the Provost has indicated his openness to suggestions on how to make our campus more environmentally conscious. Dianne Miller-Boyle, College of Nursing, was introduced. She has been part of an effort in the College of Nursing to look at environmental issues in their building (carpet that is not toxic, types of cleaners used, etc.) and found that environmentally friendly changes must include a HSC effort vs. just a single college effort. She was funded for an environmental mini-grant for 2009 (\$1,500) from Health Care Without Harm. She has contacted the University of Maryland which has implemented green team initiatives, and part of the grant money will be used to bring a speaker in to present ideas regarding how to make our campus more environmentally friendly (Sept or early Oct 2009). The speaker presentation will be provided to several venues of the HSC community through video conferencing so that more could attend and learn of the possibilities. Grant monies will also provide a media site video of the presentation to be placed on the CON web site for anyone to access for one year following the presentation.
- i. **Ad hoc Committee** - The “Green Team”, an ad hoc committee of the Faculty Senate, will consist of members from each college (as determined by the Senators from that college) who will begin working as a group with Administration to define possible green initiatives and potential savings. The Faculty Senate members will be contacted via email to request a representative from their college for this team. This individual should be interested in environmental issues and willing to give the time needed. Committee members will develop clear objectives. Motion was made by Debbie Booton-Hiser and seconded by Renee Leasure to form this

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committee. Motion was approved. Dianne Miller-Boyle was appointed Chair for the “Green Team” ad-hoc committee.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. Faculty Governance Award** – Information was provided for the Faculty Governance Award. Nominations will be received at the Faculty Senate Office and forwarded to Dr. Al-Assaf, with selection by the Executive Committee. The nominations are due by March 10, 2009. This Award will be presented on Monday, April 27, 2009, at the upcoming Spring Faculty Award Presentations.

**B. Speaker Series** – Provost has not received a response from Sandra Day O’Connor about her availability to speak due to her husband’s health. Dr. Regens recommended that a committee be formed at the March meeting to pursue a speaker for the HSC Speaker Series which will be held in the Fall of 2009 or Spring of 2010. Due to budgetary climate and time constraints, we are probably unable to bring in a significant speaker during the Spring of 2009.

**C. Darwin Celebration** – A reminder was provided about the upcoming events on the Norman campus.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. Due to Spring Break, the next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be used for updates by committees and input on current projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura McGuinn  
Secretary, 2008-09

Handouts:

February 2009 Agenda  
January 2009 Meeting Minutes (Draft)  
Academic Programs Committee (printed)  
Employee Benefits Committee Minutes (printed)  
ITAC Notes (February 2009 – printed with ITAC handouts)