

OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE

2012-2013

February 8, 2013 Minutes

OSU-CHS Faculty Senate Members

Warren Finn, Ph.D., President

Robin Dyer, D.O., President-elect

Johnny Stephens, Pharm.D, Past-President

Dennis Blankenship, D.O., Sergeant-at-Arms/Treasurer

William D. Meek, Ph.D., OSU-CHS Representative to OSU Faculty Council

Sarah Hall, D.O., Secretary

William Po, M.D.

Charles Sanny, Ph.D.

Jarrad Wagner, Ph.D.

Recorder: Jean Keene

All Members Were Present: Dr. Finn, Dr. Blankenship, Dr. Dyer, Dr. Hall, Dr. Meek, Dr. Po, Dr. Sanny, Dr. Stephens, Dr. Wagner

Guests: Dr. Benjamin, Dr. Bost, Dr. Weil

Reporting Administrators: President Barnett, Dr. Shrum, Dr. Hess

Call to Order: Dr. Finn called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.; it was held in the Board Room, as is customary.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the minutes of the prior meetings was moved by Dr. Wagner and seconded by Dr. Sanny. They were unanimously approved as presented.

Senate President's Report:

Dr. Finn reported that second session of the Joint Faculty Senate/Administration Retreat was held, and he had received positive feedback on it. He advised that the third session was scheduled for March 15. It would be a half-day meeting, and the task will be to work on the final draft of the Vision Statement. He said a written report would be prepared for distribution to the entire community so they would be aware of the work done by the leadership at the retreat.

Dr. Benjamin requested that Dr. Finn prepare an Executive Summary of the content of the first meeting, and an Executive Summary of the content of the second meeting, and requested that they be distributed to the participants sufficiently prior to the third meeting to help prepare for it. Dr. Benjamin said that would help to have the third meeting be more effective. Dr. Finn said he believed that to be a good suggestion and he agreed to do so.

Dr. Finn reported that the first meeting of the Task Force on the Building Site would be taking place soon. He advised that the students are in the process of identifying the two student members to serve on that Task Force. Dr. Finn said the students are very serious about the issue. He also advised that monthly reports from the group will be provided to the Senate.

Reporting Administrators:

Dr. Shrum reported that she, President Barnett and the Interim CEO of the hospital spent time on Wednesday at the capitol discussing the teaching hospital. She reminded the Senators that this is the final year of the five year plan that provided a \$5 million dollar subsidy to the hospital. Dr. Shrum said the governor had entered a placeholder of \$2.5 million in the new budget. However, our goal is to have an

ongoing subsidy that will not require going back annually to set the subsidy. She indicated that we want to establish a subsidy that more closely resembles what is provided to the OU hospital in Oklahoma City.

President Barnett advised that a request has been made for \$18.25 million. He said there were some great meetings on that on Wednesday, and there were some particularly good testimonials from the Rural Caucuses in the House and the Senate. The House Rural Caucus has 40 plus members and they were very complimentary regarding this school, and the programs, and all we do for the people in rural Oklahoma. It was very encouraging.

President Barnett advised the Senators that he wanted to be certain that everyone had heard that we are having very good discussions with Mercy Health Systems; he noted that in the past we have discussed that we need to have a “big brother” in order for the hospital to survive. It is particularly so now with PPACA. He reported Mercy had done a lot of due-diligence. He noted that having a facility here strategically works for them; they have a large presence in Oklahoma City, throughout Southern Oklahoma, Western Oklahoma, Southwestern Missouri, and Northwestern Arkansas. In order to do this deal, they recognize they must bring capital to the table. They will, of course, still need a subsidy since this is a public teaching hospital. We will know more on this by the next Senate meeting. It will still involve a lot of work to get the deal. We need Mercy to supply two numbers: how much they are willing to put into the deal, and how much subsidy they would need through the state on an ongoing basis. President Barnett said the DOA is very supportive. A meeting was held with the Advisory Council and there was unanimous support.

President Barnett commented regarding what would happen if the hospital were to fail—the apocalypse card, so to speak--we would lose 1K jobs, 45K people non-pay emergency service folks on the street, plus what it would do to our teaching mission, and our residency program. He noted that some legislators suggested that we play that card, but we have avoided doing that. He said the students need to be aware that the hospital will not close if we don't get the \$2.5 million. We are not in the same position we were in four and a half years ago.

