

**OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE**  
2019-2020  
**March 13, 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: Jean Keene*

**Members Present:** Dr. Beaman, Dr. Weil, Dr. Sanny, Dr. Curtis, Dr. Foster, Dr. Warren, Dr. Chronister,  
Dr. Gignac, Dr. Hall

**Members Absent:**

**Administrators Present:** Dr. Stephens and Dr. Stroup

**Call to Order:** Dr. Beaman welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.

**Action Items during this meeting:**

- Approval of Minutes of prior meeting  
**Action: Approved with suggested changes.**
- Formal Recommendation FS 19-20-010  
**Action: Referred back to the COC for clarification and resubmission.**
- **It was agreed the Senate would not meet in June; the first meeting of the 2020-2021 Senate term is anticipated to occur in August.**

**Administrative Reports:**

Drs. Stephens and Stroup provided the following administrative reports.

Dr. Stroup reported on the following topics:

- Update on the RPT process: All of the materials have been moved out of the RPT committee. Will be reviewed by Dr. Blankenship and Dr. Stroup. Everyone in the cycle has gone through without problems. Also, all of the Cumulative Reviews have been processed as well. We are doing well.
- Secondly, we did have our COCA site visit the prior week. It was a very good visit; all of our materials were in place. They only visited the campus the one day. Three areas that they said we should work through are: 1) the completion of the building (it is a requirement that it be completed). We are still on target for having the floors for occupancy by the first-year class completed by the start of the academic year; the whole building is to be completed by the December timeframe. 2) The syllabi for years one through two really need to identify in the syllabi regarding the specific outcomes for which they are looking as it relates to Interprofessional education, the scientific

method, and independent learning by the students. They particularly focused on the independent learning. We plan to work through the COC and Dr. Wymore, to confer with the course directors and have them point out where those things happen in the syllabi. 3) The next item was with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year curriculum syllabi; they would like us to adopt a uniform template that each rotation could use and plug in their materials to make it more uniform. It was noted that Dr. Thurman will work with the Course Directors regarding rotations.

- Comment was made regarding the amount of time that is being devoted to Covid-19 aspects and dealing with multiple related facets and questions. Dr. Stroup advised email notifications will be sent to keep communication open.

Dt. Stephens reported on the following items:

- He noted that we have an ask in for the hospital. He explained that the largest topic at the Dean's Council meeting in Stillwater was largely focused on the Corona virus. The downward turn of the stock market and the reduced inflow of sales tax revenue were also noted. He said we could have a hit to our budget due to the revenue failure from reduced oil and gas usage associated with self-quarantine. This will all have a budget impact.
- Corona virus is what is on everyone's mind. The administration has been meeting regularly; President Trump is expected to report at a meeting scheduled for later in the afternoon to declare a state of national emergency. This could mean more money and resources to the state. This is an epidemic and the number of cases will increase. Covid-19 testing is a topic getting more attention. He said there will be more information coming out for the graduate programs also.
- There was mention regarding having a revenue failure, which could have an impact on our budget. Relatedly, it was noted that there are only three months left in the budget cycle, so it won't be as steep when the reduction is viewed across the whole year. This is an additional aspect to the usual multi-level budget negotiations occurring at this time of year regarding the budget-setting process. It was reported that the current circumstances may require greater creativity, but we will get there.
- Concerning the VA hospital, Dr. Stephens advised that the Tulsa World had written a good article on this topic and commented on some of the content.
- Dr. Stephens said he has endeavored to send out communications to keep our CHS community advised and he will continue to do so. He noted there was an administration meeting planned for 1:00 p.m. that day. He anticipates there will be a lot of flexibility as we move forward, and he is also working with HR. He emphasized that we are facing a changing set of circumstances, and flexibility is a vital component to moving forward appropriately. Regarding communication, Dr. Beaman offered that the communication is appreciated and valued, and information emails have not been excessive. Dr. Stephens advised regarding some programs that have been cancelled in order to protect those who would attend. He noted that hotels, etc. have been understanding and cooperative on these changes/cancellations.

Dr. Beaman thanked Drs. Stephens and Stroup for their valuable reports; he invited Dr. Pettit to provide a Report if he wished to do so. Dr. Pettit advised that the reports already given had provided the information he would impart, but thanked Dr. Beaman for the invitation to do so.

#### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Dr. Beaman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting; approval was moved by: Dr. Curtis and Seconded by: Dr. Gignac, with two changes: Dr. Gignac advised he was not present at the prior meeting, and Dr. Weil said contained within the committee reports comments, paragraph 2, line 1 should read *Mr. Goodell* had advised the Research Committee regarding the posters to be printed in the library. The minutes were approved with those edits.

#### **Faculty Senate President's Report:**

Dr. Beaman indicated he had no additional information to report beyond what the administrators had reported regarding the Corona virus. He indicated the most recent voting conducted by the Faculty Affairs Committee

regarding updating the Senate bylaws to reflect the current requirements for the IBC committee had been approved by the general faculty.

**Item to be presented for voting:**

FS 19-20-010 A revision to the Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article VIII, Section H, 4. Tahlequah Site faculty/student representation on the COC. Dr. Beaman said from the *Rationale*, this is to bring this in agreement with Standard 6: Curriculum, Element 6.1 Curriculum Design and Management (*CORE*).

