JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The University of Oklahoma (Norman campus)
Regular session – April 10, 2017 – 3:30 p.m. – Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 102

office: Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 206 phone: (405) 325-6789 e-mail: facsen@ou.edu website: http://www.facebook.com/OUFacultySenate

Note: The remarks of the Senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. A recording of this meeting is available in the Faculty Senate office.

The Faculty Senate was called to order by Professor Wayne Riggs, Chair.

PRESENT: Anderson, Asprey, Barker, Bemben, Bradshaw, Burke, Burstein, Cifelli, Coleman, Cox-

Fuenzalida, Demir, Ellis, Elwood Madden, Fiedler, Gutierrez, Hall, Hart, Houser, Jamili, Johnson, Lawson, Livingood, Martens, Martin, Riggs, Safiejko-Mroczka, Schmeltzer, Scrivener, Shah, Sikavitsas, Sprecker, Stewart, Stock, Trafalis, Warren, Woodfin

Provost's Representative: ---

ISA representative(s): Matthew Rom, Chris Cooke

SGA Representative(s): --

Others: Nick Hathaway, Rowdy Gilbert, Joshua Nelson (FSEC member)

ABSENT: Barrett, Bradley, Burns, Cheng, Churchman, Davidson, Karr, Keppel, Koch, Markham,

Moxley, Pepper, Swinkin, Volz, Wang, Weaver

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APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular session of March 6, 2017 was approved by consensus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Faculty Senate is sad to report the death of faculty member Travis Beck (Health and Exercise Science) on February 26, 2017.

The Staff Awards ceremony will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Molly Shi Boren Ballroom of the Oklahoma Memorial Union.

REMARKS BY NICK HATHAWAY, EXECUTIVE VP AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Prof. Riggs Introduced Nick Hathaway, Executive VP for Administration and Finance to present the Budget outlook. VP Hathaway's handouts are attached. After going through his handout, the floor was opened for questions.

Prof. Fiedler stated that there are technical issues with wind energy. He asked if the legislature has considered any changes to the wind energy tax credit. VP Hathaway stated that he was not sure if that had been evaluated. He did note that in terms of the budget there seems to be an emphasis on supporting common education in this state now. Prof. Demir asked about the decision-making strategy behind tuition increases and Prof. Riggs asked when we might know what that tuition increase would be. VP Hathaway said that the President will likely meet with students next month and then any increase would be approved by our Regents at their meeting in June. VP Hathaway stated that the size of the increase would depend on the state appropriations and the savings from other avenues.

Prof. Cifelli asked about the projected savings from health insurance changes. VP Hathaway said that three years ago, OU went self-insured, where rates are typically a bit lower since the risk is moved from the insurance company to ourselves. Because OU kept the rates similar to before, we have accumulated a reserve since that change. Prof. Bemben asked about faculty and staff satisfaction with Cigna as the new insurance provider. VP Hathaway said there have been some issues, but we are working with them to try to bring things into alignment. Prof. Bemben asked if there is consideration of leaving Cigna and VP Hathaway stated that has been considered. Prof. Riggs thanked VP Hathaway and HR for their assistance in helping faculty and staff members that have had problems.

Prof. Demir asked if we have numbers on faculty retention in light of budget cuts. VP Hathaway asked Provost Harper if he was familiar with those numbers. Provost Harper stated that his office watches those numbers closely. He added that it has been a bit difficult to look at that this year with the voluntary retirement plan, and faculty numbers are a bit down, but there is a strong commitment from the President and VP Hathaway to meet critical faculty hiring and retention needs.

Prof. Bemben asked about the retirement benefit change that would affect new employees. He noted that in the past, our salaries were lower than peers, but we always had an attractive benefits package in terms of a recruiting tool. VP Hathaway said that we will try to keep our benefits attractive and the items on his handout are all options and not certain.

Prof. Fiedler asked about online education and any plans for OU to push online education even without the strong support of faculty members. VP Hathaway said that the blended experience allows students to have a richer and more dynamic experience than with simply online courses. VP Hathaway said that while online education has its place, the residential experience at OU is unique.

Prof. Stock asked if there are any plans to change the retirement benefits of current employees. VP Hathaway stated that this would be a last resort and is unlikely at this time. There were no further questions and Prof. Riggs thanked VP Hathaway for speaking to the Senate.

REMARKS BY ROWDY GILBERT, SENIOR ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Prof. Riggs thanked Mr. Gilbert for speaking to the Senate. He presented the University mission statement which is:

The mission of the University of Oklahoma is to provide the best possible educational experience for our students through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and service to the state and society.

Mr. Gilbert suggested that individual departmental missions need to support that overall university mission. He demonstrated this by presenting the mission statement for the Office of Public Affairs, which is:

Public Affairs supports OU's mission through publicity, promotion and special events designed to encourage public understanding and support of the University and to foster a consistent, positive image of OU across the state and nation.

