



FACULTY SENATE

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

AGENDA OF THE FACULTY SENATE

The University of Oklahoma (Norman Campus)

November 11, 2024 | 3:30 p.m.
Bizzell Memorial Library - LL123

1. Determination of a quorum
2. Call to order
3. Approval of the Senate Journal for the regular session of October 14, 2024
4. Questions regarding the Chair's Report
5. Senate Modernization Discussion and Working Session
6. New Business (any matter not known about or that could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time the agenda was prepared).
7. Adjournment

The next Faculty Senate (Norman Campus) meeting will be December 9, 2024,
in the Thurman J White Forum Building

JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE
The University of Oklahoma (Norman Campus)
Regular session – October 14, 2024 – 3:30 p.m.
Thurman J White Forum Building – Conference Room B
Office: Chemistry Building, Room 207 | Phone: 405-325-6789
Email: FacSen@ou.edu | Website <https://www.ou.edu/facultysenate>
Note: The remarks of the Senators and others are summarized and not verbatim

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm by Chair Jervis. Senators were asked to read the [Land Acknowledgement](#).

PRESENT: Brice, Burns, Busselle, Cavazos, Deacon, Grinnell-Davis, Hill, Hougen, Jablonski, Jones, Kang, Lamothe, M., Lamothe, S., Larson, Leseney, Litov, Liu, McLeod, Nicholson, Nollert, Pixley, Scrivener, Sharma, Tracy, Warnken, Weaver, Wood

FS Chair: Lori Jervis
FS Chair-elect: Sarah Robbins
FS Secretary: Stephanie Burge
FS Executive Committee Members (Non-senators):
FS Administrative Manager: Ann Seely
FS Student Worker: Taylor Fleming

Guests: Marilou Bento, Faculty Senate Student Representative
Lee Camargo-Quinn, Benefits Director - HR

ABSENT: Beaulieu, Bhattarai, Cavallo, Cortest, Cuccia, Demir, Edgerton, Ernest, Fithian, Grigo, Fuenzalida, Gibson, Hennessey, Malestein, Muraleetharan, Schmeltzer, Rueda, Uno

Note: During the period from June 2024 to May 2025, the Senate holds eight regular sessions. The figures in parentheses above indicate the number of absences.

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DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM.

Quorum was achieved.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular meeting of September 16, 2024 was approved without revisions. Senator Grinnell-Davis moved to approve. Senator Liu seconded. The vote passed and the journal was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT, by Chair Jervis

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

VOTE ON POSTPONING FACULTY SENATE REAPPORTIONMENT UNTIL CHARTER AND BYLAWS ARE REVISED

Chair Jervis introduced the issue to vote on postponing Faculty Senate reapportionment until the charter and bylaws are revised. Chair Jervis asked if there were any questions. Senator Grinnell Davis inquired about the representation of OU faculty at Tulsa campus and noted that are not designated Senators guaranteed to represent faculty at OU Tulsa. Furthermore, Senator Grinnell-Davis noted that OU Tulsa does not have a faculty senate and asked if appointing a Tulsa representative should be considered as the Charter and Bylaws are being revised. Chair Jervis noted that this was something that the Senate would discuss moving forward with the revision of the Charter and Bylaws.

Senator Tracy moved to postpone Faculty Senate Apportionment until the Charter and Bylaws are revised and Senator Burns seconded. Senators were directed to access the vote via QR code. The motion to postpone Faculty Senate Apportionment passed, there were 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions.

RESOLUTION THANKING SEAN BURRAGE, VICE PRESIDENT OF EXECUTIVE AFFAIRS AND CHIEF OF STAFF, FOR SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Senator Jones moved to approve the resolution thanking Sean Burrage and Senator McLeod seconded. Senators were directed to access the vote via QR code. The motion passed, there were 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions.