Dr. Shrum commented that we have looked at the numbers physician-wise in the state. She said if there were no physicians retiring, no one passed away, no one moved in or out, we would still need to have 3,000 more physicians practicing in the state of Oklahoma than we have today. She said that number can be shocking to the legislators; even with considering the growth we have discussed, that will not alleviate the need, nor will it bring us to the national average.

President Barnett requested that if the Senators hear comments or rumors regarding what might be happening at the hospital, the comments should be checked for accuracy. Dr. Sanny asked to whom any rumors should be addressed when checking on validity. Dr. Shrum indicated that she, Dr. Hess, or President Barnett can talk with any students who would want to check on information. It was noted that at some time, an editorial may appear in the Tulsa World on this topic.

In response to a question, President Barnett commented that the more the proposal is examined/discussed, the more apparent it is that this should happen. Both Mercy and OSU are excited about the prospect.

Dr. Fin expressed his thanks to the administrators for their insightful reports; President Barnett, Dr. Shrum, and Dr. Hess departed the meeting.

Dr. Finn called upon Dr. Bost to report for the Budget and Benefits Committee. Dr. Bost advised that he is pleased to serve as chair the committee, filling the vacancy left from Dr. Jarolim's retirement. He also reported that Dr. David Hitzman had joined the committee, and there were no additional Budget and Benefits Committee vacancies to be filled. Regarding the February committee meeting, Dr. Bost reported that Dr. Weil had raised an issue regarding the availability of resource materials from the Stillwater library. Dr. Hess made notes, and said he would look into that matter and report back to Dr. Weil promptly. Dr. Bost reported that the committee plans to have an active, interactive, and collaborative role with Dr. Hess as the members participate in faculty governance; Dr. Bost said that the Senate will be kept informed on their activities.

Dr. Finn called upon Dr. Meek to report on the Curriculum Committee's work. Dr. Meek distributed a summary of the status of the work regarding the new Curriculum Committee's description and membership. He explained that the work of the Ad Hoc Curriculum Committee had been completed, a report had been prepared, and it had been sent to the Curriculum Committee for their discussion and voting prior to being forwarded to the Senate. He reported on the timeline of the process, and the various steps the Ad Hoc Committee had followed. In addition, he reviewed the content of the distributed documents and responded to questions raised by the Senators. Extensive discussion followed, after which Dr. Meek said he was presenting the report as a proposal that describes the function of the new Curriculum Committee, including the oversight, design, management, evaluation, and membership. He advised there was also a paragraph providing the committee description.

Dr. Meek said he was submitting the documents for Faculty Senate discussion. He reported that the Senate would submit the report to Dr. Shrum for her review and comments. He explained that he would like to have the document, together with the input from Dr. Shrum, sent back to the Curriculum Committee. He indicated that the suggestions from Dr. Shrum could be incorporated, and the final recommendation would be prepared for a vote.

Dr. Meek indicated that the new description would require a Bylaw change. He had also provided a proposed timetable for accomplishing the remaining steps in the process. He noted that it would be beneficial to have the new committee in place and ready to function by August 2013, or sooner. Accordingly, it would be helpful to have the committee formed in June or July.

Dr. Finn opened the topic for further discussion. Following various questions and comments, the motion was made to table the issue until Dr. Shrum had received the documents and had an opportunity to provide her input and suggestions. A question was raised regarding the interface of this information with the work of the Phase III Committee. Dr. Benjamin said he believes it is necessary to make the needed steps happen, have the transition to the new Curriculum Committee, and Oversight Committee to be accomplished sometime in June. The members noted that is a very brief time to accomplish what is still needed, including the Bylaw change. A suggestion was made that Senators should be aware that a special meeting may be needed. Dr. Finn suggested that the Executive Committee could consider the timing issue and could develop a timetable that will accommodate the timing needs. It was decided that Dr. Finn would provide the current documents to Dr. Shrum for her input now, rather than delaying until the Senate had thoroughly reviewed the documents and made a recommendation. It was moved, seconded and passed that the issue would be tabled until after Dr. Shrum had reviewed the documents and provided her input.