Mr. Gilbert noted that if faculty or departments have significant speakers coming to campus, Public Affairs can assist in publicizing those events. He presented a list of "OU Facts" (available at http://www.ou.edu/content/publicaffairs/oufacts.html) that that can be used as talking points when discussing the University with the community and public. He also reviewed the University's publication policy which states:

To ensure that all publications representing the university convey a consistent and accurate message and image, externally disseminated publications must be reviewed by Public Affairs. In general, these guidelines apply to official university web sites as well.

Publications to be reviewed include those for distribution to alumni, prospective students and other external audiences, such as:

- 1. Newsletters and magazines.
- 2. Academic bulletins and departmental brochures.
- 3. Recruitment materials for students and faculty.
- 4. Conference brochures and programs.
- 5. Covers, folders and invitations for special events.
- 6. Advertisements.
- 7. Posters.

Scholarly journals are exempt. Send publications to pubsreview@ou.edu for review and response.

Prof. Warren asked if updates to a website about new programs needs to go through Public Affairs. Mr. Gilbert suggested that it be sent to Public Affairs, but that it would also need to go through Web Communications. Prof. Bemben asked is job advertisements needed to go Public Affairs or if the Provost's office approval is sufficient. Provost Harper said that his office handles working with Equal Opportunity Office and Human Resources to approve those faculty job advertisements.

Prof. Elwood Madden suggested adding information to the OU Facts about the research done by faculty members. Prof. Demir agreed that highlighting our research instead of just focusing on teaching would

better show the benefit of OU to the state. Prof. Hart suggested using the Provost's Office new system to collect information on faculty research accomplishments.

Prof. Fiedler would like to see more thoughtful photos used on OU websites. Mr. Gilbert noted that Public Affairs has a large number of stock photos that can be used by departments. Prof. Hart asked if the approval process included promotional posters and flyers for speakers. Mr. Gilbert said that it does include those. Prof. Burke asked if it is a state law that publications must have Public Affairs approval. Prof. Woodfin suggested that historically the response time from Public Affairs had not been good and asked that this be improved. Mr. Gilbert said that their goal is a 48 to 72 hours turnaround from submission.

Mr. Gilbert gave his contact information of rowdy@ou.edu and 405-325-1701 and asked faculty to contact him with any questions. There were no additional questions.

ELECTION, UNIVERSITY AND CAMPUS COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

There were several questions about the volunteer process for these committees, including faculty who wished to stay on a committee beyond their original appointment. Prof. Ellis confirmed that an email request for volunteers goes out each spring to both faculty members and to deans and directors and that faculty who wished to be re-appointed should volunteer. She also confirmed that there is no requirement to be a Faculty Senate member to serve on these committees.

The Senate then approved the Committee on Committees' nominations for end-of-the-year vacancies on university and campus councils/committees/boards and Faculty Senate standing committees (attached). The names of the remaining volunteers will be forwarded to the administration to consider for the appointments they make.

FACULTY DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Prof. Ellis stated that there were over 25 volunteers for this new committee. The list of nominations from the Committee on Committees is below and the Senate will vote on this list at the May meeting.

Term	Name	Department
3-year (2017-2020)	Randa Shehab	Industrial & Systems Engineering
3-year (2017-2020)	Lupe Davidson	Women's & Gender Studies
3-year (2017-2020)	Ben Keppel	History
2-year (2017-2019)	L. Eugenia Cox-Fuenzalida	Psychology
2-year (2017-2019)	Shawn Churchman	Musical Theatre
1-year (2017-2018)	Catalin Teodoriu	Petroleum and Geological Engineering
1-year (2017-2018)	Kathrine Gutierrez	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT, by Prof. Wayne Riggs

"The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on April 3rd, 2017. The executive committee discussed the items that were covered in the agenda today, and heard presentations from today's speakers. In addition, we reviewed and revised the Workplace Environment Survey that

was drafted by the Faculty Welfare Committee. This survey will be administered later this month.

"The Faculty Senate Chair attended the Dean's Council meeting on April 5, 2017. The OU Research Compliance Team was introduced and they spoke briefly about their jobs making sure research at OU is in compliance with federal regulations. Aaron Biggs from the Provost's Office also spoke about the new interface for the data that we have been accessing through Ozone. It is called the One Portal. It is still being implemented, but a "minimum functional unit" is available for students now. That is, they can do most of what they need to do from there without going through Ozone. They will be implementing the rest of the portal in the coming months, which includes advising and faculty/staff information and services. Eventually, the goal is for Ozone to cease to be. (Prof. Livingood noted that Ozone will be shut off on June 15.)

"President Boren was unable to attend a meeting with the FSEC due to an overriding obligation—recovering from major heart surgery."

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The proposed slate for the 2017-18 Executive Committee was distributed and is given below. The Senate will vote on this slate at the May meeting.