REMARKS FROM MARILOU BENTO, FACULTY SENATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Marilou Bento spoke to the Senate regarding students' civic and community involvement on behalf of the Undergraduate Congress. Ms. Bento asked faculty to give students an excused absence on Election day in recognition of the value of civic involvement and education. Ms. Bento noted that many students intend to travel home (many out of state) to vote, and noted the stresses that face those students, including time constraints to participate in voting. Ms. Bento noted there has been a record number of students registered to vote this year and faculty should expect students to face time constraints with voting. Furthermore, the Undergraduate Congress noted that election timing is overlapping with mid-terms, but also stressed the importance of students' enfranchisement. Ms. Bento also solicited faculty concerns regarding providing students with an excused absence for voting. Senator Busselle asked for clarification on whether the request included the early voting period or was confined to the actual election day. Ms. Bento noted that they were only requesting excused absences for the official voting day. Ms. Bento noted that many students are not that aware of early voting procedures, and that voting day is most critical. Lastly, Ms. Bento asked that Faculty

Senators share this information with their colleagues so that the message would travel quickly, given the timeline. Questions or concerns may be directed to Marilou Bento at Marilou@ou.edu.

REMARKS FROM LEE CAMARGO-QUINN, BENEFITS DIRECTOR

Benefits Director Lee Camargo-Quinn visited to share health insurance updates for the 2025 benefits cycle. Camargo-Quinn noted that open enrollment started today, and that this period will be open for 3 weeks (from October 14 – November 1. Camargo-Quinn noted that there were 4 requests for proposal (RFP) this year. The first one was on Dental and OU elected to stay with Blue-Cross Blue-Shield, and Camargo-Quinn noted that there were slight increases to the rate for the Dental plan. The second RFP was for the Vision Plan, and Camargo-Quinn noted that after reviewing several options for vision, OU would change from MetLife to VSP. Camargo-Quinn noted that many people already thought that they had VSP, but actually they only had access to the VSP network through the previous plan. However, now VSP will provide the coverage. Changes to coverage range from decreases to increases in costs. The biggest changes include how often one can change frames to glasses. The standard plan offers new frames every other year, while the premium plan offers frames every year. The third RFP was for life and disability, and the committee elected to go with Standard. The premiums will go unchanged, with the exception of basic life and long-term disability, which will have rate decreases.

Camargo-Quinn noted that they did not go out to RFP for Medical plans. However, premiums will increase 10% from 2024 to 2025, including increasing premiums, and co-pay increases for primary and specialist care visits. These increases will also be accompanied by changes to the max out of pocket amounts. Currently, there are no separate out of pocket maximum for drug coverage, but there will be a maximum for 2025. For employees electing for the High Deductible Health Plan, the deductible will also increase, as well the maximum out of pocket. While employer contributions for the individual and family will not change, individuals who start in the middle of the cycle will not get the full contribution from the employer because this is pro-rated. Changes in the PPO plan will increase by \$96.42 a month (family), and changes in the High Deductible plan will increase by \$67.46 (family) a month. There will also be a 1% increase in the employee share of the medical premium increase (for Tiers 2 and 3). Rates are available on-line for all types of insurance.

The 4th RFP was for Navigation services, which are supposed to assist individuals with picking high-quality doctors and health service providers, helping to reduce costs. Ultimately two were chosen: Garner Health and Zero Health. Interested faculty should download the Garner Health app. Individuals who use services provided by doctors rated highly on Garner Health will receive reimbursement through Garner. With Garner, individuals use their health insurance in tandem with the service. If individuals choose top (Garner approved) doctors, they will be reimbursed for those visits, up to \$2000 for individuals and \$4000 for family.

A senator asked if faculty were required to use Garner. Camargo-Quinn answered they do not have to, but there are benefits to using Garner in light of increased deductibles, co-pay and max out of pocket rates.

