

**Ohio University Faculty Senate  
Agenda for Monday, September 21, 2009  
Room 235, Margaret M. Walter Hall, 7:10 p.m.  
Minutes-Approved**

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

In attendance:

**College of Arts and Sciences:** T. Anderson, D. Bell, R. Boyd, K. Brown, C. Coski, C. Elster, J. Gilliom, S. Hays, B. Heckman, D. Ingram, P. Jung, C. Kalenkoski, J. Lein, J. McLaughlin, R. Palmer, S. Patterson, W. Roosenburg

**College of Business:** R. Frost, L. Hoshower, T. Stock

**College of Education:** T. Franklin, T. Leinbaugh

**College of Engineering:** B. Branham for C. Bartone, J. Dill, J. Giese, H. Pasic

**College of Fine Arts:** M. Phillips, A. Reilly, E. Sayrs, D. Thomas

**Group II:** H. Burstein, M. Sisson

**College of Health and Human Services:** D. Bolon, M. Li, J. Thomas

**College of Osteopathic Medicine:** P. Coschigano, J. Gau for T. Heckman, J. Wolf

**Regional Campus—Chillicothe:** A. Rumble, R. Vance for R. Knight

**Regional Campus—Eastern:** J. Casebolt

**Regional Campus—Lancaster:** P. Munhall

**Regional Campus—Southern:** E. McCown

**Regional Campus—Zanesville:** M. Nern

**Scripps College of Communication:** J. Bernt, G. Newton, J. Slade, S. Titsworth

**Excused:**

**Absent:** D. McDiarmid, J. Benson

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**Overview of the Meeting:**

- I. Pam Benoit, Executive Vice President & Provost
- II. Roll Call and Approval of the June 8, 2009 Minutes
- III. Chair's Report – Joe McLaughlin
- IV. Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee (EPSA)—Allyn Reilly
- V. Finance and Facilities (FFC)—Scott Titsworth
- VI. Promotion and Tenure (P&T)—Peter Coschigano
- VII. Professional Relations Committee (PRC)—Steve Patterson
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. Adjournment

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**I. Remarks by Pam Benoit, Executive Vice President & Provost**

Benoit discussed three main topics at the request of faculty: enrollment, the budget, and academic restructuring. 1) Enrollment targets have been met, and retention is estimated to be up 1%. Benoit also thanked faculty for their contribution to a successful new student orientation. 2)

The budget situation is difficult because OU received a lower-than-expected SSI (state share of instruction). There is a \$10.5-11 million shortfall for the next fiscal year; this is likely to get worse the next year because the biennium budget includes one-time-only money. OU must find areas to save money, and that includes deciding which array of programs we want to continue to offer. We will begin by looking at low enrollment programs. 3) Academic restructuring is continuing, as outlined at <http://www.ohio.edu/outlook/09-10/September/28.cfm>. The full EVPP's report is available at <http://www.ohio.edu/provost/upload/EVPP-Report-September-2009.pdf>.

Benoit then took questions from Senators, including:

1) **David Ingram** asked why academic cuts keep occurring despite high productivity, high rankings, and lower faculty salaries than most other state institutions? **Benoit** responded that this is primarily because of outside budget pressures.

2) **Steve Hays** asked whether cuts to intercollegiate athletics are “off the table” in the current budget discussion. He added that faculty need an honest, clear assessment of how much we spend, a rationale for how this relates to the core mission of the university, and whether we can continue spending this amount; we also need evidence that students are willing to spend this amount for athletics. **Benoit** responded that there is a connection between athletics and academics in terms of recruiting and donor involvement, but that the issue of accountability for the athletic department, or for any department, is not off the table.

3) **Ken Brown** and **Joe McLaughlin** asked for clarification of this year's budget: we were under the impression that the tuition increase would balance this year's budget, and with enrollment up, were additional funds available? Benoit responded that she was under the impression that we started this year with a \$2 million deficit, but that Vice President for Finance and Administration Decatur would be in a better position to answer that question.

4) **Joseph Bernt** noted that he had seen a television ad for the University of Toledo touting large number of programs they offer, and a large number of programs can benefit recruiting; why are we trying to cut programs just to match OSU's number of programs. He added that we are really comparing apples and oranges: OU's number of majors codes vs. OSU's number of programs. **Benoit** responded that the issue isn't numbers, but what is the right array of programs for us; cutting the number of major codes doesn't matter unless we also save money. **Bernt** followed up by asking if we do save money with program cuts, will we return to the priorities in Vision Ohio, including increasing faculty compensation? Benoit responded that it was too early to tell, because there might be mid-year cuts.

5) **Hays** asked how we can ensure smart growth given the pressure to increase enrollments? **Benoit** responded that it's a very complicated issue because there are various capacities involved, including dorms, parking, classroom space, faculty, and so on. With the number of graduating high school seniors declining in Ohio, growth will have to come from elsewhere as well. **James Casebolt** noted that without substantial infrastructural changes at the Athens campus, the bulk of growth would have to take place at regional campuses.