Chair-Elect:

Megan Elwood Madden

Associate Professor of Geology & Geophysics,

Ph.D. Virginia Tech, at OU since 2007

Secretary:

Joshua Nelson

Director of Film and Media Studies and Associate Professor of English,

Ph.D. Cornell University, at OU since 2009

At-Large Members (3):

Amy Bradshaw

Associate Professor of Educational Psychology,

Ph.D. Arizona State University, at OU since 1998

Lupe Davidson

Director and Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies,

Ph.D., Duquesne University, at OU since 2007

Matthias Nollert

Associate Professor of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering,

Ph.D. Cornell University, at OU since 1991

Prof. Fiedler suggested having the nominees address the senate with their plans. Prof. Riggs suggested as an alternative for senators or their constituents to contact these candidates directly by email with any questions or concerns.

NEW BUSINESS – CONCERNS WITH DISCUSSION DURING LAST MEETING

Prof. Shah raised some concerns that some of the comments made by Prof. Fiedler at the last meeting during the discussion on Faculty Senate Faculty Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee were

culturally and racially insensitive. Prof Demir suggested reviewing the recording of the meeting. Prof. Riggs said that he had already been contacted about this issue and has reviewed the transcript and listened to the recording. He noted that there are some sound quality issues with the recording. Prof. Riggs said that Prof. Fiedler could clarify his comments if he would like to do that. He chose to do that and made the statement that while women in STEM are more favored in hiring, Asians are not favored in faculty hiring. Prof. Shah and Prof. Demir expressed that they were not satisfied with Prof. Fiedler's explanation and found his general characterizations of different groups based on race, gender, ethnicity, and other factors inappropriate. Prof. Riggs said that his interpretation of Prof. Fiedler's comments was that he was describing trends in faculty hiring that may reflect racism, using terms that suggest racially biased attitudes, but that Prof. Fiedler's statements themselves were not racist.

Prof. Houser made a motion to modify the March minutes to provide more details on Prof. Fiedler's statements. Prof. Demir seconded that motion. Prof. Fiedler questioned whether this is going to be a new policy regarding Faculty Senate minutes. He also restated that he believed that his original remarks in the last meeting had been misunderstood and that at the last meeting he had stated that "Jews and Asians are not likely to leave... they don't get as many hiring offers". Profs. Shah and Demir suggested it was inappropriate to make these generalized statements without published evidence to back up the statements. Prof. Fiedler stated that during diversity discussions committees sometimes discuss gender and ethnicity within the applicant pool. Prof. Barker noted that according to EOOA policy it is illegal to discuss ethnicity as a part of the faculty hiring search. Prof. Demir suggested that faculty do not know what is illegal to discuss and asked why OU requires training on fire safety, but doesn't require training on racism and diversity concerns.

Prof. Bradshaw noted that in the recent past Senators have requested specific words be included in the minutes, so this would not be a new procedure. Prof. Riggs agreed and noted that this is a very important and fraught issue since the definition of racism is itself a controversial question. Prof. Demir disagreed. Prof. Riggs then redirected the discussion back towards the motion to include the transcript of the discussion from the last meeting in the minutes.

Prof. Elwood Madden described how difficult it is to transcribe exactly what is said considering background noise, speech patterns, and senators speaking over each other. Prof. Houser said that he was uncomfortable with Prof. Fiedler's comments at the last meeting. There was a request for more information about the views of the nominees to the new Faculty Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Prof. Riggs recommended reviewing the web pages of those nominees and emailing them specific questions if Senators would like to learn more about their positions on certain topics.

Prof. Fiedler then directed a question towards the members of Senate and specifically the other senators from STEM fields and asked if they have heard comments regarding the high number of Asian candidates within the applicant pool or short list. Prof. Demir replied that in his field they refer to such candidates as international, not "racially charged labels". Prof. Fielder agreed that hiring discussions and decisions should not take those factors into account.

Prof. Riggs again redirected discussion to the context of the original comment within the context of diversity and that he believed that Prof. Fiedler was pointing out that diversity needs may differ between disciplines. Prof. Demir asked how someone would know about an applicant's ethnicity. Prof. Fiedler responded that in his field he looks at the country in which they completed their education and their name. Prof. Demir stated that in his department they have not had any discussions of applicant race and ethnicity based on a person's name.

Prof. Riggs called the question on the motion. However the senate did not have a quorum, so the issue will be addressed at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m. The next regular session of the Faculty Senate will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2017, in Jacobson Faculty Hall, Room 102.

Stacey L. Bedgood, Administrative Coordinator

Megan Elwood Madden, Faculty Senate Secretary

NOMINATIONS FOR FACULTY SENATE VACANCIES ON COMMITTEES (April 2017)

(Nominated by the Committee on Committees at March 6, 2017 meeting)