In addition, the committee introduced Zero Health, which there are no costs to use. Zero Health offers a range of services to employees and dependents, and there are no deductibles, coinsurance, or copays when employees choose services through Zero Health. In one case, Camargo-Quinn gave an example of shoulder surgeries. One could look on Zero Health for shoulder surgeries, McBride would come up in the search, and if the individual chose to utilize those services, there would be no costs to the individual. Camargo-Quinn noted that individuals who use Zero Health would both save money themselves, while also saving the plan money. Camargo-Quinn noted that both Garner and Zero Health work in tandem with the Health plan, and individuals are able to decide if they would like to use these options. Camargo-Quinn argued that this would increase the options. FSA's and HSA's are also still allowed, but are not allowed to be use with Garner due to IRS regulations. So, if people would like to be reimbursed through Garner, they should not use

reimbursement through their FSA or HSA plans. Camargo-Quinn noted that FSA's are use or lose it, as compared to HSA's, which allow for rollover. Therefore, she noted people should think about what makes most sense in terms of these elections. FSA's and HSA's are available to use to reach deductibles, but not on Garner reimbursable expenditures. There will be a virtual session to help individuals in the high-deductible plan to better understand their options.

Sarah Tracy asked if these slides could be shared. Camargo-Quinn noted that she does not share slides, but there are informational flyers with changes listed on the website.

Senator Sharma asked a question about planned rates and the tiers, and why there aren't more tiers to increase the burden on faculty that make greater amounts. Camargo-Quinn noted that in the past there were more tiers, but that individuals making amounts of money that were in upper levels of tiers are few, which means that the cost burden is not effectively handled that way. Camargo-Quinn also noted that it has been a very high year for insurance, in particular with pharmaceutical claims, which has driven costs up. Camargo-Quinn noted that individuals who received an increase in salary that puts them in a higher tier, (and thus increases their insurance costs), also receive the benefit of increases in retirement benefits.

Senator Jablonski asked about the relative raise increase compared to health insurance rates increases, specifically "Does the average employee see a real wage increase after the benefits cost increase?" Camargo-Quinn noted that it's hard to define the average faculty member, and that there were years where we had no health insurance premium increases, but the last two years have been higher (9 and 10% increases). This is driven in part by inflation, but also we are because we are a self-funded plan. As such, when we have high usage, those rates increase and some of these changes have been driven to keep costs down. Related to this, Camargo-Quinn noted that we had make a change mid-year to not cover GLP-1 drugs because it was costing the university millions of dollars.

Senator Tracy asked about tiered networks within our Cigna coverage, and that if we went to an OU Health Physician would we be reimbursed at higher rates. Camargo-Quinn noted that in past negotiations, Benefits had considered a custom network, which would have prioritized using OU Health and Norman Regional. This year we will not be doing that, however.

Senator Leseney asked about tiers again and noted that a \$250 raise, which pushed individuals into a higher tier (Tier 3) resulted in an insurance premium increase that resulted in a net loss in take home pay.

Senator Hougen asked about how these changes are making health care more complicated and whether Benefits plans to offer tools to help us figure out which decisions make most sense. Camargo-Quinn noted that downloading the Garner app and searching Zero health might be beneficial in anticipation of making these decisions about health insurance plans.

Senator Grinnell-Davis noted that data science informing these decisions may not be the best method to use because those methods historically do not represent vulnerable populations as well. Senator Grinnell-Davis also noted that these different systems tax faculty time. Camargo-Quinn argued that this data was looking at claims history for physicians in our network. Camargo-Quinn also sympathized with the time constraints, but noted that Garner could be a resource for saving time on finding doctors and services. Senator Grinnell-Davis also noted that Tulsa faculty may be differentially impacted by these changes. Camargo-Quinn noted that Zero Health is a Tulsa based company and emphasized looking into Zero Health and Garner, but reminded faculty that these are options not requirements.

Camargo-Quinn noted that effective October 1 the university moved from offering 2 weeks of paid parental leave to 6 weeks of paid parental leave. If faculty/staff are married, both are eligible to take advantage of that leave.

Senator Bussell asked if colleagues who recently transitioned to parenthood were notified of this change. Camargo-Quinn responded that those faculty had been notified.

Senator Liu asked about whether this policy would extend to other FMLA qualifying events. Camargo-Quinn noted that the other FMLA qualifying events could be used extended sick leave in conjunction with FMLA.