## II. Roll Call and Approval of the June 8, 2009 Minutes

A quorum was present. A motion to accept the minutes (by **Scott Titsworth**, seconded by **Joseph Slade**) from the May 8, 2009 faculty senate meeting was approved by a voice vote.

### **III. Chair's Report—Joe McLaughlin**

- McLaughlin announced that the Faculty Senate minutes would be modified to comply with Sturgis's *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*. More detailed secretary's notes will still be taken and archived. We will evaluate the use of modified minutes early in winter quarter.
- Resolutions will be sent out a week in advance this year; senators are always allowed to bring resolutions from the floor.
- The presidential evaluation will be distributed soon.
- The Executive Committee is formulating a list of 3-4 goals for the year so Faculty Senate can be more proactive. Suggestions are welcome.
- **Sergio Lopez** presented the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) Report. OFC representatives for the upcoming year will be **Joe McLaughlin** (automatically as chair of Faculty Senate). **Lopez** and **Hugh Bloemer** were elected to continue as representations (moved by **McLaughlin**, seconded by **Tracy Leinbaugh**, elected unanimously by voice vote).
- Upcoming Senate Meeting: October 19, 2009. 7:10 p.m., Walter Hall 235

### **IV. Educational Policy and Student Affairs Committee (EPSA)—Allyn Reilly**

This year EPSA will prepare a resolution to support the new student honor code, and focus on Q2S issues. In addition, at the request of the EVPP's office, EPSA has prepared suggestions for faculty and students related to the H1N1 virus:

- 1) Urge students who come down with flu-like symptoms to isolate themselves except to seek medical treatment.
- 2) Be flexible with regard to attendance for those students who are ill with flu-related disease.
- 3) State clearly in writing your policy with regard to a moderate flu outbreak (defined as one that causes individuals to become sick, but not widespread enough to close the university). Such a policy should have the aims of, first, not spreading the disease, and second, enabling ill students to make up work missed as reasonably as possible.
- 4) Use the student code of conduct; students who are ill should state in writing upon their return that they were sick. A false statement is a violation of the code of conduct. See [http://www.ohio.edu/judiciaries/conduct\\_policy.cfm](http://www.ohio.edu/judiciaries/conduct_policy.cfm) - CP\_JUMP\_252099.

Ann Fidler and Becky Watts noted that it was appropriate to ask students who come to class with influenza-like symptoms to leave.

### **V. Finance and Facilities (FFC)—Scott Titsworth**

Budget planning council met last week, and will be trying to figure out the origin of the projected \$10.5 million deficit. The FFC schedule of meetings will be out soon. FFC will also be talking about priorities for the coming year.

### **VI. Promotion and Tenure (P&T)—Peter Coschigano**

In addition to hearing requests for tenure clock extensions and cases involving denial of tenure or non-reappointment, the P&T committee will work with the EVPP to revise a resolution related to promotion and tenure guidelines that was passed by the faculty senate last spring, but not signed by the EVPP.

McLaughlin added that all of the resolutions passed last year have either been signed or have been responded to by the EVPP, and are available at <http://www.ohio.edu/facultysenate/>.

#### **VII. Professional Relations Committee (PRC)—Steve Patterson**

PRC has met twice already to work on three grievances. A subcommittee of PRC is working with legal affairs to revise policy and procedures related to research, particularly misconduct.

#### **VIII. Old Business**

- Resolution to Censure President Roderick McDavis – Ken Brown (for second reading and vote)

After brief comments about the importance of maintaining health benefits and defending the integrity of the faculty handbook, Brown expressed his dissatisfaction with the resolution as currently written and requested that it be withdrawn. Hearing no objection, the resolution was withdrawn.

#### **IX. New Business**

None.

#### **X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. (moved by David Ingram, seconded by Rudy Pasic).

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### **Resolution to Censure President Roderick McDavis**

**Withdrawn September 21, 2009**

Whereas the Ohio University *Faculty Handbook* is endorsed as official university policy by President Roderick McDavis and was defined for the Faculty Senate as a binding contract by University Counsel John Biancamano, and

Whereas the *Faculty Handbook* provides (section IIIA) that any changes to employee's costs for the health care benefit must be submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval, and

Whereas recent changes to the health care plan - projected to increase employee costs by at least \$2,200,000 - were enacted without approval of the Faculty Senate, and

Whereas, unlike a similar increase in employee health care costs instituted for the 2007-2008 FY without approval of the Faculty Senate due to an oversight by the central administration and the Senate, the current instance occurred with full knowledge of the *Handbook* provisions and awareness that those provisions were being violated, and

Whereas the president has ignored the primary goal of improving the competitiveness of faculty salaries as stated in Vision Ohio, the University's recently approved strategic plan, and

Whereas a major academic reorganization has been planned without consultation with the faculty as a whole, the college faculty affected by the reorganization, the Faculty Senate, or any of its several committees, all of whom clearly have a vested interest in the organization of the academic structure of the university, and

Whereas these actions undermined shared governance at Ohio University, the faculty and their role in the academic enterprise, and collegiality between the central administration and the faculty;

**Be it resolved that the Ohio University Faculty Senate does hereby publicly censure President Roderick McDavis.**