

## OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE

2015-2016

September 8, 2015 Minutes

### **OSU-CHS Faculty Senate Members**

Sarah Hall, D.O., President

Randall Davis, Ph.D., Past-President

Jarrad R. Wagner, Ph.D., President-elect

Christopher Thurman, D.O.

William Po, M.D.

Charles Sanny, Ph.D. (16)

Holly Ballard, Ph.D. (17)

Warren Finn, Ph.D. (17)

Richard Wansley, Ph.D. (16), OSU-CHS Representative to OSU Faculty Council  
Oklahoma State Regents Faculty Advisory Representative

*Recorder: Jean Keene*

**Members Present:** Dr. Hall, Dr. Ballard, Dr. Davis, Dr. Finn, Dr. Po, Dr. Thurman, Dr. Sanny

**Members Absent:** Dr. Wagner, Dr. Wansley

**Reporting Administrators:** Dr. Benjamin

**Call to Order:** Dr. Hall called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.; it was held in the CHS Board Room as is customary.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Approval of the minutes of the prior meeting was moved by Dr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Sanny. They were unanimously approved.

### **Administration Report:**

President Hall called upon Dr. Benjamin to provide the report from the Administration. He reported there are three items which are receiving current focus:

- A recommendation regarding the Huron Report is being prepared to be sent to Dr. Shrum. A discussion on this report is scheduled for later on the agenda.
- The accreditation site visit is growing closer. There are two categories being examined; 1) the Medical School, and 2) the Graduate School.

The Mock visit for the Medical School was just completed. We learned a great deal during that visit, and some revisions will be made to the application that will be sent to COCA. He advised informally that there are some areas in which we excel, and there are some areas that could be enhanced to provide additional strength.

- The third area is the curriculum. Several good ideas have been generated regarding how to “put our best foot forward”.

Dr. Benjamin advised that he had split his accreditation report into two parts because there are members of our CHS community that are not aware of activity in the Graduate School. He said the Graduate School is also going through the accreditation process, and for the Graduate School, it is through the Stillwater campus. The associated site-visit for this accreditation will occur in October. He noted that Dr. Pettit and he would have a significant role in this process.

He noted that the first set of students going through the COMLEX exams provided the opportunity to further self-evaluate the curriculum, and it has been a valuable process. Questions being examined include:

- A. What are the goals?
- B. Are we achieving them?

He said he views this as a positive examination, and collectively as a group, we saw that the four-year product can be further enhanced to be very, very strong. He noted that faculty will be actively engaged in this process.

A question was raised regarding the site-visit, and asked if Dr. Lenz was aware of the COMLEX exams issue on the latest round of tests. Dr. Benjamin advised that information existing at that time, had been provided to him in advance, but the COMLEX scores had not been received at that point. However, Dr. Lenz was made aware during his Mock Site-Visit. Dr. Benjamin advised that our report for the Site-Visit in November will include not only the pass rates, but also it will include our plans plus the actions already put in place to address this issue. Dr. Benjamin commented on the process that was adopted at Dr. Lenz' school regarding preparation for COMSAE exams; this approach was successful in preparing students for the COMLEX exams.

Dr. Hall thanked Dr. Benjamin for the report from the administration.

Dr. Hall conducted the election of the Senate Secretary and the Sergeant at Arms for the 2015-2016 academic year. The voting results were:

- Dr. Thurman will serve as Secretary,
- Dr. Po will serve as Sergeant-at-Arms

Dr. Hall advised they were now members of the Executive Committee, and they would be attending the EC meetings.

### **Faculty Senate President's Report (Sarah Hall)**

Dr. Hall advised her report would be brief:

- The RPT election run-off took place at the end of June. Brandy Close facilitated the electronic voting. Dr. Kath Curtis was elected.
- Dr. Hall met with Dr. Pettit at the end of June; one of the outcomes of that meeting was an approval for providing lunch for Senate meetings. Senator's preferences will be sent to the caterer.
- The topic of student attendance was raised. A survey to poll the faculty will be distributed. Dr. Hall requested that all of the Senators participate and return the survey, and also encourage colleagues to participate. Ms. Close and Dr. Vassar will be working on developing the survey instrument.