Camargo-Quinn discussed changes in administrative days. In 2024-25 Holidays, December 23 will be an administrative day. In 2025-26 holidays, January 1 and 2 will be administrative days. Lastly, Camargo-Quinn announced that there would be informational sessions with Garner and Zero Health for faculty/staff who are interested.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Jervis asked if there was any new business and no new business was introduced.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm. The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting of this academic year will be held on November 11, 2024 at 3:30 pm.

Stephanie Burge, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2024-25

Chair's Report – November 11, 2024

The Faculty Senate Officers and Faculty Senate Executive Committee have continued working on the revision of the Faculty Senate Charter. As a reminder, although the Charter is approved by the Regular Faculty, we will seek Faculty Senate input and approval before taking revisions to the Regular Faculty.

The month of October saw a number of concerns about increased health plan costs, with a few faculty reporting that these costs effectively negated their recent raises. Concerns were also raised about the complexity imposed on faculty of figuring out how Zero and Garner Health can work with health plan options. I requested that a calculator or comparison chart be developed by HR to exemplify how the benefits and health plans could work together. I was told that while the calculator was not possible, a comparison chart would be provided on the HR website (which to my knowledge did not occur).

On 10-17-24, the Norman Campus Faculty Senate Officers met with OUHSC's Faculty Senate Officers. We learned that OUHSC recently revised their Faculty Senate governing documents to include Non-Regular Faculty, and that so far it has been quite successful (of note, their percentage of Non-Regular Faculty relative to Regular Faculty is quite a bit higher than on the Norman Campus). They have moved to hybrid meetings, which has allowed more faculty to attend the meetings. The Norman campus FS Officers have been discussing whether this could work for our FS meetings, but unfortunately our current meeting space in the Forum does not have sufficient technological capability for hybrid meetings. Should we find ourselves in a different meeting space that can better accommodate hybrid, we are open to reconsidering this option.

On 10-29-24 I met with OU's Ombudsman, Jeffrey Harp. While he plans to attend the February Faculty Senate meeting, just a reminder that he is available for confidential consultations. While initially envisioned as primarily servicing faculty, in fact he has consulted with a broad array of OU constituents; detailed statistics will be provided in his February presentation.

An Overview of the Proposed Changes to the Charter

Many of the proposed changes to the Faculty and Faculty Senate Charter are simply to update language to match current usage, to update language regarding who does what tasks among the faculty senate personnel and officers and moving procedural text from the charter to the bylaws. The most significant changes are summarized below.

Faculty

- **Definition of Faculty:** For the purposes of the charter, we define faculty as all full-time ranked faculty and all full-time other faculty (instructors, lecturers, senior researchers, researchers, post-doc fellows) as defined by the Office of Institutional Research and Reporting and used by the Office of the Provost. In the Fall 2023, this means there were 1,740 individuals in this category; of those, 312 are instructional full-time “other” and 343 are research full-time “other.”
- **Mission:** This is new content that articulates our purpose within the university.
- **Composition:** Defining Faculty: Adjusting the language in the charter to refer to faculty rather than regular faculty. Defining regular and non-regular faculty.
- **Meetings:** Reduced expectation of full faculty meetings from twice a year to once per year, typically the State of the University in the fall. Also, stipulated that meetings may be in person or virtual.

Faculty Senate

- **Preamble:** This is new content situating our role in shared governance.
- **Composition:** Item for discussion: This is where the most significant change may be proposed. We need to determine how non-regular faculty should be represented in shared governance.
- **Powers:** Moved procedural information to the by-laws.
- **Amendment of the Charter:** Altered timeline from 40 days to 90 days. Item for discussion: What is the appropriate threshold of faculty voting to approve future amendments to the charter? What percent of faculty should constitute a quorum of the faculty?