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
Academic Programs Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Schwarzkopf	Al	Schwarzkopf	Management Information Systems
Academic Programs Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Griffith	Kendra	Williams-Diehm	Educational Psychology
Academic Regulations Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Hayes-Thumann	Karen	Hayes-Thumann	Visual Arts
Budget Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Vedula	Harold	Mortimer	Musical Theater
Campus Tenure Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Golomb	Christopher	Sadler	Drama
Campus Tenure Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Johnson	Jill	Edy	Communication
Conflict of Interest Advisory Committee	(2017-19) replace Prof. Havlicek	Joseph	Havlicek	Electrical & Computer Engineering
Continuing Education Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Callahan	Mary Anna	Evans	Professional Writing
Employee Benefits Committee	(2017-21) replace Prof. Rupp-Serrano	Theresa	Cullen	Educational Psychology
Environmental Concerns Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Widener	Jeff	Widener	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Cifelli	Rich	Cifelli	Biology / SNOMNH
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Griffith	Priscilla	Griffith	Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Hahn	Susan	Hahn	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Frey	Lisa	Frey	Educational Psychology
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Kramer	Michael	Kramer	Communication
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Steele	Tom	Steele	University Libraries
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Wallach	Bret	Wallach	Geography & Environmental Sustainability
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Wert	Justin	Wert	Political Science
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Fincke	Stephen	Norwood	History
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Milton	Penny	Pasque	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. O'Rear	Rui Q.	Yang	Electrical & Computer Engineering
Faculty Appeals Board	(2017-21) replace Prof. Kim	Daniel	Swan	Anthropology / SNOMNH
Faculty Awards & Honors Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Wang	Rui Q.	Yang	Electrical & Computer Engineering
University Fitness and Recreation Services Advisory Comm.	(2017-19) replace Prof. Lee	Cecelia	Brown	Library & Information Studies
Honorary Degrees Screening Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Bemben	Joe	Foote	Journalism
Information Technology Council	(2017-20) replace Prof. Livingood	Patrick	Livingood	Anthropology
Legal Panel	(2017-20) replace Prof. Palk	Laura	Palk	Marketing & Supply Chain Management
Libraries Committee, University	(2017-20) replace Prof. Keppel	Stephen	Norwood	History
Libraries Committee, University	(2017-20) replace Prof. Woodfin	Sarah	Little	Landscape Architecture
Research Council (Fine Arts)	(2017-20) replace Prof. Stoops	Stuart	Asprey	Visual Arts
Research Council (Education/Professional/Other)	(2017-20) replace Prof. Fithian	Lee	Fithian	Architecture
	(2017-20)	Rebecca	Huskey	Classics & Letters
Research Council (Humanities)	replace Prof. Huskey		,	

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
ROTC Advisory Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Matthews	Daniel	Swan	Anthropology / SNOMNH
University Scholars Selection Committee	(2017-20) replace Edwards	Sean	O'Neill	Anthropology
Shared Leave Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Cracknell	Lloyd	Cracknell	Drama
Speaker's Bureau	(2017-20) replace Prof. Reedy	Daren	Kendall	Visual Arts
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Levine	Marc	Levine	Anthropology
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Lindberg	Jeremy	Lindberg	Dance
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Golomb	Liorah	Golomb	University Libraries
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Miller	Christina	Miller	Social Work
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Ketchum	Heather	Ketchum	Biology
Student Conduct Hearing Panel Pool	(2017-19) replace Prof. Ellis	Rachel	Shelden	History
Tobacco and Parking Violation Appeals Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Randall	Susan	Hahn	University Libraries

Faculty appointments also will be made by the administration to:

Academic Programs Council

Academic Regulations Committee

Athletics Council

Budget Council

Campus Tenure Committee

Continuing Education Council

Faculty Awards & Honors Council

University Fitness and Recreation Services Advisory Committee

Legal Panel

University Libraries Committee

Research Council

Retirement Plans Management Committee

Rita Lottinville Prize for Freshmen Committee

ROTC Advisory Committee

NOMINATIONS FOR VACANCIES ON FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES (APRIL 2017)

(Nominated by the Committee on Committees at March 6, 2017 meeting)

Committee	Term	First Name	Last Name	Department
Faculty Senate - Committee on Committees	(2017-20) replace Prof. Haag	Anthony	Natale	Social Work
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Compensation	(2017-20) replace Prof. Murphy	Susan	Hahn	University Libraries
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Compensation	(2017-20) replace Prof. Bemben	Ying	Wang	Mathematics
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Welfare	(2017-20) replace Prof. Hahn	Lori	Jervis	Anthropology
Faculty Senate - Committee on Faculty Welfare	(2017-20) replace Prof. Ramseyer	Michael	Bemben	Health & Exercise Science
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Committee	(2017-19) replace Prof. Cline Davis	Lance	Lobban	Chemical, Biological, & Materials Engineering
Faculty Senate - Ed Cline Faculty Development Awards Committee	(2017-19) replace Prof. Urick	Angela	Urick	Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Committee (Arts & Sciences)	(2017-20) replace Prof. Folsom	Raphael	Folsom	History
Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship Committee (Fine Arts)	(2017-20) replace Prof. Ellis	Stuart	Asprey	Visual Arts
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Mason	Christopher	Hill	Sociology
Teaching Scholar's Initiative (TSI) Steering Committee	(2017-20) replace Prof. Tarabochia	Kimberly	Marshall	Anthropology



Each institution of higher education presents a list of fixed costs and budget priorities to the State Regents in September.



Institutions submit student fee increase requests in January for consideration by the State Regents.



State Regents present higher education's funding request to the legislature in February based on consolidated system fixed costs and budget priorities.