- Dr. Hall advised that she would be going to Uganda with the Students on that Rotation; she will be leaving on 9-10-15; Dr. Thurman volunteered to be a back-up person during her absence from campus.
- Another topic for continued attention during 2015-2016 will be the use of clickers. Dr. Benjamin and Dr. Steele have developed a pilot system that will be used in the Respiratory System classes.
- At the most recent Curriculum Overview Committee meeting, an update identifying where a topic would end within one course, and where it would be picked-up in another course would be very helpful. She advised that Dr. Benjamin and Ms. Close would be working on developing a searchable data base to help provide information. Ms. Jamie Edford will be working on the construction of the data base. Ms. Close said it would start with the learning objectives, but the project could grow to include more information over time. She indicated they are in the early stage of development; there is a goal to have it up and available for use prior to the November site visit. Dr. Hall asked the Senators whether they were in agreement with this project being received as a response to the request for course content identification. The Senators expressed their agreement.
- There have been three meetings regarding the Tahlequah Branch Campus. Dr. Hall said several small sub-groups have been working to identify various issues, i.e. faculty needs, number of faculty, faculty new-hires, how those faculty will be distributed by location. Anatomy, and creative ways to bring students together will also be addressed. Application, recruitment, number of students, transportation between campus locations will also be under discussion.

Dr. Hall indicated the funds for the students' tuition will come through CHS, and the faculty will come through CHS; however, the tribe will fund the construction of a physical facility.

### **The Huron Report**

Dr. Hall invited Dr. Benjamin to report on the recommendations emerging from the Huron Report. She noted that the document was included in the agenda packet. *[For completion of record, the full Task Force Report is included as Attachment A.]* Dr. Benjamin reported that a Task Force had been appointed to discuss/evaluate the various recommendations put forth in the Huron Report. The members were: Johnny Stephens, Pharm.D., Mousumi Som, D.O., Kenneth Miller, Ph.D., and Dr. Bruce Benjamin, Ph.D.

Dr. Benjamin outlined the process he followed in approaching this task. He had met with several department chairpersons, and they in turn met with their faculty to hold discussions and to gather input, after which the Task Force members met again. He indicated the following list captures the main points:

1. The chairs and department faculty believe that the process should be individualized for each faculty member. Areas of research, rank of faculty member, faculty role in the institution all impact the assigned FTE. This should be accounted for in setting performance levels.
2. Department chairs believe they should play a lead role in assigning research FTE to members of their department. This process should be done in consultation with each faculty member.
3. Accountability for assistant professors is managed largely by the promotion and tenure process. Assistant professors should be highly motivated and it should be reflected in their research outcomes.
4. Accountability for tenured faculty will be managed by chairs through annual evaluations and through the post-tenure review process.

5. Accountability for chairs in this overall process will be overseen by the vice provost for graduate programs who will evaluate chairs on the management of this process. This will be done during their annual review.
6. The whole process will be overseen by the provost who will evaluate the vice provost in the management of this process.
7. The faculty also believes that the definition of research and scholarship has evolved in the academic world. The department chairs suggest that the administration looks to a report from Penn State University (Uniscope) that thoroughly researched this area. The recommendation is to use the Uniscope model as a mechanism to generate new ideas and approaches for the evaluation of scholarship in research, teaching, service, and outreach. The chairs do not recommend a complete implementation of the Uniscope model. They believe that ideas from the model would enhance the OSU-CHS process.

The Task Force chose to focus on the following items at this point:

- Accountability Structure
- Standard Metrics
- New Hires

He indicated that the last item was not included on the Huron Report; however, the Task Force members believed it was a critical area and should be addressed.

Dr. Benjamin indicated that the following recommendations were being made by the Task Force, and the Senate's consideration/endorsement was being requested prior to the recommendations being sent forward to Dr. Shrum.

### **Task Force Recommendations**

- Accountability (Recommendation 2)
- Standard Metrics (Recommendation 7)
- New Hires
  - Tenure track assistant professor positions
    - There should be a net increase in the number of new faculty to facilitate research growth. This growth in research production should be 20% per year for five years depending upon the number of new tenure track faculty hires.
    - New hires in clinical sciences should be assessed for tenure track vs clinical track. There has been a recent increase in clinical track faculty hires.
      - Assessment should be made on numbers of clinical vs. tenure positions.
      - Evaluate the faculty bylaws addressing clinical vs. tenured faculty numbers. We would encourage the Faculty Senate to discuss this matter with administration to evaluate how these numbers could influence both research and clinical services.
    - When making new hires, consider tenure track clinical sciences faculty that have a joint biomedical department affiliation or biomedical primary department members with joint appointment in clinical departments.
      - Consideration could be given to joint appointments of current faculty that have interest.
  - Consideration for DO/PhD or MD/PhD
  - Post Doc hires to help bridge Biomedical/Clinical gaps

Dr. Hall asked the Senators if they had any questions; Dr. Benjamin responded to them, and advised that the metrics would be applied in a broad fashion since each department will customize the application within their unit. However, they may be parts of the report that could be useful in encouraging faculty to engage in research and scholarly activities.