Propose Timeline for Changes to the Charter

- October & November 2024: Officers discuss with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
- November 2024: Facilitated discussion with Faculty Senate regarding changes to the Charter and the representation of non-regular faculty in shared governance.
- December 2024: Officers take the feedback from FSEC and Faculty Senate to revise Charter for review by Faculty Senate.
- February 2025: Present revised charter to Faculty Senate for a motion to move forward for a vote of the regular faculty.
- February - March 2025: Campus town halls regarding the changes to the charter.
- April 2025: Vote on changes to the charter.
- June 2025: Submit revised charter to OU Board of Regents for approval.
- June - August 2025: Update by-laws to align with changes in the charter.
- September 2025: Present revised by-laws to Faculty Senate for consideration.
- October 2025: Faculty Senate vote on proposed changes to by-laws.

Timeline for Non-Regular Faculty Representation Consideration

- Fall 2020: FSEC asked the Faculty Welfare Committee to begin an in-depth examination of what would be involved to include non-regular faculty members in shared governance.
- Spring 2021: FWC Recommended appointing an [Ad Hoc Non-Regular Faculty Advisory Committee](#) to investigate the issue. Committee met once in the spring but lost traction over summer and could not rally in Fall 2021.
- 2022-23: Given the failed launch of the ad hoc committee, the Faculty Welfare Committee decided to collect data to inform the process.
 - Spring 2022: Hosted listening sessions with non-regular faculty in select OU departments.
 - Fall 2022: Surveyed OU department chairs about current involvement of non-regular faculty in departmental governance.
- Summer 2023: The Faculty Senate Committee on Committees charged the new Ad Hoc Committee on the Participation of Non-regular Faculty in Shared Governance to study this issue and make recommendations.
- March 2024: Updated the Regents Handbook language to remove language dictating that non-regular faculty shall have no voice in governance.
- Summer 2024: FS officers reviewed language in the Faculty Senate Charter and Bylaws, including the provision that the Faculty Senate serves only Regular Faculty. Charter contains language from the pre-internet era regarding senate procedures that are no longer viable or in line with current practice. In conjunction with the university's legal office, we have begun revising these documents.

Non-Regular Faculty Timeline

- Fall 2020: FSEC asked the Faculty Welfare Committee to begin an in-depth examination of what would be involved to include non-regular faculty members in shared governance.
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- 2022-23: Given the failed launch of the ad hoc committee, the Faculty Welfare Committee decided to collect data to inform the process.
 - Spring 2022: Hosted listening sessions with non-regular faculty in select OU departments.
 - Fall 2022: Surveyed OU department chairs about current involvement of non-regular faculty in departmental governance.
 - Fall 2022: Surveyed non-regular faculty on issues of access to departmental governance, service allocations, and views on non-regular faculty's role in shared governance.
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- March 2024: Updated the Regents Handbook language to remove language dictating that non-regular faculty shall have no voice in governance.
- Summer 2024: FS officers reviewed language in the Faculty Senate Charter and Bylaws, including the provision that the Faculty Senate serves only Regular Faculty. Charter contains language from the pre-internet era regarding senate procedures that are no longer viable or in line with current practice. In conjunction with the university's legal office, we have begun revising these documents.
 - Summer 2024: FWC committee (in conjunction with Ad Hoc Committee on the Participation of Non-regular Faculty in Shared Governance) submitted 4 possible avenues for non-regular faculty's representation within the Senate (see next page).

DRAFT Proposal from Michael Crespin, Member of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Status of Non-Regular Faculty.

Proposals for providing “non-regular” faculty with representation on faculty senate.

1. Non-regular faculty can vote and serve as senators, same as regular faculty. No change in senate size.
 - a. This is more or less what happened following the 14th and 19th amendments¹
 - b. Alternative: Same but increase senate size by a small amount
2. Non-regular faculty can vote and can serve as delegates but not senators: Delegates can serve and vote on committees, can vote on amendments, cannot vote on final passage.
 - a. This is how Washington DC and other territories are represented in the US House of Representatives
3. Non-regular faculty vote for a limited number of senators to represent non-regular faculty.
 - a. Does not meet one person, one vote standard.
 - b. The House and state legislative bodies sometimes followed a similar method when counties were used as a basis of representation. Small rural counties were over-represented at the expense of large urban counties. Deemed unconstitutional in the 1960s.
4. Non-regular faculty vote for senators to represent non-regular faculty with similar representation as regular faculty.
 - a. Would probably vastly increase size of senate. I’d have to get the number (or FTE) of non-regular faculty and do the math to get a number.

