

Oklahoma City Community College
Faculty Association
Minutes: January 29, 2019

Chair Newman opened meeting at 12:34pm.

1. FA Staff Recognition – Angela Cotner, Chair-Elect
Communication errors resulted in the inability of this month's awardee to be in attendance for today's meeting. The awardee will be presented in next month's Faculty Association meeting.
2. Meeting Minutes Approval – November 27, 2018
Lisa Buckelew made a motion to approve the minutes from November 2018, and Reeca Young seconded this. The minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report - Mary Ohansi
Faculty Association account: \$8636.33
Ray McCullar Fund: \$8027.82
FA Scholarship Fund: \$13,226.94 (\$10,000 of which will be moved to endowment soon. In light of a recent audit, see below, the treasurer anticipates updated balances within the week.)

Treasurer Ahonsi discussed her meeting with the OCCC Foundation that occurred at the end of last semester. She explained an extensive audit has been performed on all of our accounts recently, and that going forward, account information/balances should be more accurate and will more easily be provided in a timely manner than previously.

Angela Cotner made a motion to accept the report, and Pamela Stout seconded this. The report was unanimously approved.

UPDATE: Please note that shortly after the meeting, Treasurer Ahonsi received the most up-to-date balances, and they are as follows:

Ray McCullar Fund: \$7,916.03

Operating Fund: \$8,271.34

Faculty Association Scholarship Fund: \$14,060.57, (of which, \$10,000 is the endowment fund amount)

4. Chair Report:
Old Business
 - a. Meeting with President Steward (NOTE: Due to scheduling conflicts, Past-Chair Glencross met with President Steward in place of Chair Newman):
 - 1) Resolution Updates:
 - "Respect 4th Tuesday" – Academic Affairs and the CLT will refrain from holding meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month, but other areas

of the school will not necessarily avoid scheduling meetings during this time.

-“Uniform Guidelines for Online Teaching” – President Steward advised this issue be discussed and worked through with Vice-President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) Gardner.

“Guns on Campus” – President Steward was thankful to the group for being proactive and getting this passed so that he could share it with the Chancellor.

b. Meeting with VPAA Gardner:

-“Uniform Guidelines for Online Teaching” Resolution – This is “on his radar,” and he will get with Jennifer Ball, chair of IAPC, and work through it. Chair Newman was informed that this is not a Faculty Association issue and that there is inappropriate language in the resolution related to FMLA.

A tangential conversation regarding the number of students in online courses ensued among the members present. Again, deans are supplying partially contradictory information about this. Jennifer Ball offered to look into this as chair of the IAPC.

-Copyright Issues – Chair Newman was asked to bring forth the issue of helping faculty be fully informed and safe regarding use of copyrighted material. VPAA Gardner will check with attorneys to determine when/if this will be addressed by the school administration again.

A discussion among the members ensued. Some members questioned why the Faculty Association could not bring in a lawyer on our own to discuss this. Chair Newman will discuss this with the Executive Committee at their next meeting.

c. Regents Meeting – Past-Chair Glencross attended this meeting for Chair Newman. Chancellor Johnson gave a preview of a speech regarding increases in budget allocations for higher education that he will soon present to the OK Legislature. Some key points:

-Over the past several recent years, \$274 million has been cut from Higher Education, a cut of greater than 26%.

-There may be 3 institutions agreeing to voluntary consolidation by the end of the year. Federal and State laws will impact this.

-Budget request include 7.5% increase for faculty salaries. This has been prompted by poor faculty recruitment at OU/OSU.

-Chancellor Johnson will ask for \$3.3 million to fully fund concurrent enrollment.

-New liability insurance was approved for Health Professions students.

-The Board passed guns on campus resolution. Chair of the Regents supports the current policy of allowing each college’s President to determine who can carry guns on campus.

-The Board approved allowing President Steward to accept donations from individuals and allowing him naming rights for certain areas/building on campus.

d. "Lunch Bunch" – CU room Come & Go Gathering

Chair Newman and the Executive Committee hope to increase camaraderie amongst the faculty. She has proposed a "Come and Go" Lunch, which was successful in the past. This previous lunch involved college administrators; however, college administrators would not be invited to this lunch. VPAA Gardner liked the idea and suggested we reserve a CU room for this since the cafeteria can get quite crowded around lunchtime. A majority of the members present indicated that would attend such a lunch. Chair Newman will look into a booking third Thursday, from ~11:30am-1pm in one of the CU rooms. She will get back to the group with details.

On a related note, it was mentioned that the new potential contract with Rose State College to bring in a new food/catering vendor might bode well for improving cafeteria/food supplies and prices.

New Business:

- e. Paul Buckelew spoke about a permanent committee on which he serves that is responsible for making recommendations to the President regarding the school's retirement savings plan provider. The school has been using Voya for the past several years for 403b accounts. An RFP, which is part of the bidding process to potentially select a new provider, has been put out to interview other 403b providers. The committee will review different providers then make a suggestion to President Steward, who will then make the final decision.
- f. Faculty Representation – Executive Committee has begun asking if it would be worth looking into legal representation available to the faculty. This legal representation would not serve OCCC, but would represent the faculty/staff and offer legal advice to them as well. The Executive Committee is in the early stages of investigating and planning for such a service, but it has become readily clear that a cost will be associated with such a service. The service is envisioned as an opt-in type of service, where those who want it would pay, while those who do not, would not. Part of the impetus for this is the lack of an employee advocate in HR. This position has been vacant for several months, and according to Vice-President for Human Resources (VPHR) Switzer, there is no plan to fill this position. VPHR Switzer indicated that people in need of an advocate may feel free to contact her. Another impetus for this involves request from faculty members to the Chair to investigate or explore situations in which he/she feels they are being unfairly treated. When the Chair brings these issues to the appropriate parties, she is continually told that the Faculty Association is not the path employees should

take for these concerns and that the person with the issue needs to contact HR, which currently lacks an employee advocate (see above).

A discussion ensued regarding bringing a service like this to faculty. Some members mentioned educator associations that offer such services, i.e. the Oklahoma Educator Association (OEA) and the American Association of University Professors. (AAUP) There was mention that at least the OEA is a union, and it is part of the charter of the Faculty Association that the association will never become a union. It was mentioned that a body outside of the association would have no such limitations and could start a chapter of the OEA independently of the Faculty Association. The discussion ended with Chair Newman indicating she and the Executive Committee would look into the OEA and AAUP.

5. Committee Reports:

-Scholarship Committee – Chili Cook Off/Silent Auction will be held Tuesday, March 12. The co-chairs of committee solicited for Silent Auction item donations.

-Publications Committee - This committee will meet at 12:30pm on February 12.

6. Announcements/ Other

-New librarian Johnny Hill was introduced.

7. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 1:23pm.

- Next meeting February 26