

JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE
The University of Oklahoma (Norman Campus)
February 13, 2023 Faculty Senate Meeting

Note: The remarks of the Senators and others are summarized and not verbatim. Minutes of meetings shall be provided as the official record of the duties and responsibilities of the governing body. Any recordings done by staff are for personal use in creating the official record.

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm by Professor Dave Hambright, Chair.

Present: Abramson (0), Apanasov (0), Beaulieu (0), Bemben (0), Benjamin (0), Bolino (0), Burns (0) , Cavazos (0), Cuccia (0), Cytacki (0), Deacon (1), Dee (1), Fithian (0), Fuenzalida (0), Furtado (0), Garofalo (0), Ge (1), Hambright (0), Harjo (0), Heyck (0), Hougen (0), Kibbey (0), , Kraus (0), Lai (1), Lamothe M. (1), Lamothe S. (0), Larson (1), Leseney (0) Livingood (0), Malestein (1), McCarthy (1), Miller (0), Natale (0), Neeson (1), Nelson (0), Nicholson (0), Nollert (2), Pepper (0), Rai (0) Raymond (0), Robbins (0), Schmeltzer (0), Sharma (0), Stalling (0), Steele (0), Tracy (0) Wang (0), Warnken (0), Weaver (0), Young (0)

Staff Senate Representative(s) - Ann Seely

SGA Representative(s)

Invited Guests: Darren Purcell, Director Melissa Seelye, Dr. Katherine Pandora, Dean David Wrobel, Susannah Livingood, Jennie Clary, Dean Gregg Garn

Note: During the period from June 2022 to May 2023, the Senate held eight regular sessions. The figures in parentheses above indicate the number of absences.

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Elect Hunter Heyck read the [Land Acknowledgement](#) approved at the May 2021 Faculty Senate Meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular session of December 2022 was approved without revisions

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Faculty Senate is sad to report the death of retired faculty members Michael Angelotti (Education) on December 1, 2022, Lenore (Lou) Clark (University Libraries) on December 15, 2022.
- The University Libraries [Alternative Textbook Grant](#) application period is open *January 17 - March 6*. The grant program incentivizes instructors to adopt, modify, or create [open educational resources](#) (OER) in place of using costly course materials. Since 2014, the Alternative Textbook Grant has given OU instructors the ability to use texts that meet their course learning goals and objectives, rather than adjusting their learning goals/objectives to fit the limitations of a text. The grant has also saved OU students millions of dollars in course materials costs. OU Libraries awards up to \$2,500 for successful applications, and some colleges award discretionary funds to supplement the total award amount. Please contact mwbriles@ou.edu if you have questions, want more information, or are ready to apply.
- The Environmental Concerns Committee (ECC is currently seeking nominations to recognize Environmental Stewardship. This certificate of recognition will apply to any department, student group, individual faculty or staff member for Environmental Stewardship. We encourage you to give serious consideration to the recognition and nominate a deserving organization or individual. Environmental stewardship refers to responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices. Nominations are due by March 13, 2023 through the [Nomination Submission Portal](#).
- The OU Elevate/NSF ADVANCE team launched the OU Faculty Perspectives on the Annual Evaluation Process Survey on 2/9/23. All full-time faculty have received an email with a link to this brief 10-15 minute survey from the OU ADVANCE email account, and will receive reminders for approximately the next three weeks. We encourage all faculty to take this opportunity to tell us about your experiences with faculty annual evaluations and workload distribution to assist us in better understanding faculty satisfaction with yearly evaluations in the core responsibilities of Teaching, Research, and Service at OU.
- Congratulations to the winners of the 2022-23 Ed Cline Faculty Development award. Winners include: Robert Bailey, Melinda Chinn, Sarah Hines, Carol Rose Little, Roxanne Lyst, Richard Velasco, Wendy Mallette, Mike Sladek, and Melinda Chen.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT by Chair Hambright

The report was distributed via email. Chair Hambright opened the floor to questions. There were no questions.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSAL FOR OU OPEN ACCESS POLICY - OPEN ACCESS AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIR DARREN PURCELL

The proposal and support documentation were distributed via email. Dr. Purcell and Dr. Masly provided an overview of the need for a campus Open Access policy, an overview of the proposed policy, and recommendations for implementation if the policy is adopted. The FS *ad hoc* Open Access Policy Committee and the Scholarly Communication Task Force will be co-hosting informational sessions to discuss the proposed Open Access Policy. If you have questions, please email scholarlycommunication@ou.edu. All sessions will be held via Zoom:

- February 21, 3-4 pm - [Humanities](#) (Meeting ID: 992 1670 6594 | Passcode: 41972211)
- February 28, 3-4 pm [STEM](#) (Meeting ID: 992 1670 6594 | Passcode: 41972211)
- March 7, 3-4pm [Social Sciences](#) (Meeting ID: 992 1670 6594 | Passcode: 41972211)
- March 9, 3-4 pm [General](#) (Meeting ID: 964 6155 4117 | Passcode: 54127166)