The state legislature appropriates funds to various agencies. Adjournment is last Friday in May.



The University's internal budget process allows for review and update of the subsequent year's budget throughout the year.



Proposed legislation is monitored during the spring. Internal funding scenarios are compiled and updated throughout the legislative session.





State Regents allocate funds.
In years with new funding available, this is based on the Regents performance funding model and other programmatic needs.



Budget Office finalizes departmental budgets and prepares summaries for executive staff, OU Regents, and State Regents.



OU Regents consider and approve budget at June meeting. State Regents meet in late June for final approval of budget along with any tuition and fee increases.



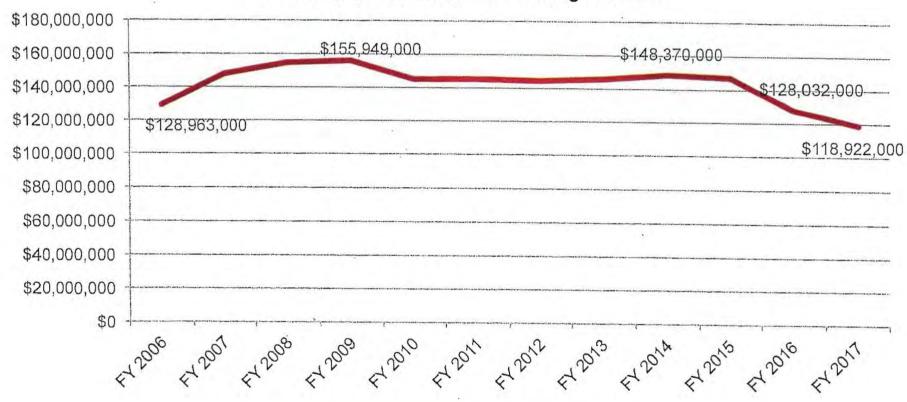


State Appropriations

Fiscal Year	State Budget (in Millions)	Higher Ed (in Millions)	Higher Ed as a % of Total	OU (in millions)	OU as a % of Higher Ed
		Ac	otual		
2007	\$6,555	\$1,020	15.6%	\$148	14.5%
2008	\$7,072	\$1,099	15.5%	\$154	14.0%
2009	.\$7,143	\$1,094	15.3%	\$156	14.3%
2010	\$6,644	\$1,056	15.9%	\$145	13.7%
2011	\$6,431	\$1,011	15.7%	\$145	14.3%
2012	\$6,511	\$1,009	15.5%	\$144	14.3%
2013	\$6,856	\$1,012	14.8%	\$146	14.4%
2014	\$7,159	\$1,046	14.6%	\$148	14.1%
2015	\$7,186	\$1,045	14.5%	\$147	14.1%
2016	\$6,923	\$935	13.5%	\$128	13.7%
ŧ.		Bu	udget		
2017	\$6,908	\$878	12.7%	\$119	13.6%

State Appropriations

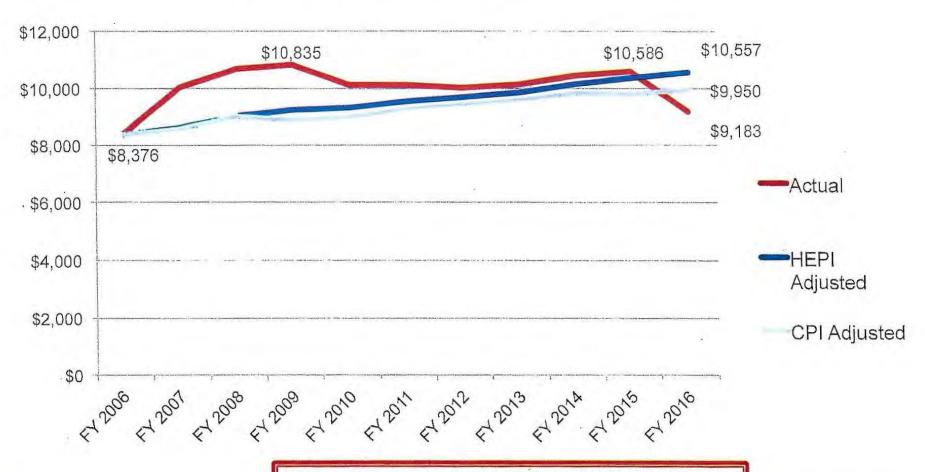
University of Oklahoma and College of Law



OU receives no ongoing capital support from the State.

State Appropriations

Per Resident Full Time Equivalent Student



OU receives no ongoing capital support from the State.

For FY 2016, had appropriations maintained pace with inflation OU would have received an additional \$10.7M (CPI) to \$19.2M (HEPI).

Gov. Fallin wants lawmakers to get to work on solving the state's budget woes

By Barbara Hoberock Tulsa World | Posted: Friday, March 31, 2017 12:00 am

OKLAHOMA CITY — At the halfway point in the legislative session, Gov. Mary Fallin on Thursday said lawmakers need to get to work on solving the state's budget problems.

