

**Written Committee Reports  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
January 9, 2015**

*The committee reports are for information purposes only  
and are not being submitted for Senate approval.*

**College-wide committees:**

**Academic Standards (Gerwald Koehler)**

The Academic Standards Committee met on December 5 and December 18, 2014. The committee met with 5 students, addressing the following issues:

- COMLEX Level 2 Cognitive Evaluation (CE) failure (1)
- COMLEX Level 2 Performance Evaluation (PE) failure (2)
- Insufficient progress in the preparation for the first COMLEX Level 1 exam retake (1)
- Academic progress in repeat year and length of academic probation period (1)

Furthermore, the committee considered and recommended specific requirements for two additional students towards retaking the COMLEX Level 1 examination. The academic progress of students repeating a year of medical school was also discussed.

**Curriculum Oversight Committee (Randy S. Wymore)**

A written report was not received.

**Learning Resources (Joseph Price)**

Dr. Price submitted a document in the form of a FAQ on best practices for the use of the TrueLearn question banks used for Board Exam preparation. The committee approved the document, which was sent to the Curriculum Oversight Committee. Part of the report was the suggestion to create a "Success on Board Exams Program" for Level I and Level II exam takers, which would incorporate guidance on exam preparation and facilitate institutional research on success on national boards. A draft form of such a program for the Level I students was included in the report.

**Research Committee (Ron Thrasher)**

*The Research Committee has voted to hold quarterly meetings. Although the following Special/regulatory committees report through the Research Committee, there may be months when they submit a report for inclusion in the Senate Written Reports when there is no Research Committee meeting report: Institutional Review Board, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, the Institutional Biosafety Committee, and the Chemical Hygiene and Radioisotope use Committee.*

The Research Committee held its regular quarterly meeting December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Regular standing committee reports were received and discussed along with the Huron Report and Research Project Summaries from throughout the Center for Health Sciences. The remainder of the meeting generally addressed possible revisions to the goals, objectives and focus of the Research Committee. A revision to the Faculty Senate Bylaws specifically Article VIII, Committees, Section E 7, describing the Research Committee has been drafted and will be presented to the Research Committee for further discussion and possible action at the next regular scheduled meeting, March 11, 2015 at 9:00.

### **Chemical Hygiene and Radioisotope Use Committee (*David Wallace*)**

The committee hasn't met since November. Revisions to the bylaws were finalized and approved electronically and formatted for submission to Faculty Affairs. The next scheduled meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Institutional Biosafety Committee (*David Wallace*)**

The committee met in early December. There were no protocols (new/renewal/revised) that needed to be reviewed. The final draft of the minutes was approved and formatted for submission to the Faculty Affairs Committee. In addition, one of the IBC outside members resigned from the committee due to outside work conflicts. The committee discussed potential individuals who may fill this slot. The preference is for someone with (bio)safety background and/or a first responder. The committee is currently working to fill that spot. The next scheduled meeting is January 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Student Affairs Committee (*Steve Eddy*)**

The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting.

### **Faculty Senate committees:**

#### **Budget and Benefits Committee (*Richard Bost*)**

The Budget & Benefits Committee met on Wednesday, December 3, 2014. The meeting featured a detailed report and discussion with Mr. Polak about tuition and fee comparisons among comparable medical schools, faculty salaries at OSU-CHS and sister institutions, and progress with funding of our new building. The meeting also featured a discussion of its current research priorities, including (1) the benefits package for current employees, (2) retirement plans and associated benefits, (3) tuition waivers and/or reductions for family members, and (4) the impact of our benefits package on faculty recruitment. We are anticipating additional discussion about these topics with Ms. Cooper or Ms. Tappana from Human Resources as well as with Dr. Wansley, our Faculty Council representative. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is to be on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at noon.

#### **Faculty Affairs Committee (*Bill Meek*)**

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

#### **Promotion and Tenure Committee**

The 2014-2015 Chairperson is scheduled to be elected at the next meeting.

### **Other committees/task forces/liaisons:**

#### **Affirmative Action Committee (*Sandra Cooper*) (A regulatory committee)**

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

#### **Biomedical Sciences Graduate Committee (*Anne Weil*)**

The BSGC did not meet in November. The BSGC report from the December 16, 2014 meeting follows:

- Graduate Studies Director Ms. Bavette Miller reminded all that graduate grades are due in by midnight on December 16, and that Spring 2015 classes in Biomedical Sciences are now listed online.

- Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program Director Dr. Randall Davis updated all on new course meeting times for the Spring 2015 semester, which were sent around in an e-mail.
- Chair Dr. Anne Weil updated the BSGC membership on actions taken by the Curriculum Oversight Committee on those items proposed by the BSGC, namely the addition of questions regarding graduate-specific material in Medical courses.
- Our Group VI representative on the Graduate Faculty Council, Dr. Earl Blewett, reminds everyone on the Graduate Faculty to vote on the new Group VI Bylaws. He also updated us on changes to the Research Misconduct Policy that the Grad Council has voted on and that will, if approved, go into effect next year. These changes include improved procedures and redress. Any faculty members who want to see the changes should contact Dr. Blewett. (The current policy is on line.) Dr. Blewett also drew the committee's attention to changes in Stillwater that may result in waiving graduate students' tuition in the semester in which they graduate.
- Meeting times for the Spring 2015 Semester were set.
- The BSCG voted to approve a change of committee membership, and an advancement to Ph.D. candidacy.
- Graduate student performance in the Fall 2014 BMF courses was reviewed, with recommendations made to assist students struggling in their first semester. In addition, the committee brainstormed some ways in which first-semester Biomedical Sciences graduate education could be a better experience and/or could provide a better introductory education. The committee members are charged by the Chair to bring competing, thought-out proposals to the January meeting.
- Finally, some ideas for new course development were floated.

#### **OSU-Faculty Council Representative (Richard Wansley)**

The council did not meet in December, and there is no report from the council-associated Retirement and Benefits Committee.

#### **Oklahoma State Regents Faculty Advisory Representative**

Full information on the State Regents Faculty Advisory group can be accessed at:  
<http://www.okhighered.org/statesystem/powerpoints/powerpoints.shtml>.

This position is to be held by the current Faculty Senate President; since it is a two year term, not all Senate Presidents will be asked to serve.