Dr. Hall asked if the Senators wanted to make a move for a vote of endorsement for sending these recommendations forward to Dr. Shrum. It was moved by Dr. Po, seconded by Dr. Thurman, voted upon, and passed. Dr. Hall will advise Dr. Stephens of the Senate action. Dr. Hall thanked Dr. Benjamin for his report.

**Report on student success on the COMLEX examinations:**

Ms. Brandy Close reported that she was providing for Senators the information that she had given to the administrators regarding the recent student COMLEX examinations experience. She called attention to a four-page document included in the agenda packet. *[For completeness of record, the document is included as Attachment B.]* She advised that Johnathan Franklin, Matt Vassar and she had been asked to prepare a report. Drs. Franklin and Vassar addressed the statistical aspects, finding correlations between MCAT scores and COMLEX scores, grade point average and class ranking. Ms. Close focused on the aspects involving the curriculum. She called attention to page one. She said there is a time/content mismatch within some courses within the new curriculum. She said her focus was to try to determine where the breakdown occurred in our curriculum for these students. She said many changes have already been made to date to try to minimize effects and more may be added. She suggested that the root lies in the structure—in the amount of content that students need to assimilate and the limited time in which to accomplish that task. She indicated there is a need for students to go to greater depth in the information compared to the previous curriculum. She said there is value in determining where information is presented, and where it ends in one course and begins in another.

She said a data base is being developed that will be tied to objectives. She commented that additional detail information may be included in the data base over time. In examining the number of questions in the new vs. the prior curriculum, it is clear that some disciplines have a significantly larger number of questions, and therefore carry greater value to the students during tests. They will spend their available study time where they will get the chance of greater payoff. The clinical applications questions provide a greater opportunity to gain points vs. the biomedical sciences questions. Moving forward in the report, Ms. Close spoke regarding the Actions Taken and Suggestions as indicated on page three of the report. These are approaches to reduce/solve the increased COMLEX test failure rate.

Dr. Hall thanked Ms. Close for her report and said the faculty members look forward to being able to use the data base.

Dr. Hall called attention to the Combined Written Committee Chairperson's Reports and asked the Senators if they had any questions. None were raised.

There was no old business to discuss.

Dr. Hall advised the Senators that the proposal for students having faculty advisors had been adopted, and a list of the Faculty Advisors and the assigned students was included in the meeting agenda packet.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

**Written Committee Reports  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
September 8, 2015**

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

**College-wide committees:**

**Academic Standards (Alexander Rouch)**

The Academic Standards Committee met on the following dates:

- July 24, 2015 with four 2<sup>nd</sup>- year students for COMLEX I failures and three 1<sup>st</sup>- year students for failed remediation;
- July 29, 2015 with six 2<sup>nd</sup>-year students for COMLEX I failures;
- August 4, 2015 with seven 2<sup>nd</sup>-year students for COMLEX I failures;
- August 17, 2015 with four 2<sup>nd</sup>-year students for COMLEX I failures, one 4<sup>th</sup>-year student for a COMLEX II failure, and one 2<sup>nd</sup>-year student for a non-cog grade.

Meetings are being prepared for September 11 and 16 to meet with students for COMLEX I and COMLEX II failures.

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

Chair's report from the Curriculum Oversight Committee to the Faculty Senate-Randy S. Wymore

The Curriculum Oversight Committee (COC) met on August 20, 2015 and September 3, 2015.

Dr. Dyer met with me and discussed a program to give each student a faculty advisor from the start of medical school. The COC voted unanimously to support this plan. Some faculty not on the COC felt that this plan had been tried in the past and failed. The collective view of the COC was that even if it is not a final plan, it was worth implementing to assist students. Students that were identified as potentially at risk, (based on performance on the second BMF I exam) were contacted by Dr. Dyer and myself to begin immediate advising/intervention. The full list of advisee/advisor pairings is attached.

There was discussion on the topic of COMLEX Level I pass/fail rates. Brandy Close gave a synopsis of data analysis that she, Mat Vassar and Jonathan Franklin had presented to a working group President Shrum assembled. One of the items of interest was that students were performing poorly on basic concepts. Ms. Close pointed out that in our current curriculum, for the students who recently took the Step I boards, the number of basic, biomedical science questions was often one third, to one half or at times even less than what had been asked in the previous curriculum. Starting with the respiratory system, Dr. Steele has cut back on the number of CPS/CBL type questions and physiology/pathology/microbiology/pharmacology/etc. questions have been increased.

Reviews of BMF-I, V & VI were completed. Reviews of BMF-II, III & IV are in draft form and will be completed prior to the next COC meeting.

A proposal for modifying the block structure of the BMF courses was proposed by Dr. Benjamin that would allow more than one BMF to be run concurrently. A specific model was not given and will be presented at the next COC meeting.