"We need to get down to business," Fallin said. "It is time."

In her Feb. 6 state-of-the-state address to lawmakers, Fallin outlined several measures to close the nearly \$900 million budget hole.

Her recommendations included increasing the cigarette tax by \$1.50, raising the gasoline tax, reforming tax credits and expanding the sales tax to services. She has also suggested removing some of the sales-tax exemptions.



Governor Mary Fallin (copy) (copy)

Gov. Mary Fallin

"We are also having some budget discussions this session," Fallin said. "But we are still not anywhere close to solving some of our budget challenges that we face in our state."

She said discussions on the state budget have been "minimal."

"It is not that I am unhappy," Fallin said. "I am just saying we have got to get going."

Fallin is concerned about the deep cuts many agencies have taken during the years-long economic downturn which affects their ability to provide quality services. About 75 percent of state agencies have had around a 25 percent cut in recent years, Fallin said.

"That is a lot already," she said.

She also has said she is concerned that some schools have gone to a four-day week.

"We just can't keep putting these things off and expecting them to resolve themselves because they won't," Fallin said.

Lawmakers must adjourn by 5 p.m. May 26.

"We only have about eight weeks or so to go in the legislative session," Fallin said. "It is time to really start making some decisions or else we are going to find ourselves in a bad position."

Fallin said she is more than happy to cancel summer plans to work on the issue.

"I would suggest that if we don't get our budget done pretty soon that we may have to look at having a special session or concurrent session," Fallin said.

"Certainly if we cut to where our agencies that are critical to core services are hemorrhaging, I am willing to look at vetoing a plan if it is not going to take care of the critical core services that I think our citizens demand that we take care of in our state."

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Cuts to higher education 'go against what Oklahoma voters want,' group says



by Kathryn McNutt • Published: March 28, 2017 12:00 AM CDT • Updated: March 28, 2017 12:00 AM CDT

Three-quarters of Oklahoma voters surveyed said spending state dollars on higher education is a good investment, despite some lawmakers' claims that it's not a funding priority for constituents.

Oklahoma Tomorrow — a new statewide nonprofit advocating "proper funding" for higher education — released data Tuesday from a poll of 500 registered voters conducted in December by Cole Hargrave Snodgrass & Associates.

"We wanted to know for ourselves where people stood," said Oklahoma Tomorrow CEO Devery Youngblood. "They get it. They understand the importance of it."

Lawmakers who have been hostile toward funding higher education "have said way-over-the-top things that aren't true," Youngblood said.

The appropriation for colleges and universities was cut by more than \$157 million during the 2016 legislative session.

"The drastic 16 percent reduction — and any further cuts attempted during the 2017 session — go against what Oklahoma voters want," Youngblood said.

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- Tillerson: China agrees on 'action' on North Korea as navy strike group sails
- Criminal justice reforms face critical juncture in Oklahoma Legislature

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The survey shows 94 percent of those polled agree or strongly agree higher education is important to economic health, and 60 percent said too few Oklahomans receive a college degree, he said.

"Support for a college degree extends across all party, ideological and demographic lines," he said, including parents who don't have a degree but want their children to have that opportunity.



Retired bishop lived through 1947 tornado in northwest Oklahoma



Break & Clutch: Russell Westbrook does it all



Log-in | Read for 99¢ Police records from Oklahoma DHS youth homes detail criminal behaviors



Bill would allow out-of-state carriers to sell health insurance in Oklahoma



Man accused of killing Edmond clothler found dead in Oklahoma County jail cell



Criminal justice reforms face critical juncture in Oklahoma Legislature

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"Voters understand proper funding for colleges and universities provides a chance for everyone to Stay Informed: Read all the coverage from the Oklahoma state capitol succeed," Youngblood said.

Increasing tuition to replace state funding is "pricing out people in the middle" who don't earn enough to pay for college, but earn too much to receive financial aid based on need, he said.

Youngblood said he thinks the negativity comes from the coasts, where liberal institutions have blocked conservative speakers from campuses and pushed political correctness to the limit.

That leads to complaints here about "how out of control higher education is ... It's the easiest group to hit right now," he said. "But that's not who we are (in Oklahoma)."

The turnover in the Legislature following the recent election has brought in "a lot of really smart people who don't have that tone. I'm hopeful for the long haul," he said.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education last week approved a new task force to review the status of Oklahoma's higher education system and to make recommendations to modernize it.

"We've continued to see our system do more with less money in the last few years, and now we've got to look at the other alternatives," said Regent Ronald White, of Oklahoma City.

Youngblood said he learned about the task force when it was announced and he hopes Oklahoma Tomorrow will be represented on the panel.

While the group promotes increased and consistent funding for higher education, it's not backing any specific proposal for new revenue, he said.

Pollsters didn't ask those surveyed if they are willing to pay more in taxes to support higher education.

Youngblood said the survey shows voters are frustrated that Oklahoma continues "to rank among the worst in the nation for incarceration, health care and a skilled workforce."

