

Faculty Association Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2017
12:30pm – 1:30pm – 3N0 (M)

1. Call to Order – Dana Glencross, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:34pm, and welcomed everyone back from the Thanksgiving break. She also provided a written motivational statement to be shared with the group in light of Giving Tuesday.
2. Recognitions: Staff nomination/selection – Peggy Newman, Chair-Elect, recognized Christine Peck, the Math Lab Supervisor, for her hard work during these financially-strapped times.
3. Meeting Minutes Approval – 10.24.17 – George Risinger, Secretary. Moved for approval by Peggy Newman, and Lisa Mason-Adkins seconded. Unanimously approved.
4. Treasurer's Report – Acceptance – Mary Ahonsi, Treasurer

Faculty Association Scholarship Fund: \$6504.35

Operating Fund: \$8688.67

Ray McCullar Fund: \$7993.46

70 paid members

- The Chair congratulated the group for getting the number of paid members up since that helps demonstrate the strength of our voice to the administration.
- Motion to accept the treasurers report was proposed by Reeca Young, and was then approved unanimously.
- Before moving on, a member questioned the Chair regarding allowing adjunct faculty members to participate in Faculty Association, and the Chair indicated that adjunct faculty members are already welcome to join the Faculty Association.

5. Chair Report

- Vacant Position Updates
 - Executive Vice-President – Steve Bloomberg is in the process of accepting a position at a community college in Arkansas. The President has indicated that this position will be filled.
 - Vice-President of Enrollment/Student Services – This position will be advertised in January, and with an anticipated start date of July 1. No committee has been formed yet, and it is currently unclear to the Chair who will chair the hiring committee.
 - Dean of English, Arts & Humanities – The hiring committee has forwarded 3 names, and the next round interviews are underway.

- Director of the Library – The search is underway, and 4 - 5 individuals will be interviewed.
 - Currently, OCCC has acting-Vice-Presidents of IITS (Rob Greggs) and HR (Regina Switzer), but hiring/search information to fill these positions is limited at this time.
- Retirement plan changes – The Chair received notification from VOYA stating some unrequested changes in her plan will occur soon (some funds will be cashed out and the proceeds will be used to purchase new funds). There is concern that there will be a fee cost for these unrequested changes. The Chair brought this information to the President's attention, and he indicated he will investigate and get back to her.
- OSHRE Task Forces
 - Chair provided a website: <https://www.okhighered.org/future/docs/kirwan-5-26-17.pdf>. At this site one will find OK State Regents college completion strategies, including consolidation of institutions for efficiency purposes, better use of technology, etc. This information will go to the legislature to help demonstrate that higher education has been working diligently to work as leanly as possible to serve the citizens of OK.
 - Item of note: National level of higher education funding reductions is -15%, and OK is at -27.6%.
 - The President indicated Rose, TCC and OCCC will not be consolidated.
 - This Task Force is looking at a state-wide required online platform to decrease costs to institutions. If it comes to fruition, this would likely change our online learning management system. Chair has begun asking about compensation for faculty members to rework courses for the potential new online learning management system.
 - Chair will represent urban community colleges for the OK State Regents, but is happy to discuss transitioning this role with any other interested faculty members.
- Budget update
 - Budget agreement in OK Legislature has failed.
 - Shane Stone, a former OCCC student, voted against this agreement.
 - Rainy-day funds were proposed to fill the budget hole, but the Governor has placed an executive order barring that action.
 - Current estimates have OCCC, at a 2.24% (\$434,800) reduction if this situation does not change. This will impact OCCC as though it is a 5% reduction since half of our funds for the year have been spent. The President is emphatic that this will not impact the coming stipend.
- Dependent Tuition Waivers – This has been championed by former chair Gwen Faulconer-Lippert, but there has yet to be any definitive word regarding dependent tuition waivers. The President has assured the Chair that this benefit will not go away.
- Development Plan – Vice-President for Academic Affairs Greg Gardner indicated that this has been approved with two amendments:

- In health-professions, if necessary for accreditation purposes, development plans will be required.
- In the case of documented need by a dean.
- Print Pre-Approval – This has been passed and agreed upon by OCCC administration; however, due to an upcoming software change for the online printing service, Vice-President Gardner cannot assure the group that an approval step will not be required.
- Board of Regents Meeting – Financial Aid Information Recap and Discussion
 - 58% of OCCC students receive Financial Aid (down by ~700 students from last year), and 66% of completing student leave with no debt.
 - In the recent Board of Regents meeting, Regent Youngblood asked how many loan defaulters received no degree but an answer could not be provided at the meeting.
 - The Chair asked that this serve as a reminder that OCCC must maintain below a specific level of default loan debt; otherwise, the school cannot receive financial aid funds. The Chair does assure the group OCCC is far from that, but wanted the group to be aware.
 - A short discussion followed regarding advertising to students to enroll who may be carrying a bursar balance from the current semester. The Chair pointed out that a drive for enrollment might influence these types of initiatives during these financially difficult times.

6. Old Business

- Copyright Presentation
 - Angela Cotner announced there will be a presentation regarding copyright during Welcome Week (aka Planning and Prep Week) in January 2018.
 - It will occur on Thursday of that week during an all-faculty meeting, and will last one hour.
 - Interested faculty members will have a chance to submit questions for the attorney beforehand so they can be specifically addressed. Send questions to Angela Cotner (acotner@occc.edu).
 - A member also made a request that the presentation be videoed so that it can be shared with those who cannot attend.
- Scholarship Committee
 - Dec. 8 is the deadline for nominations for scholarships for the fall. That committee will have the nomination forms out in the next couple of days (Forms were emailed to entire faculty on Tuesday, November 28).
 - The Chair also reminded the group about the generous contribution by two donors during the recent bake sale.
 - The Chair noted she will approach the Faculty Association Executive Committee to consider establishing an endowment with a goal of \$25,000 so that the scholarship fund does not work “soup to soup” any longer.

7. New Business

- A faculty member motioned to reject administration's second amendment to the Faculty Development Plan resolution regarding exceptions "in cases of documented need by a dean" as this is vague and could potentially be used arbitrarily. This was seconded simultaneously by Scott Carter and Angela Cotner.

- A discussion ensued that resulted in the initiating faculty member amending the rejection to include both of the amended provisions.
- Further discussion pointed out that the absence of these amendments might result in OCCC administrators reinstating Faculty Development plans.
- A vote was taken: In favor: 0, Nay and Abstain Votes were in the majority, but the secretary did not have time to count the votes due to the late time.
- This discussion will be tabled until the next Faculty Association meeting in January 2018 and in the interim, the Chair will pursue the issue of amendments further with Vice-President Gardner.

8. Adjournment – Motion called at 1:25pm by Raul Ramirez and seconded by Ken Harrelson.