Representing the Faculty Affairs Committee, Dr. Weil reported that Dr. Craig Stevens advised that one of the P&T Committee members was a Department chairperson and therefore should be replaced on the Promotion and Tenure Committee. Dr. Weil reported since there had been a tie vote in the previous election, a new vote would be needed to identify the member to be added to the committee. She said it could be conducted electronically, and she was seeking the Senate's approval. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve an electronic voting process.

The next issue raised by Dr. Weil involved the information that CHS does not have an approved ratio of clinical faculty to tenured and tenure-track faculty. Following discussion, it was determined that the concern could be tabled until the resources needed to implement the new curriculum are identified. It was recognized that eventually there may need to be a bylaw change. Dr. Wagner requested that Dr. Weil send out the data to Senators regarding this issue. She was invited to attend the March meeting. Dr. Finn said he would also invite Dr. Hess to attend so the Senators would have the value of his input for this discussion; Senators indicated there may be additional ways to develop the comparison percentages, and that would be valuable information to explore.

Dr. Finn called upon Dr. Meek to report regarding the OSU-Faculty Council discussions. Dr. Meek advised that the OSU Faculty Council met on January 15, 2013. There was a special report from Chris Ormsbee, the Assistant Provost & Director for Institute of Teaching and Learning Excellence at OSU Stillwater. She described her work and her general plan there is to reorganize and use a faculty driven model through centrally organized services. Dr. Ormsbee has had a fair amount of experience in preparation of teachers in professional development in teaching. She described a faculty teaching fellow position that would be available. We would have two teaching fellows at the CHS campus. The applications will go out sometime in the April or May, but a description of faculty teaching fellows was provided.

Dr. Meek continued his report by advising that Vice President Weaver reported that OSU had received word that the Master Lease Program was finally approved by the attorney general so OSU was back on track with some important projects that have been on hold for the last year or so. This could affect our school and he believes we have purchased equipment on the lease program.

Budget report by Rodney Holcomb. They are still investigating dependent tuition help at OSU. They will be sending out a survey regarding how many dependents might be out there.
Faculty Committees: It was reported that the Reappointment, and Promotion and Tenure final report is close to a final recommendation and we can expect to see that out in February.

The evaluation of the Teaching Task Force report recommended that OSU Stillwater consider implementing four "best practices" for collecting data that could be used to improve instruction on a new online student survey.

- 1) instruction that focuses on student learning rather than instructor performance;
- 2) teaching portfolios to document instructional expertise of faculty;

- 3) peer coaching and review of instruction;
- 4) the use of student focus groups to gain further insight into reasons underlying student rating of instruction.

OSU Stillwater is also having some discussion on the school year that was initiated by President Hargis. This involved some issues/questions about starting a week later. Can we have a full week intersession; what are the criteria for fall break. So in short, OSU Stillwater is discussing changes in their schedule.

Dr. Finn inquired if there were any other items the Senators wished to raise. Dr. Wagner said he had been invited to serve on a Task Force to review the guidelines for external consulting by faculty. He invited the Senators to send any input they have to him. Dr. Stephens said he has some items he would like to have considered. Dr. Wagner indicated he would provide the information to the Senate Office for further distribution to the Senators, or others, as appropriate.

Dr. Finn advised that he has been invited to take part in the Oklahoma State Regents Summit on Technology in Education; he plans to participate and to report to the Senate.

Dr. Po advised that OB/Gyn is representing OSU at the Women's' Expo being held at the Fairgrounds. The Senators offered their congratulations and appreciation.

Dr. Finn thanked the Senators for their in-depth discussions, and again encouraged them to review the new Curriculum Committee documents distributed by Dr. Meek, and also those that will be provided by Drs. Weil and Wagner.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

**Written Committee Reports
Faculty Senate Meeting
February 8, 2013**

College-wide committees:

Academic Standards (*Harriet Shaw*)

The committee met November 29, December 17, January 14 and February 4. Agendas included

- two students with repeat COMAT failures,
- nine MSI fall semester course failures,
- two students with non-cognitive grades,
- one student unsuccessful in anatomy remediation,
- one student failure of COMLEX 2
- one student with repeated failures of COMLEX 2.