There was lengthy discussion that included questions regarding the number of students being proposed, and whether it is one student per year per location, plus one for the fourth year. It was noted this needed to be clarified by the COC. The question continued as whether this would be a total of three, four, or perhaps five students. The Senate agreed that the recommendation be referred back to the committee for clarification. The total number of students being proposed needs to be stipulated; the recommendation can also include a breakdown of the components that produce that total, but clarity is needed. This recommendation can be presented for Senate voting at a future meeting.

**Discussion Items:**

*A. Faculty representation on the Senate:*

Dr. Beaman advised Senators that he believed the discussion item is important. It involves Faculty Senate representation as a whole. It may even be a larger discussion, but we are now looking at how the designations of clinical members and biomedical members fits with everyone that is on this campus. He noted that we have Faculty Senate seats reserved for clinical and biomedical faculty. He asked whether the clinical designation is reserved for someone who is on a non-tenure track, or someone who is actually a clinician? He gave an example of a faculty member who is on a clinical non-tenure track, but who has never seen a patient.

Further, he asked what about a clinician who may have a primary role in biomedical? Also, what about faculty in Athletic Training, Health Care Administration, Forensics, and the newest area, faculty in the Physician's Assistant Program? He said there is a lot of room for ambiguity. Discussion ensued; with a variety of comments and viewpoints expressed, including some recalling of what has been done in the past. It was noted that the prior practices were developed for what existed at an earlier time. It was also recognized that the faculty landscape has changed. Dr. Beaman said one of his biggest concerns is that we have faculty who are not represented. A complication was mentioned that faculty who are in the programs with very few faculty members may not desire or be able to participate due to potential multiple commitments; in contrast there may be some faculty in the smaller programs who would like to participate. Discussion comments continued.

It was noted that we have had Senate members who were from Forensics and Athletic Training. It was mentioned that although Athletic Training is organizationally under Allied Health, the faculty are considered biomedical faculty.

Questions were raised whether faculty who are interested are being left out, or is it just confusing, or is it that upcoming programs just don't have a specific "home". Dr. Beaman commented that he believes everyone has a "home", but we guarantee that biomedical faculty will have a certain representation, and the clinical faculty will have a guarantee to have a certain representation on the Senate. Since that time, we have programs that don't have a guarantee of representation on the Senate. He provided theoretical examples of possible complications that could occur. Dr. Beaman expressed his belief that there should always be someone who is representing those programs.

Some ideas were mentioned:

- Group like areas into clusters, and have representation by cluster
- Do not guarantee a seat to each of the programs, but they would be represented by a faculty member within a group
- Consider an "At-Large" designation that could represent a number of programs

Dr. Sanny provide a comment that originally, since we only had COM and biomedical sciences, that made sense. Now we have other programs. He noted that there is a common denominator for all of the graduate programs in most schools, and that is under the Vice President for Graduate Programs. What that would require however, is to have the COM as the clinical, and the Graduate Program as the non-clinical, even though there are clinicians in both. He said he believes that would be a rather large step for us, although it would still be along the lines of D.O.'s and Ph.D.'s. Dr. Beaman said he appreciates the helpful historical context Dr. Sanny provided.

Dr. Beaman indicated he liked the idea of clusters with designated spots.

Dr. Curtis suggested that an Ad Hoc Committee be appointed and charged to do some fact-finding about what the other programs actually think. She noted that biomedical faculty are also teaching in the COM. Fact-finding seems a logical step. Dr. Beaman asked the Senators who would like to volunteer to serve on the committee with Dr. Curtis regarding this important issue.

Further discussion produced the recommendation that instead of a Task Force, the issue be referred to the Faculty Affairs Committee to provide this fact-finding work; the report could be provided for action during the next Senate term.

*B. Proposal to change Senate meeting schedule*

Dr. Beaman opened the topic to discussion, noting that the suggestion has been made to not meet in June, and to have a meeting in August, but preferably not to meet in both months.

A Senator expressed an opinion that meeting in August could be helpful, but meeting in June was not critical.

Dr. Weil expressed a preference to not meet in June since she will then be the Senate President and she will not be in Tulsa then. Discussion continued, resulting in agreement that it is possible to just cancel the June meeting, and call one for August. In order to make this change permanent, the usual steps for a formal recommendation to be prepared for Senate discussion/approval, followed by a vote for approval by the general faculty can be handled during the next Senate term thereby making the change in the governance documents.

**Senate Review of Committee Reports:**

Dr. Beaman called attention to the Committee Reports included in the agenda packet. He called for any comments or concerns regarding the reports. Dr. Hall provided a report from the Faculty Council. She reported that the major topic of the meeting concerned addressing the difficulties arising from the corona virus and the adjustments made for the virtual classroom. Also, there were several changes to their Academic Standards Handbook, and all were approved at the Faculty Council. Several proposals brought forward are still pending; some involving their RPT process. In response to a question, Dr. Hall advised that they did not discuss a change to a social media policy; this may emerge at a future meeting. Dr. Hall said she can request information on this.

**Old Business:** No items to consider.

**New Business:** No items to consider.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.