Above are four potential options for providing faculty senate representation for “non-regular” faculty. They all have advantages and disadvantages. I think option one, allowing non-regular faculty the same voting rights as regular faculty is the fairest as it treats everyone equally. Option two, provides some representation but not full senate voting rights. Option three clearly violates the “one person, one vote” standard. Option four is also fair but would necessitate increasing the size of the senate

¹ I’m going to ignore that the 14th amendment gave the south increased representation since it ended the 3/5th compromise

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA CHARTER OF THE ~~REGULAR~~ FACULTY AND THE FACULTY SENATE, NORMAN CAMPUS

MISSION

The University of Oklahoma faculty are committed to advancing the University's mission through shared governance, fostering a vibrant academic community, and promoting excellence in teaching, research, and service.

THE ~~REGULAR~~ FACULTY

COMPOSITION

Collectively, regular and non-regular shall be termed "Faculty."

~~The Regular Faculty.~~ The Regular Faculty of the University is composed of all faculty members with tenure track, tenured, and renewable term appointments at the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor ~~as defined in the Regents handbook. The Regular Faculty does not include faculty members with temporary appointments.~~

Non-regular Faculty. The non-regular faculty is composed ~~used~~ of non-tenure track faculty members as defined in the Regents Handbook at the rank of instructor, lecturer, senior lecturer, research assistant professor, research associate, research associate professor, research professor, research scientist, senior research associate, and senior research scientist as Collectively these shall be termed "Faculty."

POWERS

All legislative powers of the faculty of the University relative to the University as a whole are vested in the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. These legislative powers shall be exercised either directly by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty or by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate shall remain responsible to the ~~Regular~~ Faculty for all action taken in its behalf.

OFFICERS

The officers of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty shall be the officers of the Faculty Senate: Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary. These three officers shall constitute the leadership of the Executive Committee of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty and shall develop the agenda for meetings and otherwise fulfill the duties ~~which may be~~ described in the bylaws.

MEETINGS

The ~~Regular~~ Faculty shall meet at least once each ~~semester year (ordinarily on the third Thursday of October and the third Thursday of April)~~ and at other times upon call by the Executive Committee. Such a call may originate from the President of the University or from a petition submitted to the Chair ~~of the Regular Faculty~~ by 30 faculty members representing two or more degree-recommending divisions. A minimum of 20 percent of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty on the Norman campus shall constitute a quorum. Meetings may be held either in person or virtually.

Commented [KA1]: 20% is pretty high, especially with the expanded faculty. Any thoughts of making it lower?

THE FACULTY SENATE

PREAMBLE

The faculty of the University of Oklahoma, to advance the mission of the university and promote academic excellence, affirm the Faculty Senate as a vital instrument of shared governance. Recognizing that the faculty's expertise and dedication are essential to the university's success, the faculty are committed to working collaboratively with the administration, staff, and students to shape the policies and direction of the institution. Through open communication, mutual respect, and a shared

commitment to the principles of higher education, the faculty seek to create a vibrant and inclusive academic community that fosters intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and the pursuit of knowledge.

COMPOSITION

The Faculty Senate shall consist of 50 members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. The senators shall be elected to three-year terms in the degree recommending divisions of the University. The electors shall consist of members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. Administrative personnel above the department level shall be excluded from elections of the Faculty Senate. Assistant Deans, Associate Deans, and Deans are not eligible for Faculty Senate positions or Faculty Senate Committees.