As a result of issues addressed, the committee is recommending

- a more structured and detailed COMAT remediation policy
- availability of all D2L rotation didactic materials for students throughout the 3rd & 4th years
- development of a social media policy for OSU CHS

The committee will be submitting proposed corrections and changes to the Academic Standards Handbook.

Curriculum Committee (*Bill Meek*)

Dr. Meek provided a verbal report at the meeting.

Learning Resources (*Lance Frye*)

At the January 16 meeting, the following area reports were given:

Library: Ms. Freeman advised that the library has received approval for the construction of two more study rooms. She noted that study rooms will be the same size as the other rooms and they will have the same equipment. The new rooms will be located in the library, and in the space now occupied by bound periodicals. She reported there will be no loss of journal information since the information is available digitally. Ms. Freeman advised that study rooms are the most in-demand service provided in the library, and the two new additional rooms will bring the total number to eight rooms. She said in the amount of space in the library, having eight study rooms is a considerable accomplishment.

Educational Development: Dr. Linsenmeyer reported that the semester is going well; there were a few problems last year with Tegrity, but there were hardware set-up problems but those have

been fixed. There have been no problems with Tegrity since that time. She reported that the computers in the classrooms had crashed at the beginning of the semester; IT replaced the hard drive in Dunlap, and in the other lecture hall, it has been fixed, but a new hard drive may not have been installed. The hardware issues have been addressed, and software has been reloaded. She reported that the work was accomplished so that class recordings were not reported. In response to a question on why the crashes occurred, she said it had been mentioned that some thumb drives may have carried content that was not compatible with the classroom programming.

Dr. Linsenmeyer reported that some sessions were not saving; investigation revealed that the computer was not assigning the correct path for the recordings. The instructors have been asked to save their materials to the desktop, and then it can be saved elsewhere from there. In addition, she reported that some instructors were not closing their session in Turning Point, and that would negatively affect the next instructor's attempt to log on. Lecturers have been advised of the appropriate procedures in order to avoid the "ERROR" notices. She advised that D2L is functioning well; no problems have been reported.

Students: Student Reports: Ms. Morris inquired whether students could be trained to be of assistance when computer problems arose in the classroom. Dr. Linsenmeyer replied that the option had been discussed, and said that any problems with Tegrity would be hardware issues. It is scheduled to automatically stop and start. Regarding Turning Point, some faculty members have expressed concerns regarding students being able to potentially have access to questions stored in that program. Dr. Linsenmeyer said Mr. Niland may be able to provide some very basic information, e.g. whether the microphones are turned on, etc.

Dr. Turetsky advised Dr. Linsenmeyer of some specific problems she had experienced during her class lectures, and advised that she had spoken with Dan Thompson regarding them. Dr. Linsenmeyer said she would check with Mr. Thompson on those specific issues. There is one study-room that did not have electricity to the outlets—the overhead lights are functioning. An extension cord has been run to the room, and a question was raised regarding the time frame to have them fixed. Dr. Frye took note of the problem.

New Business: Dr. Frye asked if there was any new business to discuss. Dr. Turetsky reported that Drs. Kaul and Blewett have reported problems with Turning Point on their office computers. Dr. Price mentioned that some problems could be arising due to additional programs that may have been added on the office computers, and they may not be compatible with the operating system. Dr. Linsenmeyer said she was aware that Dr. Pollak had some issues with his laptop, but the desktop was functioning properly. She requested that if faculty members would contact her with such problems, she may be of service in getting resolution. If it is software, she may be of help, but if it is hardware, she can help diagnose the problem and forward it to IT for further action.

The next Learning Resources Committee meeting is scheduled for March 20.

Research Committee (*Doris Patneau*)

Dr. Wallace, who serves on the committee, provided the Minutes of the January 9 meeting which follow.

The Research Committee meeting began at 12:05 with a quorum. Meeting attendees included Drs. Tom Curtis, Doris Patneau, Frank Champlin, David Wallace, Johnny Stephens and Nedra Wilson, Laurie St. Clair, Amanda Benn and Terry Brown.

