

OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE
2019-2020
April 10, 2020 Minutes

OSU-CHS Faculty Senate Members

Jason Beaman, D.O., President
Charles G. Sanny, Ph.D., Past-President
Anne Weil, Ph.D., President-elect
Kath Curtis, Ph.D., (21)
Aric Warren, Ed.D, (21)
Justin Chronister, D.O., (20)
Amanda Foster, D.O., (20)
Paul Gignac, Ph.D., (20)
Sarah Hall, D.O., OSU-CHS Representative to OSU Faculty Council

Recorder: Victoria Hui Holloman

Members Present: Dr. Beaman, Dr. Weil, Dr. Sanny, Dr. Curtis, Dr. Warren, Dr. Foster

Members Absent: Dr. Chronister, Dr. Hall, Dr. Gignac

Administrators Present: Dr. Stroup

Call to Order: Dr. Beaman welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Action Items during this meeting:

- No action items due to COVID-19 pandemic

Approval of the Minutes:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, minutes and an agenda were not sent out prior to this meeting.

Administrative Reports:

Dr. Stroup provided the following administrative reports.

- He updated Senators on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and OSU-CHS's response. He provided Oklahoma State Department of Health positive case numbers, the number of tests conducted, and deaths.
- The model everyone is looking at is the Washington model, showing April 23 as the peak day. He shared Governor Stitt's plan for hospitals; OSU Medical Center (OSUMC) would be the designated spill-over for the Tulsa area, if needed. Army Corps of Engineers is onsite at OSUMC to help build out areas.
- The state budget is a challenge right now. OSU-CHS is working with the Regents and Stillwater and administrators had to share a plan for possible cuts, if the budget did not improve. Dr. Stroup did not have a lot of details to share on this at the moment. Feedback should be available in the coming weeks from the Legislators and Governor.
- He provided updates on the Tahlequah campus. Prior to the pandemic, they were working on a tight timeline and that construction has been shut down due to the pandemic. They are working with the Cherokee Nation on an additional site for teaching and working with the COC and departments on alternative teaching to get through the first semester to avoid bringing the students to the OSU-CHS Tulsa campus. At the end of the month, this will be presented to COCA.

Dr. Beaman asked for updates on when the OSU-CHS campus would reopen. Administrators has advised the students that they will be off campus the rest of the semester; no decision has been made on graduation. There is a committee looking at alternatives ; Stillwater has pushed out their graduation to December. He did not have a great view on when campus would open back up. The plan is that social distancing would still occur through May; Dr. Stroup could not give a definitive, but possibly middle May or June 1, campus would reopen.

Dr. Warren asked about the budget and possible budget cuts and what areas that would fall under. Generally, what they do is look at projected cuts under different percentages (for example 3%, 5%, 7%) and then administration has to model those numbers for the legislator. He did not know at this time what type of cut OSU-CHS would be looking at.

Dr. Curtis asked about the Tahlequah campus and looking at different options to deliver content and how that would work for non-lecture based courses (i.e. small group or lab courses). Dr. Stroup was focused on lab-based courses; the two students would have would be OMM and Anatomy. The OMM department has a space with the Cherokee Nation to fulfill that. Anatomy department is looking at virtual lab options. None of that is definitive, but all are working on plans.

Faculty Senate President's Report:

Items to be presented for voting:

No items were presented for voting.

Review of Committee Reports:

Full reports were not received due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Weil emailed her report to Dr. Beaman and shared that. One report was from the FAC. One thing to note was resources on online teaching, which is a big focus for other campuses (OSU-CHS is different due to being overseen by COCA).

Dr. Beaman shared a report from IRB. No submissions warranted a full board meeting.

Dr. Beaman shared the Chemical Hygiene and Radioisotope Use Committee Meeting report from March.

Dr. Beaman shared the IACUC meeting has not met since the last meeting.

The Institutional Biosafety Committee is working virtually and did not hold a meeting due to COVID-19.

The Research Committee report, provided by Dr. Weil, was shared. They met via Zoom. Animal hibernation was a concerning subject and Dr. Benjamin shared updates and answered questions.

Reports will be compiled once Jean Keene is back in the office.

Discussion items: There were no new topics to be discussed.

Old Business:

Updates were provided regarding the Faculty Senate's Faculty Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Weil had concerns on this. Solicitations were called for and received. When the call for nominations was sent out, it seemed as if many felt the award was already decided by administration and that it was a waste of time to submit a nomination. Dr. Weil was concerned that if the perception is that the award is already decided, the name of the award should be changed and it should not be a Faculty Senate award.

Dr. Beaman asked how many solicitations were received (two). Dr. Beaman did not think administration had any involvement in the selection and approval process of the selection of the award.

Dr. Stroup wanted to know who “administration” was – he said that he had no involvement in this and did not know any other administration person involved.

Dr. Sanny mentioned the Board of Regents awards outside of the Faculty Senate and said there could be confusion between the two.

Dr. Beaman does not think there is confusion. He wanted to clarify with Dr. Weil on the issue, which is that nominations are not necessary. Dr. Beaman felt that the issue was rumor and conjecture and that a dean level or provost level administrator said that the Senate did not have a say. He did say that he understood you had to go out and get nominations and typically the award alternated between biomedical and clinical services.

Dr. Stroup was going to talk to Dr. Champlin to understand if there is an issue and if anyone felt they were discouraged from nominating someone.

Dr. Beaman asked if a vote was needed on the award nominations, but Dr. Weil said it would be the Executive Committee that would vote on the award.

New Business:

No new business reported by Dr. Beaman.

There will be a General Faculty Meeting in May. Dr. Beaman suggested it should be cancelled or held virtually. Dr. Stroup recommended that once they determine the students’ graduation, they will need to have a faculty meeting prior to that, because there has to be a vote on those students graduating. Dr. Stroup thinks it will be a virtual meeting. He said the latest graduation could be would be May 30.

Dr. Beaman asked about a virtual ballot for that meeting and Dr. Stroup believed that it was possible.

Dr. Curtis had a question about an email from Stillwater on tenure and reappointment extension deadlines. Dr. Curtis wanted to know if there were plans at OSU-CHS to implement those same procedures by the P&T committee. Dr. Stroup will get that to Dr. Stevens and is open to honoring the extension. Dr. Curtis wanted to know if it would automatic extension or they would have to request that extension; Dr. Curtis thought automatic would be better than making someone request that at this time.

Dr. Stroup was going to see how many candidates were up for P&T and will work through that list directly. He will give an option to those that are up eligible to delay it by a year or continue on same path.

Dr. Beaman thought that with the campus closure, it would give increase opportunity to fulfill the requirements. Though, some could be sick and facing other challenges and Dr. Beaman supported the individual approach. He asked Dr. Stroup to provide an update on that at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Dr. Stroup wants to stick with what Stillwater is doing and given the option to those eligible and not target individuals.

Dr. Warren had a question if it would be an OSU stance or campus decision for extensions. He was glad to hear that Dr. Stroup supported an extension, especially due to the anxiety and psychological factors due to the pandemic.

Dr. Beaman concluded the discussion by saying the recommendation of the Faculty Senate to Dr. Stroup would be to have an automatic opt-out of going before P&T, with the option of opting-in to go before P&T, if a faculty member felt ready to do so. All members supported and Dr. Stroup agreed to look at that policy.

The members asked that someone be appointed to support Dr. Beaman with Jean Keene out. Dr. Stroup and Dr. Beaman would discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.