In the Faculty Senate, seats shall be allocated as follows: one seat to each degree-recommending division with at least one percent of the total faculty. Members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty who are not members of a degree-recommending division of the University, or who are in a degree-recommending division with less than one percent of the total faculty, shall be treated as a separate division. The balance of the seats will be allocated among faculty members placed in this separate division according to a triennial apportionment proposed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. Degree-recommending divisions with no faculty members will be allowed to appoint a faculty member as an ex-officio member with all the rights and privileges of senate membership excluding the right to vote in official Faculty Senate actions.

~~Up to five-five~~ students, including both graduate and undergraduate, chosen by the University of Oklahoma Student ~~Government~~ Association, ~~shall may~~ serve as official student representatives to the Faculty Senate. Without voting privileges, these representatives will observe, participate in discussion, and maintain communication with the Student ~~Government~~ Association in regard to Senate actions. ~~Six~~ ~~Up to six~~ representatives of the ~~Informational Staff Association~~ ~~Senate~~ of the University of Oklahoma and one representative of the Senior Vice President and Provost's Office also may attend meetings and participate, without voting privileges, in Senate discussion.

ELECTION PROCEDURE

Before the end of March each year, the ~~Secretary of the Faculty Senate~~ ~~Faculty Senate officers~~ shall notify the dean of each constituent faculty of the number of senators, which that faculty shall elect for the ensuing year. Those senators shall then be elected in April or May. They shall assume their duties in September and ordinarily will serve three-year terms.

The ~~Secretary the of the~~ Faculty Senate shall maintain the roster of Faculty Senate membership. At any time that a vacancy occurs, the ~~Secretary Faculty Senate~~ shall notify the appropriate dean so that immediate steps may be taken to elect a replacement to serve the unexpired portion of the three-year term.

The Secretary of the Faculty Senate will continuously monitor absences. When in a given academic year, a senator has accumulated four absences, that senator is to be dropped automatically from the membership of the Senate. The Secretary will notify the appropriate dean to take immediate steps to provide a replacement for the remainder of that senator's term.

POWERS

The Faculty Senate shall exercise the legislative powers of the faculty of the University as delegated by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. The Faculty Senate shall have the power to initiate any legislation requiring the Board of Regents' approval in accordance with provisions of the University Constitution.

The Faculty Senate shall determine its own time of meeting, its own rules of procedures, promulgate rules and regulations governing its internal affairs, and establish standing and special committees. The

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Faculty Senate shall establish and publish its own set of operational procedures and bylaws.

The Faculty Senate shall elect a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Secretary, and such other positions as specified in the bylaws. Each standing committee of the Faculty Senate is authorized to select non-Senate members of the Regular Faculty. Students may be asked to serve and, in such cases, will be appointed by the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association.

The Faculty Senate may establish procedures to review the various functions of the University and any matter affecting the welfare of the University. Subjects for either review or legislation may be brought to the attention of the Senate by written communication either from any member of the University community or from any officially constituted agency. The Faculty Senate shall determine its own rules, procedures, times and place of meetings, and regulations governing its internal affairs.

The Faculty Senate shall liaise with the President, Provost, and OUHSC as described in the bylaws on issues pertaining to faculty.

AMENDMENT OF THIS CHARTER

This charter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of ~~those present in any regular or special session of the Regular Faculty~~ a quorum of faculty, provided that no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Board of Regents.

A proposal to amend the Charter may originate by ~~action vote~~ of the Faculty Senate or by motion in a meeting of the Regular Faculty. In those cases, in which the proposal originates through Senate action, the proposal must be submitted to the Regular Faculty, and consideration for the adoption of the proposal by the Regular Faculty shall not occur until the expiration of 30 days after the notification of the Regular Faculty, ~~through the Journal of the Faculty Senate.~~

If the proposal originates in the Regular Faculty, it shall not be considered for adoption until the expiration of 30 days and not more than ~~40-90~~ days after the members of the Regular Faculty have received copies of the proposal from the ~~Secretary of the Regular Faculty~~ (Secretary of the Faculty Senate).