- I. Consideration of the November 14, 2012 meeting minutes.
The minutes were reviewed and approved.
- II. Regulatory Committee Reports
 - a. **Institutional Review Board (Dr. Wansley, Chair)**
 - Dr. Wansley was not available and Amber Hood is on maternity leave.
 - Dr. Stephens informed the committee of Dr. Nader's resignation. Most of his trials were already closed so there were no problems with his departure.
 - Dr. Stephens also explained that the board continues to get research protocols from residents that are not up to standard. Training is needed, but there has been a looming question of who is responsible for training. This issue needs resolution. Dr. Stephens volunteered to draft a memo regarding training for residents and others, and to present it to the Research Committee for comment and/or further action. A standardized and required training module needs to be implemented.
 - Research for residents has become more stringent and a more cohesive definition of research is needed. Dr. Stephens will address this with Dr. Wansley.
 - b. **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee report (Dr. T. Curtis)**
 - The committee plans to meet in February.
 - They have one protocol that is in limbo and the committee is working with the faculty member to resolve.
 - Animal rooms in the Biomedical Research Building are not usable; they are too cold. Heaters were put into the rooms, but the temperature adjusted itself to accommodate the heat and continued to drop. The rooms cannot be used until the problem is resolved. Repair people have come out but they can't find the problem.
 - The situation doesn't just exist in the animal rooms; the problem is in the entire building. Some of the class rooms are too cold to use for teaching. The heat is governed by a boiler system that is frequently turned off, for instance, during extended leave periods. It cannot run continuously without an engineer on-site. The university doesn't have an engineer available on a continuous basis. This problem may need to be address with President Barnett, Provost Shrum, or Jeff Evans. Dr. Wallace suggested also including Dr. Benjamin since the problem also exists in the classrooms.
 - It was noted that the problems are not being reported to the Help Desk. Faculty may need to begin sending emails to the help desk to establish a paper trail.
 - Dr. Patneau agreed to draft a letter to Dr. Benjamin to address the situation.

c. Chemical Hygiene and Radioisotope Use Committee report (Dr. Wallace)

- No report.

d. Institutional Biosafety Committee (Dr. Champlin)

- Nothing to report. His committee is meeting next week. Inventory of biohazard agents will be the topic of discussion. For inventory purpose, an excel form will be used. Dr. Champlin asked Dr. Wallace for his assistance with publicizing the information (the need for inventory and the use of the form.) All that is required from Dr. Wallace is a letter with the information.

III. Ongoing Business

a. Third Friday seminar series (Dr. Wilson)

- Dr. Wilson plans to contact Dr. Kaiser from St Francis or Dr. Raj Singh for the January meeting, but is hoping to have Dr. Kaiser for this month

b. OSU in Tulsa Research Day 2013 (Amanda Benn)

- Lunch will available on Thursday only and has been order for 100.
- Amanda has planned to have talks on Thursday & Friday with Engineering on Thursday and Medical/Graduates on Friday. The poster session is scheduled for Friday. Judges are needed for the Friday poster session.
- There is a problem with the “one month before the event” printing deadline given by Ellen Stockton. The abstract deadline is February 4th and the poster deadline is January 18th. Ellen is concerned about not having enough time to get the work out if the deadlines are shorter. Most of the committee indicated that this deadline is somewhat unrealistic, but understands the concerns of Ellen, who works alone. In times past, there was additional staff in the graphics department and deadlines were not so far in advance. It was suggest that Amanda or Dr. Goodson speak with someone to see what may be done. Perhaps Dr. Drummond could lend a staff person to help with printing.

IV. New Business

There was no new business to discuss or presented

V. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 12:55 p.m.

Student Affairs Committee (Shawna Duncan)

The committee has not met.

Special/regulatory committees:

The Institutional Review Board, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, the Institutional Biosafety Committee, and the Chemical Hygiene and Radioisotope use Committee initially report through the Research Committee.

Chemical Hygiene Care and Radioisotope Use Committee (*David Wallace*) This committee reports through the Research Committee.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (*Tom Curtis*)
This committee reports through the Research Committee.

