

Faculty Association Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2017  
12:30pm – 1:30pm – 3N0 (M)

1. Call to Order – Dana Glencross, Chair

- Chair Glencross Welcomed the group and introduced herself and the other members of the Faculty Association Executive Committee.
- She also reminded members about dues, which will remain at \$10/year this academic year.
- She also reminded members of the new payment system wherein members pay via their division rep. and receive a receipt.
- It was also noted that if paying by check, a member should make checks payable to “OCCC Faculty Association.”

2. Recognitions:

- Who dat?
- Staff recognition: chair-elect Peggy Newman recognized Shelley Troxel-Tevis for her service to the Health Professions division and the school.
- Editor of *Pioneer*, Christopher Plunket

3. Meeting Minutes Approval - 4.25.17 – George Risinger, Secretary

- Peggy Newman, moved to approve the minutes, and Ken Harrelson seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Treasurer’s Report – Acceptance – Mary Ahonsi, Treasurer

Scholarship Fund: \$4559.34

Operating Fund: \$8012.40

Ray McCullar Fund: \$7873.45

- Chair Glencross reminded members that the Operating Fund is for those situations where a faculty member, if needed, might require assistance, i.e. legal assistance. If approved by the Faculty Association, those colleagues will be supported with these funds.
- She also reminded the group that Ray McCullar fund is to establish an endowed scholarship.
- Past-Chair Faulconer-Lippert reminded members to pay their dues by the October meeting to be eligible for the door prizes at that meeting.
- Chair Glencross encouraged the group to help increase dues-paying members in Faculty Association. The greater the number of faculty represented, the more the Faculty Association truly can serve as the voice of “The Faculty.”
- Lisa Mason-Adkins moved to accept the report, and Rachel Butler seconded. The report was unanimously accepted.

5. Chair Report:

- Budget – This year and next:

- The Chair presented the following statistics: Over the past 2 years, 100 staff positions have been eliminated and not all of these positions/roles have been reallocated to other positions in the college.
- This year, 13 positions were targeted. 8 individuals were reassigned, and 5 individuals were lost, including 2 faculty members associated with the Biotechnology Program and the Video Game Design program. An additional program, Administrative Office Technology, as been targeted, and the associated faculty member will be lost in a year's time.
- Chair Glencross will investigate the criteria that are used to determine which programs are deleted vs. those that are spared.
- In the legislature, Higher Education funding for bond indebtedness was not funded.
- At OCCC, concurrent high school enrollment is up 26%, but the school is only reimbursed at 27%.
- At OCCC, National Guard student enrollment is increased, but less than half of their tuition is reimbursed to the school.
  - In both of the above situations, OCCC must absorb these expenses.
- Revenue measures in OK Legislature were ineffective this past session and some that were passed will likely be found unconstitutional. If these attempts fall in the OK court system, the OK Legislature will have to reallocate costs statewide, and higher education will take cuts. This will result in immediate reductions in OCCC budget.
- Good news: Over the past year, OCCC received rebates totaling approximately \$500,000, but these will likely be recalled by the state.
- Outlook: Anticipate more cuts for next year. In the best case scenario, OCCC might have a standstill budget, but this will lead to losses due to increasing costs at the school.
- President Steward's strategy is to increase enrollment, especially that of international students.
- The faculty members who worked in Admissions this past summer were praised for helping work through a large backlog in that area. Thanks in part to their hard work, the school is slightly up in enrollment this semester.
- These sorts of efforts (increasing enrollment) are a major part of the President's plan to increase funds at OCCC.
- Board of Regents Policy Amendment – Section IV – 4:
  - As a result of complaint against OCCC's President, the Board of Regents enacted the above policy.
  - In this policy, it is made clear that any grievance against the President must go through the Board of Regents.
  - To the knowledge of those members present, it was previously the practice that standard HR procedure was to inform the subject of a complaint about the issue. With this new policy, it appears the role of HR has been diminished and that the President can be made aware of such a complaint without their intervention.
  - There were several questions regarding the legality of this policy.

