



OHIO FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FINAL Minutes - 11 March 2022
Approved, 8 April 2022, Leanne Petry

12:30 – 2:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom

MEMBERSHIP (ATTENDEES highlighted in yellow)

Bowling Green University: Christopher Frey, David Jackson
Central State University: Leanne Petry, Mitch Eismont, Lubna Abu-Niaaj
Cleveland State University: Bob Krebs, Andy Slifkin, Anup Kumar
Kent State: Pamela Grimm, Ed Dauterich, Darci Kracht
Miami University: Jennifer Green, Thomas Poetter, Rosemary Pennington
NEOMED: Patrick Gallegos, Natalie Bonfine, Charles Thodeti, George Litman
Ohio State: Ken Lee, Ben Givens, Amy Darragh
Ohio University: Robin Muhammad, Benjamin Bates, Nukhet Sandal
Shawnee State University: Tony Ward, Erik Larson, Drew Feight
University of Akron: Linda Saliga, Kate Budd
University of Cincinnati: Greg Loving, Dan Carl
University of Toledo: Tony Bigioni, Linda Rouillard
Wright State University: Brian Boyd, Megan Faragher, Laura Luehrmann
Youngstown State: Chet Cooper, Mike Ekoniak
Ex-officio: Wright State University, Former Chair Dan Krane

Guests:

Randy Gardner, Chancellor Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE);

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/chancellor-gardner>

Therese Filicko, Ohio Faculty Senate; filickot@clarkstate.edu | ohiofacultySenatechair@gmail.com

11 March 2022, 12:30 – 2:30 PM (12:35 PM called to order after quorum of institutions confirmed)

1. Agenda approved as distributed
2. Discussion and approval of minutes from February 11, 2022 (12:35 PM)
Moved, seconded, motion to approve carried with two corrections (date and removal of duplicate language) and minutes adopted as distributed

3. Report from the OFC Executive Committee
 - a. Boards of Trustees: *Reminder*: if you have not yet spoken with your BoT Chair about a campus-wide textbook auto adopt policy, please reach out soon. Board leaders need to affirm or decline their support of a textbook auto adopt policy, *decided in consultation with faculty leaders*, no later than August 15, 2022. [HB110](#) (see p. 147). Discussion on interpretation of bill language; Miami University shared it may not pass their Senate; University of Cincinnati and University of Akron both shared it may be passed through their Senate bodies with modifications adopted.
 - b. Collaboration with Ohio Faculty Senate: Joint resolution as the *Faculty Congress of Ohio* (approved document draft previously distributed to members along with 11 March 2022 agenda); call for testimony may be as early as 16 March 2022; Ohio Faculty Senate individual statement is slightly different in that it will highlight the role of community colleges and that the community college presidents are not unified; community colleges are concerned about finances (i.e. funding) for new faculty positions and applied BA/BS programs as the cost of tuition at community colleges may be cheaper for students, but the expenses overall to the institutions are not much cheaper and the cost is passed onto local tax payers (i.e. local levies passed to keep community college tuition for students lower). <https://ohiohouse.gov/committees/state-and-local-government/bills/hb327>
 - c. DACA Follow-up: any actions or discussions on campuses related to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and undocumented students' discussion from February 2022 meeting? Shawnee State and Central State have shared with their campus communities and invited conversations to begin on this topic.
 - d. SB 135 update: now in the house legislature; free speech concerns from faculty and students, under-enrolled and | or low completion programs as well as nursing program approval and the bottleneck related to clinical practicums for those students to go into hospitals. <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-committee-documents?id=GA134-SB-135>
 - e. Teaching and Service Awards on OFC Campuses: discussion invited and members requested to share information about university-wide teaching and service awards on each campus using this shared document link:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A4yRkF6YWL2ejp6l4ArtlBnUJwOeloq_GIwceATUxBo/edit?usp=sharing
4. Guest Speaker for 11 March 2022 OFC Meeting: Chancellor Randy Gardner (1:15 PM); OFC institutional members introduced themselves to the Chancellor; discussions with Chancellor Gardner focused on updates on initiatives and ways in which OFC member institutions can work together to benefit the economy and workforce development in Ohio.

Chancellor Gardner noted several topics, specifically with respect to State demographics and high school graduates: it is known that not only is the intent to retain as many high school graduates in Ohio but also that the goal is to keep talent here in the State. Ohio faculty need to be about recruiting and attracting talent from other states and other countries. This philosophy is in alignment with the Governor as well. If the State economy is going to be stronger, then the State of Ohio needs more talented and diverse people who want to be educated here and stay here and be part of the State's economy. The State of Ohio is looking to reduce barriers to education to recruit, attract and bring talented students to the State. Faculty should also be aware of the "Second Chance Grant" to encourage adults who have stopped out to come back to college.

Specific programs noted that Ohio faculty need to be aware of include: "Choose Ohio First" spearheaded by Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted in 2008 when he was Speaker of the House and the next round of scholarships will be announced the beginning of April, earlier in March it was announced that Ohio was first in the nation in 2017 in what is called "Purple Star Schools" in the K-12 arena of education; follow on initiative announced this week called "Collegiate Purple Star Program" to welcome to the State of Ohio military and veterans and out of state affiliates to bring them to the State to become part of the State of Ohio and demonstrate that the State has a military-friendly attitude. In addition to these programs, adult career education programs across four-year institutions, technical centers and community colleges are being promoted.

Chancellor Gardner is aware that legislators are attempting to try to guide or tell faculty what to teach and how to teach it, and what to say, and what not to say. He stated that ODHE is watching this ongoing debate and will continue to serve as strong advocates for faculty and students.

Concerns shared with Chancellor Gardner related to meeting the increasing demand for student mental health, addiction and counseling services on college campus, especially during the pandemic. Students are feeling isolated and have increasing anxiety and stress. Additionally, there is an increase in DFW rates for students in critical gateway courses of mathematics and English and campus "Fresh Start Programs" or "College Comeback Programs" are being re-examined as are tutoring and instructional support services.

5. Campus examples of shared governance successes and challenges: Round robin of campus updates, examples of shared governance, [member topics discussed included campus resolutions related to HB 327 and Academic Freedom policies, searches on campuses, DEI and DACA initiatives, student excusals for religious observances (i.e. "Faith Act"), lifting of campus mask mandates, faculty awards]. Faculty award discussion at each campus invited conversation focused on OFC faculty awards and a potential selection and award process similar to the technology commercialization award.
6. Announcements and Adjournment (2:29 PM):
Three (3) remaining meeting dates for AY 2021-2022 (all 12:30-2:30) - Apr 8; May 13; June 10