Institutional Biosafety Committee (*Frank Champlin*)
The following tabulation is a summary of the major agenda items addressed at the most recent meeting of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC). Their respective outcomes and any items requiring eventual Faculty Affairs Committee or Faculty Senate action are included where appropriate.

The committee met at 1:00 pm in Conference Room E-469 with members Champlin, Koehler, Reddig, Blewett, Katz, and St. Clair in attendance.

- I. The chair's written report/minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting were not included in the meeting packet so the Committee decided to consider them by email.
- II. Dr. Katz distributed hard copies of the American Society for Microbiology's recent Guidelines for Biosafety in Teaching Laboratories and conducted a discussion of its relevance at both CHS and her institution RSU. It was pointed out to the members that she was involved in the preparation of the document as a reviewer. The document will be sent to the Office of Research for posting on the Regulatory Compliance website.
- III. Committee was informed of the status of the Infectious Agent and Primate-Derived Cell Culture Line Inventory process. The process was completed on a trial basis by the Chair for his laboratory using the Excel spreadsheet software. It was decided that both this version and an alternative pdf version be posted on the Office of Research Regulatory Compliance Website and that the inventory process be initiated with a notice from Dr. Wallace to all PIs.

The next scheduled meeting of the IBC will be held Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 1:00 pm in Conference Room E-469.

Institutional Review Board (*Paul B. Rock*)
This committee reports through the Research Committee.

Affirmative Action Committee (*Sandra Cooper*)
The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

Students with Disabilities Committee (*Michael Pollak*)
The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

Faculty Senate committees:

Faculty Affairs Committee (Anne Weil)

The Faculty Affairs Committee met on January 23, 2013

1. The minutes of the November meeting (our last meeting) were approved.
2. Dr. Weil updated the committee on the status of nominations to replace Dr. Jarolim on committees. All nominations were approved in an e-mail vote of the Faculty Senate.
3. Dr. Weil updated the committee on Web Site updates. Improvements, such as making the Bylaws navigable with hyperlinked subsections, await.
4. Dr. Rhonda Casey, who is on the Promotion and Tenure Committee, has taken over as Chair of the Department of Pediatrics. Since Department Chairs may not serve on the Promotion and Tenure Committee, we looked at the ballots from the last election to see who could take her place. Unfortunately, there was a tie for second place in the voting. We re-counted the ballots to confirm that this was the case. Robert's Rules state that a tie in a secret ballot must be re-voted. We decided that an electronic vote would be the easiest thing to do, and Dr. Weil agreed to contact Dr. Mabelle Linsenmeyer to find out how the course evaluations are done, as anonymity and only being able to vote once are the key components. Since our meeting, Dr. Weil has contacted Dr. Finn to ask for the Faculty Senate's approval of an electronic vote. We are awaiting this approval. She has met with Dr. Linsenmeyer about the available mechanisms for conducting an electronic vote.
5. The committee discussed the proposed changes to tenure introduced to the General Faculty at the Fall 2012 General Faculty Meeting, and how to facilitate discussion among the faculty before a Spring vote. One or more informational Q&A or discussion meetings open to all faculty members was thought to be a potentially constructive method, to be proposed to the Faculty Senate.
6. We reviewed votes that would occur at the Spring 2013 General Faculty Meeting. These will include:
 - A representative to the OSU Faculty Council
 - A new Vice-Chair of the Faculty Senate
 - Two new members of the Faculty Senate

Since our meeting, Dr. Van Winkle checked whether all the above can be on one ballot, or whether the OSU representative needs to be on a separate ballot. In fact, the OSU Faculty Council Representative election is run through Stillwater. If we have not heard from them by mid-February, Dr. Weil will contact them for information.

7. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Affairs Committee will be on Feb. 27th.

Budget and Benefits Committee (Richard Bost)

The Budget & Benefits Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Kirby Jarolim, had been focused on receiving information from Dr. Jim Hess (OSU-CHS COO) and offering advice in response regarding College resources, expenditures, and financial support of possible future development. Dr. Jarolim is now retired, however, and I have been asked to chair the committee.

Further, Dr. David Hitzeman has agreed to join the Committee returning it to its full membership. In keeping with conversations with the Committee membership including Dr. Hess, I anticipate that the Committee will add a more active research and analysis role to its previous function. The next committee meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2013. Please forward any questions or concerns to Dr. Bost at richard.bost@okstate.edu.