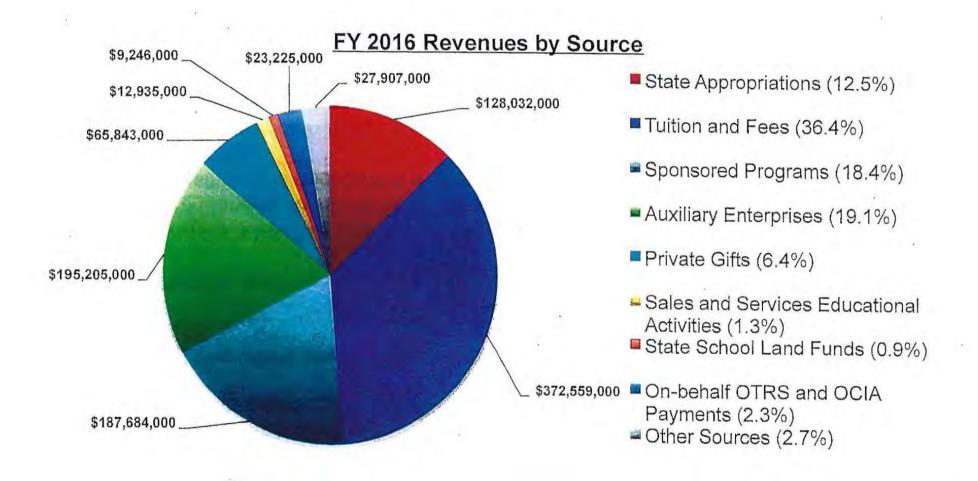


Kathryn McNntt

Kathryn McNutt covers higher education for The Oklahoman and NewsOK. Since joining the staff in August 2000, she also has worked as the Breaking... read more >

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Revenue Diversification

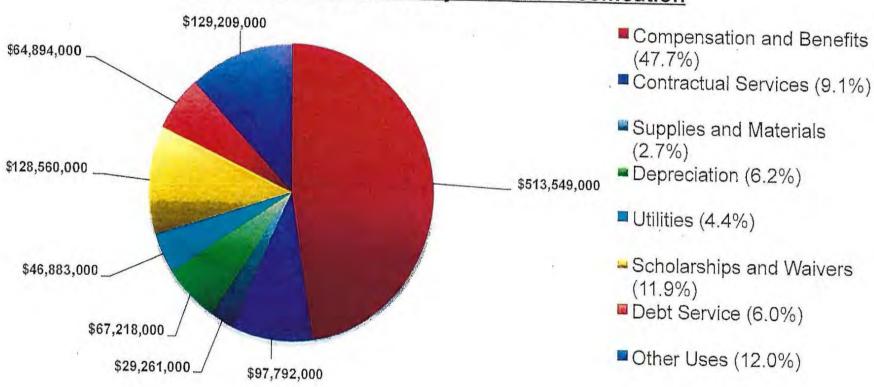


Revenues are often not fungible in that they carry restrictions placed by donors, government agencies, etc.

Represents revenues of \$1,022,636,000.

Operating Expenditures

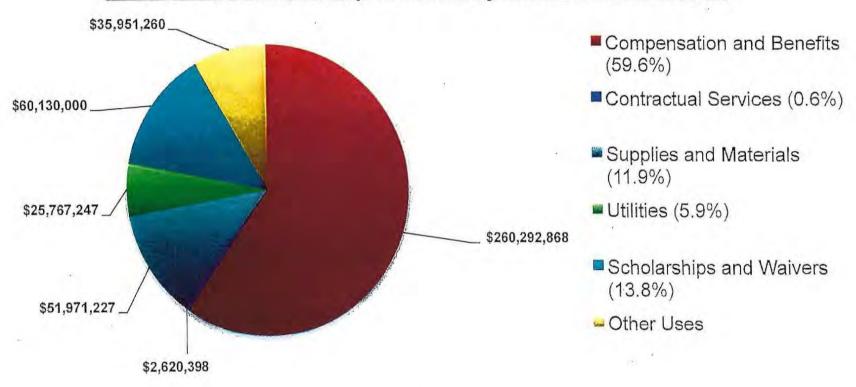
FY 2016 Expenditures by Natural Classification



Represents total expenditures of \$1,077,366,000.

Operating Expenditures

FY 2016 Central E&G Expenditures by Natural Classification



Compensation and benefits represent 60% of total expenditures.

Represents total expenditures of \$436,733,000.