- The Chair encouraged the members present to read the policy thoroughly and to talk to their executive committee representatives regarding how the Faculty Association wants to respond, if it wants to.
- A brief, informal discussion ensued wherein it was mentioned the Faculty Association Executive Committee could formally bring the issue to the appropriate parties.
- In light of the sensitive nature of communications regarding this issue, the Chair will offer an alternate, non-OCCC email address whereby members can communicate their concerns to her.
- The members present indicated, informally, that they are interested in this policy being further studied.
- Human Resources
  - It has come to several individuals' attention that staff raises of great magnitude (50 – 60% increases in some instances) occurred in the HR department over the summer. This was learned via publically available information provided by the state.
  - The Chair discussed this with President Steward and asked if Faculty could also expect increases in salary.
  - The President responded that these raises are temporary in nature and the result of those individuals taking on more responsibilities.
- Vacant Position Updates:
  - Library Director – Former director Barbara King recently retired, and it is unclear if her position will be filled according to President Steward.
  - VP Student Affairs – Lisa Fisher resigned, and presumably this position will be filled.
  - Director of Student Life - Randy Cassimus will take over part of this area as the Director of Student Engagement and Alumni Relations. Chris Shelley will be responsible for handling student discipline issues.
  - Dean of EAH:
    - A hiring committee is yet to be formed
    - The Chair will find out who is on the committee and make recommendations, solicited from the Faculty Association, regarding the chair of this committee and its composition.
    - She will also attempt to learn when the person will be put in place.
  - Director of Curriculum and Assessment - Catherine Kinyon has left, but the refilling of this position is unclear at this time
    - The Chair will speak to VPAA Gardner for clarification.
- Library
  - Has gone from 6.5 professional librarians to 3.5.
  - Currently, the library is unable to meet all requests for library orientation classes.

- The Faculty Association Executive Committee may need to formalize a resolution to make recommendations regarding the resolution of this issue.
  - *Pioneer*:
    - Recently lost staff support.
      - Faculty in charge cut from 6 to 3 hours of release time.
      - Student hours cut down to 100/semester.
    - This was discussed with President Steward and the following resulted:
      - Faculty release time restored to 6 hours.
      - Student staff hours increased to 130 hours/semester.
    - Past-chair Faulconer-Lippert encouraged the members present to check out and support the Online Pioneer, which has recently won several awards.
6. Old Business
- A. Intellectual Property Theft Committee - Angela Cotner, Prof. of English, Chair
- Professor Cotner had information prepared and ready to share with faculty for Welcome Week, but was not included in the schedule.
  - The faculty may have an opportunity to learn more about this in October, perhaps at a 5th Tuesday meeting.
- B. FA Website
- The constitution has been changed to reflect the new dues-collecting process but has not been updated online yet.
  - The online constitution will be updated soon.
- C. Fundraising ideas:
- FASC discussed this year's planned activities
    - Soup/Bake Sale (November)
    - Chili Cook-Off (Feb/March)
    - Evening Hot Dog/Potato Bar (October 3)
    - Garage Sale? (April)
  - FA Chair's idea: Faculty Flippers – pancake breakfast for students, faculty work for tips to raise money for scholarships.
- D. Morale Building ideas – Service Learning Friday
- Perhaps work at the Food Bank one Friday to work together and enjoy some fellowship outside of OCCC.
  - If a member is volunteering in the community, please let Chair Glencross know so that she can advertise how much the faculty “work” outside of OCCC and for the community.
7. New Business
- Undivision – will be added to future agendas to discuss issues regarding differences across divisions, i.e. printing practices, release-time determinations, etc.
  - In an effort to delve deeper into the OK Legislature's perceived dislike for Higher Education, a member suggested we host members of the OK Legislature on campus, perhaps for a breakfast, to see what we're doing at OCCC and to learn

about how budget changes affect how we impact students. Showing legislators what we're doing will hopefully help change their minds.

8. Who dat? Identities were revealed.

9. Adjournment – Peggy Newman motioned to adjourn, the motion was seconded, and unanimously approved.

- Meeting Adjourned.

**Executive Committee Members:**

Angela Cotner, English, Arts & Humanities; Lisa Mason-Adkins, Business and Information Technology; Reeca Young, Health Professions; Tad Thurston, Science, Engineering and Mathematics; Rachel Butler, Library; Dana Glencross, Chair; Peggy Newman, Chair-elect; Gwin Faulconer-Lippert, Past-chair; Mary Ahonsi, Treasurer; Jay Malmstrom, Parliamentarian; George Risinger, Secretary