Promotion and Tenure Committee (Craig Stevens)

No report to submit as the 2012-2013 P and T Committee has not yet been provided this year's RPT dossiers.

Other committees/task forces/liaisons:

Biomedical Sciences Graduate Committee (Kathleen Curtis)

At a meeting on 1/14/2013, the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Committee (BSGC) discussed the need to review and revise the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program guidelines necessitated by implementation of the new curriculum or required to address any inconsistencies and ambiguities in the existing guidelines and required forms. Many of the proposed revisions to the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program guidelines are likely to originate from the BSGC, who must implement and comply with the guidelines. In addition, a copy of the existing guidelines will be distributed to the Biomedical Sciences Graduate faculty for their review 30 days before the spring Graduate faculty meeting, and the faculty also will be asked to suggest necessary revisions. All proposed revisions will be voted on at the Spring Graduate faculty meeting, which has tentatively been scheduled for 4/26/2013.

The BSGC received a report from the Interim Director of the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, Dr. Randall Davis, about progress on revisions to the graduate curriculum, and on the need to identify course coordinators for new Biomedical Sciences graduate courses. An email solicitation will be made to request volunteers; several suggestions were made by the BSGC. Dr. Davis agreed to approach interested individuals, along with the chairs of their departments, about serving as course coordinators. Dr. Davis also reported that the ad for applications for a permanent Director of the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program will be distributed later that day.

Discussion then focused on the availability of graduate student stipends, and on the 2/1/2013 deadline for application to the Biomedical Sciences PhD program. It is expected that the applications will be made available to the BSGC members so that the applicants can be evaluated at the February BSCG meeting, which is scheduled for 2/11/2013.

Finally, the BSGC reviewed and approved Plans of Study for two Biomedical Sciences graduate students.

OSU-Faculty Council Representative (Bill Meek)

A verbal report will be given at the meeting.

Oklahoma State Regents Faculty Advisory Representative (Warren Finn)

Faculty Advisory Council members have been invited to participate in the Higher Education Tech Summit on March 29. This is in an attempt to improve communications between the FAC and the CoIT. The format afforded the Council will be a panel discussion lead by the Faculty Advisory Council representatives; they will have the opportunity to express their thoughts and concerns.

The following article which appeared in *The Oklahoman* on 12/7/12 was distributed to the Council members.

Low pay makes faculty search process difficult, professor tells Oklahoma State Regents

BY SILAS ALLEN

The Oklahoman

12/7/2012

Relatively low pay for professors is beginning to make it difficult to attract quality candidates, a faculty representative told the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Aaron Elmer, a biology professor at Murray State College in Tishomingo, spoke at a Thursday meeting on behalf of the board's Faculty Advisory Council.

State budget cuts have forced campuses to freeze or cut faculty salaries over the past few years. That makes the search process for new faculty members all the more challenging, he said.

Institutions often hire their fifth or sixth choice for a position because they can't afford the candidates they'd prefer.

Despite that challenge, Elmer said, Oklahoma's colleges and universities have hired talented faculty members who are committed to the state's college completion goals.

Gov. Mary Fallin has called for an additional 20,400 degrees and certificates to be awarded in Oklahoma over the next 12 years. That goal is a part of Complete College America, a nationwide initiative designed to boost college completion.

Exceeding goals

Higher education officials announced earlier this year that they'd far exceeded their completion benchmark for the first year of the initiative. Oklahoma's public colleges and universities, together with private schools and CareerTech centers, had expected to

produce 1,700 additional degrees and certificates during the 2011-2012 academic year. In September, officials announced public colleges and universities alone had produced 1,900 more graduates.

Officials have warned that the first year of the initiative likely was the easiest, and that the program may not see similar success in the years to come. Although the next 11 years are uncertain, Elmer said, faculty members are committed to working with higher education officials to meet those goals.

Space Utilization Committee (*Eric Polak*)

The focus of this committee has been incorporated as a facet of the Curriculum Revision/Space Requirements issue; Dr. Benjamin serves as point-person for this process. He has been invited to attend and verbally report at the Faculty Senate meetings.