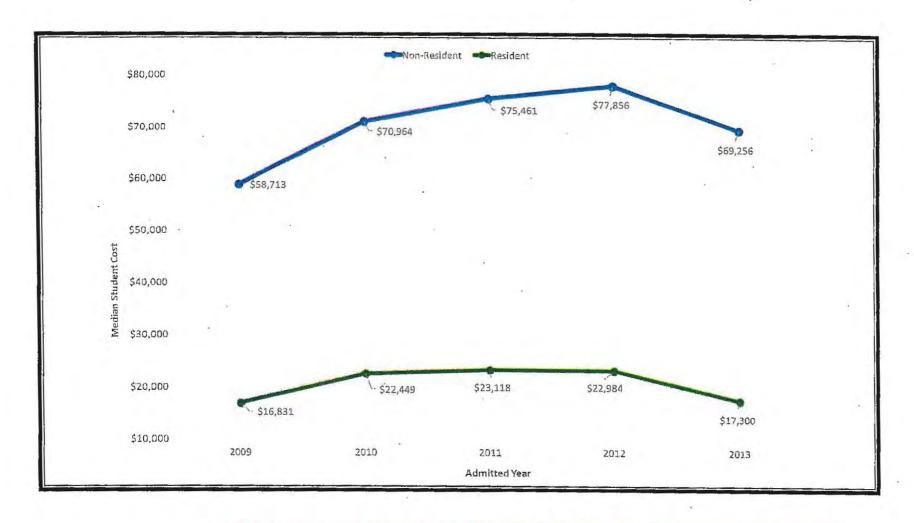
Affordability

OU's statutory peer group consists of the public universities in the original Big 12 Conference.

Undergraduate Re Tuition and Mandate	Control of the Contro	<u>Undergraduate Nonresident</u> <u>Tuition and Mandatory Fees</u>		
Colorado	\$13,782	Texas	\$35,796	
Kansas	\$10,549	Colorado	\$35,080	
Texas	\$10,144	Texas A&M	\$30,208	
Texas A&M	\$10,030	Kansas	\$25,932	
Kansas State	\$9,874	Missouri	\$25,892	
Texas Tech	\$9,781	Kansas State	\$24,775	
Missouri	\$9,518	Nebraska	\$23,057	
Oklahoma	\$8,631	Oklahoma	\$22,953	
Nebraska	\$8,537	Oklahoma State	\$22,443	
Oklahoma State	\$8,321	Iowa State	\$21,583	
Iowa State	\$8,219	Texas Tech	\$21,481	
Peer Average (excludes OU/OSU)	\$10,048	Peer Average (excludes OU/OSU)	\$27,089	
OU as a % of Peer Average	85.9%	OU as a % of Peer Average	84.7%	

Lagging state appropriations results in nonresident students subsidizing resident students.

Affordability



Represents by cohort the cost (tuition and fees) of completing 125 credit hours or a first degree, net of waivers and scholarships.

Market Demand

Freshman Applications, Acceptances and Matriculations

<u>Fall</u> <u>Semester</u>	Applied	<u>Admitted</u>	% <u>Admitted</u>	Matriculated	% Yield	1-Year Retention	Average ACT/SAT
2012	11,664	9,220	79.0%	4,138	44.9%	83.9%	25.8
2013	11,929	8,841	74.1%	4,052	45.8%	85.2%	25.8
2014	12,136	9,216	75.9%	4,176	45.3%	86.1%	26.4
2015	12,974	9,350	72.1%	4,200	44.9%	90.4%	26.4
2016	14,522	10,228	70.4%	4,198	41.0%	TBD	26.5
2017 (Projected)	16,500			4,300	-		

Fall 2015 to Spring 2016 cohort retention was 96.4%, which equated to 90.4% 1-year retention. Fall 2016 to Spring 2017 cohort retention was 96.8%.

(Draft) Budget Planning FY18

Expenses/Reductions in Revenue:	
Deficit from FY17 Budget Close	(4,900,000)
Benefits Related	(1,500,000)
Information Technology (Infrastructure, software updates)	(1,250,000)
Meeting space needs: Space Rental/New Buildings/Landscape	(1,800,000)
Financial Assistance to Students	(12,500,000)
Academic/Administrative Commitments	(5,500,000)
State Appropriation Reduction (12%)	(13,300,000)
Total Impact	\$(40,750,000)
Permanent Solutions:	
Tuition and Fee Increase for FY18 (1% = \$2M)	7777
"Non-mandatory" Excellence Fees (Approved Jan. 2017)	3,500,000
Enrollment Growth/Increased Retention/Tuition Collection	3,500,000
Utility Savings	2,000,000
Retirement Benefit Change (Reduction) for New Employees(Sept.	1) 1,000,000
3% Reallocation (Cuts, Savings, Efficiencies University-wide)	4,500,000
Continue to Capture Vacant Staff/Faculty Lines (Cuts to Staffing)	2,000,000
Special Voluntary Retirement Incentive #2 (also impacting staffing	5,000,000
Adjust Overhead Rate on Auxiliaries from 4% to 5%	1,500,000
Reduce Fringe Rate (Continuing to Realize Health Insurance Saving	s) 2,000,000
Smart Parking Strategies	???,???
Total Permanent Solutions:	\$25,000,000
One Time Funds (Only those centrally held):	V0.55 0 5.64
Mid-Year Appropriations Reduction	(625,000)
One-Time Cost of SVRI	(4,000,000)
Remaining Corix Funds	7,533,277
Cross Center Public/Private/Partnership (Net of Leases/Fees)	??????
Facilities Management Savings	1,000,000
Affinity Card Renewal	500,000
One Time Funds (Centrally Held):	\$4,408,222+