Several significant changes were adopted unanimously by the Clerkship Committee:

1. Uncouple Core (Except IM1 and IM2)

2. Uncouple Community Hospital
3. Schedule Parity (all 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year rotations begin and end on the same days)
4. Create a dedicated audition block in the 4<sup>th</sup> year

The COC unanimously supports the above changes.

As points of information for the Faculty Senate:

The 1<sup>st</sup> year class representative for the Years 1 & 2 Curriculum Coordinating Committee is Joshua Foster. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year class representative for the Years 1 & 2 Curriculum Coordinating Committee is Samantha Bingham. If the Senate desires the names of all the faculty members, please address the request to the Chair of that committee, Dr. Benjamin.

The composition of the Student Curriculum Coordinating Committee is:

Chair-Randy S. Wymore, PhD  
 David Supeck-DO/PhD Dual Degree Students Representative  
 Victoria Vaughn-MS/DO Dual Degree Students Representative  
 Gregory Cook- Grad Students Representative  
 Katrina Lin-SGA President  
 Mathew Else-4<sup>th</sup> Year Class President  
 Clayton Farahani-3<sup>rd</sup> Year Class President  
 Chase Kruse-2<sup>nd</sup> Year Class President  
 Jacob Fuller-1<sup>st</sup> Year Class President  
 Tex Gaskins- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Class Representative  
 Megan Elliott-1<sup>st</sup> Year Class Representative  
 Heather Konsure-1<sup>st</sup> Year Class Representative

The student representatives on the Clerkship Committee include:

Mathew Else-4<sup>th</sup> Year Class President  
 Clayton Farahani-3<sup>rd</sup> Year Class President  
 Chase Kruse-2<sup>nd</sup> Year Class President

For a detailed list of the non-student members, please contact Dr. Stewart, the Chair of the Clerkship Committee.

The next meeting of the COC will be September 17, 2015.

**Learning Resources (Kath Curtis)**

The committee met on June 30, 2015; only a few members were in attendance due to scheduling conflicts.

Mr. Martin reported on the status of the process for evaluating the TrueLearn package (the group working on this evaluation includes Mr. Martin, Dr. Price and Mr. Franklin). A formal survey of student users is to be conducted, with particular focus on specific features that were preferred. From informal comments, it is clear students like this program: they can use it to study for the USMLE examination; in addition, it has the COMAT Q-bank, which can be used by 3<sup>rd</sup> year students to prepare for COMAT examinations (the only resource currently available to them). Faculty also may find it to be useful in developing quizzes for their courses, etc. Mr. Martin also reported that two new group study rooms have been constructed; the technology is expected to be in place in September.

**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 quarterly meeting of the Research Committee will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 9, in room E-393 of the Forensic Sciences Department.

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

The committee met for the first time on August 26<sup>th</sup>. We welcomed our 2 new members, Dr.'s Köhler and Curtis. There were no new protocols or renewals that required the committee's attention. The major agenda item was to revisit and update on the transition to the "Globally Harmonized System" (GHS) for chemical inventory, labeling and safety. The committee will be putting a file online that many of the current Safety Data Sheets (SDS) to replace the outdated Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). This won't be inclusive of all chemicals but will provide a listing of the chemicals at CHS and help others to acquire their SDS documents much faster than having to search online. The committee discussed some potential upcoming agenda items. The next scheduled meeting is October 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (Tom Curtis)**

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

**Institutional Biosafety Committee (Franklin Champlin)**

The committee is scheduled to meet on the third Wednesday of the month. The September meeting has not yet occurred.

**Student Affairs Committee (Steve Eddy)**

The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting.

**Faculty Senate committees:**

**Budget and Benefits Committee (David Wallace)**

The committee met for the first time on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We welcomed our 2 new members, Dr.'s Wallace and Casey. Eric Polak reviewed the current status of CHS financials and discussed the format of the budget sheet handout. The committee reviewed some agenda items that were outstanding or in progress from last year, such as the self-insurance, etc. There was some discussion on how to proceed with these outstanding items and the committee discussed the potential for upcoming agenda items at future meetings. The next scheduled meeting for the committee is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Faculty Affairs Committee (Bill Meek)**

The Faculty Affairs Committee has not yet held a September meeting.



**Promotion and Tenure Committee** (*Johnny Stephens*)

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

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

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

Since the committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting, there is no report.

**Biomedical Sciences Graduate Committee** (*Tom Curtis*)

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

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

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.

**Oklahoma State Regents Faculty Advisory Representative** (*Jarrad Wagner*)

Full information on the State Regents Faculty Advisory group can be accessed at:

<http://www.okhighered.org/statesystem/powerpoints/powerpoints.shtml>.

**Students with Disabilities** (*Michael Pollak*)

The committee has not met since the previous Senate meeting.