Chair Hambright opened the floor to questions. Sen. Apanasov questioned the push for Open Access if it would discourage publishing with prestigious journals internationally and expressed concern about applying new constraints. Dr. Purcell indicated that we are not asking faculty to only publish in open access journals nor is the policy directed at monographs. Sen. Miller added that faculty may opt out of participation. Sen. Burns thanked the committee for their work; many scholars in developing countries use Open Access as their first resort. Sen. Burns requested more time to deposit works rather than the day it is published. Sen. Abrahamson asked for clarification between the distinction between journals versus monographs. Dr. Purcell responded that the committee did not even consider monographs in their thinking. Melissa Seelye, Director of Open Initiatives, responded that there are legal considerations with monographs that differ from journal articles and makes it easier to make journal articles available. Sen. Weaver asked for clarification about the mechanisms for opt-out; Dr. Purcell indicated that other universities use their faculty activity systems to make note of what should be included in the repository and what should not be included. Sen. Hougen asked about when manuscripts are provided as part of the implementation process; Dr. Purcell indicated that would be addressed during the implementation phase. Chair Hambright reiterated that there are a number of dates involved with publication. Dr. Pandora (member of OA Policy committee) indicated that the faculty member should decide when it is deposited in the repository. Sen. Apanasov reiterated his original question regarding why the university needs an open access policy and that he sees the policy as just an “another obstacle” to publication. Dr. Weaver asked about supplemental materials like data as well as non-OU co-authors. Dr. Purcell indicated that data would likely exceed the local repository’s current capabilities.

Chair Hambright encouraged senators to talk to their constituencies about the policy and indicated that we would vote on the policy in March.

Remarks regarding the Higher Learning Commission Re-accreditation Process by David Wrobel, Dodge Family College of Arts & Sciences Dean

Dean Wrobel, Susannah Livingood, and Jennie Clary provided an overview of the Higher Learning Commission 2023 re-accreditation process. A team of eight peer reviewers will be visiting on-site on May 1-2, 2023; the schedule is not finalized until a couple of weeks before the visit. The point of the visit is to assess the alignment of what we say with how we act. A number of committees handled variance facets of the accreditation process: executive committee, criterion committees (mission, integrity, teaching & learning resources, teaching and learning assessment, and planning), and a site visit coordination committee. The report is capped at 35,000 words, but then evidence may be provided outside of that word limit. More information is available at <http://ou.edu/hlc2023>. If you have questions, please contact hlc2023@ou.edu.

Chair Hambright opened the floor to questions. Chair-elect Heyck asked since the 2017 assurance report differs greatly from the new report, does the HLC know this? They indicated that we must address changes of leadership in our current report but HLC will not necessarily be comparing the documents. Chair-elect Heyck also asked about how we address the state-level political context in the report. Chair Hambright asked what was problematic with the previous report; both general education assessment and diversity in leadership were two areas of weakness in the 2017 report and that these issues now have been addressed.

Remarks by Gregg Garn, Interim Dean of the College of Professional and Continuing Studies and the Vice President of Online Learning

VP Garn provided an update on what is going on in his two areas of responsibility. OU Online is an administrative unit, not an academic unit. It currently has 40+ programs from the Norman and Health Science Center campuses. New programs must align market opportunity and faculty expertise/interest. Programs must also go through all of the necessary academic approvals. A priority for next year is mental health services for online students. Growth areas: adult degree completion, professional doctorates, and direct to industry. Office of Digital Learning has a series of modules for adjunct instructors only associated with the university through OU Online.

Chair Hambright opened the floor to questions. Sen. Burns asked if there was a way to help students who do not initially complete their degrees but are underwater in student loan debt. VP Garn indicated a number of OU students have left the university without a degree but owe the Bursar; this debt is technically state property. We need to think creatively about how we tackle this issue; often people leave as a financial decision rather than an academic one. Sen. Hougen asked about the relationship between OU Online and departments with regard to payments and other details. Sen. Raymond asked a question about the intellectual property about course content; VP Garn indicated they pay a fee for course content and the content is property of the university. However, faculty may use the content at other universities if they leave, but OU also retains rights. Programs are generally on a three year refresh schedule; new faculty may adapt course material as they see fit. Chair-elect Heyck asked about the size of the various faculty groups teaching within the programs; VP Garn indicates this varies by department.

VP Garn provided an update on the College of Professional & Continuing Studies (PACS). PACS provides non-credit programs, adult degree completion, and bachelor degrees. VP Garn is exploring if this college could serve as an incubator for new programs, development courses, and concurrent enrollment. Chair Hambright opened the floor to questions about PACs; there were none.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Hambright opened the floor for new business.

Sen. Bolino brought up an issue with the timing of final exams to comply with resources available from the ADRC. During the final exam period, tests may only be offered from 8 am - 5 pm for ADRC support, regardless of when the class is offered. Procedurally, Chair Hambright asked Sen. Bolino to contact one of the officers to put an item on the agenda for discussion next month.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm. The next regular session of the Faculty Senate (Norman Campus) will be held at 3:30 pm on Monday, March 20, 2023 at the Thurman J White Forum Building.



Sarah Robbins
Faculty Senate Secretary