The Faculty Senate may update language within the charter to mirror changes to the names of campus entities and positions ~~titles and association names does not require a~~ without a formal vote of the faculty.

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***** From current Charter, to be moved to the Bylaws *****

LIAISON WITH THE PRESIDENT

The President of the University shall present to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate in each new academic year a general message on the state of the University in which he or she shall give recommendations for the furtherance of the progress of the University.

The President shall, within 30 calendar days after receipt of a Senate action, inform the Faculty Senate by written message of his or her disposition of a Senate measure. If disapproving the measure, the President shall, in writing, give the Senate reasons for the action.

Faculty/**student** councils named by Faculty Senate resolution shall be utilized by the President of the University in the development of policies on matters of vital interest to the University. These areas include teaching, research and creative/scholar activity, and professional and University service and public outreach, libraries, budgetary planning, faculty personnel, University relations, University community, athletics, University operations, and University projects. In order to give the faculty a voice in determining the faculty membership of major councils, which shall be named by the Faculty Senate resolution, the Faculty Senate shall each year provide a list of nominees each year from which the President will make his or her appointments for the ensuing year.

LIAISON WITH FACULTY SENATE, HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

The Faculty Senate (Norman) shall maintain a liaison with the Faculty Senate (Health Sciences Center) through an Inter-Senate Liaison Committee composed of the Chairs, Chairs-Elect, and the Secretaries of the two Senates.

The purpose of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee is to exchange information between the Senates on either campus and concerns and actions of mutual interest and to recommend actions to the respective bodies on each campus. The respective Chairs of the two Faculty Senates should arrange for the meetings of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee.

November 2024 FS Working Session on the Charter Revision Questions

- 1) The Faculty Senate Executive Committee has proposed several changes to the Charter, including a) broadening its mission to include Non-Regular Faculty, b) relocating procedural text to the bylaws, and c) making it easier to meet virtually if needed.
 - a. What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed changes?
- 2) How should a quorum be defined? Currently it is a “minimum of 20 percent of the Faculty on the Norman campus,” which by today’s numbers is 222 Faculty. This could increase to more than 350 with the addition of Non-Regular Faculty.
 - a. Because gathering large numbers of Faculty has proven quite challenging, even virtually, is 20% still a reasonable number? Do we want to lower the percentage?
 - b. How would you recommend we get faculty to vote?
- 3) What fraction of the Faculty should be in favor of changes to the Charter to pass changes?
 - a. Should it be a simple majority (e.g., 50%+1) or 2/3 of the Faculty in attendance?
- 4) Do you believe faculty in your department/unit/college would support or oppose the proposed changes?
 - a. What do you imagine support/opposition to look like?
- 5) How should we communicate these proposed changes with the Faculty?
- 6) Any other comments about the Charter revision you would like to share?

Synopsis for Total Faculty Headcount

TOTAL FACULTY (EVERYONE)

TOTAL Faculty (regular and non-regular) - 2,109

TOTAL Full-time faculty (regular and non-regular) - 1,780

TOTAL Part-time faculty (regular and non-regular) - 329

TOTAL REGULAR FACULTY

TOTAL Regular Faculty - 1,111

TOTAL Full-time Regular Faculty - 1,108

TOTAL Part-time Regular Faculty - 3

TOTAL NON-REGULAR FACULTY

TOTAL Non-Regular Faculty - 985

TOTAL Full-time Non-Regular Faculty - 655

TOTAL Part-time Non-Regular Faculty - 330

TOTAL NON-REGULAR INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY

TOTAL Non-Regular INSTRUCTIONAL Faculty - 603

TOTAL Full-time INSTRUCTIONAL Non-Regular Faculty - 312

TOTAL Part-time INSTRUCTIONAL Non-Regular Faculty - 291

TOTAL NON-REGULAR RESEARCH FACULTY

TOTAL Non-Regular RESEARCH Faculty - 382

TOTAL Full-time RESEARCH Non-Regular Faculty - 343

TOTAL Part-time RESEARCH Non-Regular Faculty - 39