



**OHIO FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
12 Feb 2021**

12:30 – 2:30 PM  
Virtual via Zoom

**ATTENDEES (via Zoom):**

Bowling Green University: Christopher Frey, David Jackson  
Central State University: Leanne Petry, Anthony Milburn  
Cleveland State University: Bob Krebs, Andy Slifkin, Anup Kumar  
Kent State: Pamela Grimm, Ed Dauterich  
Miami U: Elizabeth Wardle  
NEOMED: Charles Thodeti  
Ohio State: Ben Givens, Susan Cole, Ken Lee  
Ohio University: Robin Muhammad  
Shawnee State University: Tony Ward, Kyle Vick  
University of Akron: Linda Saliga  
University of Cincinnati: Greg Loving, Cynthia Ris  
University of Toledo: Allyson Day  
Wright State University: Laura Luehrmann, Brian Boyd  
Youngstown State: None  
Ex-officio: Wright State University, Former Chair Dan Krane

**Guests:**

Jim Bennett, Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor  
Susan Cole—Chair of OSU Faculty Council  
Terry Filicko—Ohio Faculty Senate  
Sarah Kilpatrick—AAUP  
John McNay—AAUP

**February 12, 2021, 12:30 – 2:30 PM**

Location: [Zoom](#)

1. **Approve agenda**—Change approved
2. **Approve minutes**—Change in date for previous minutes to 11 Dec 2020

3. **Autumn Semester plans**

**OSU:** Registration opening soon with all decisions on table. Task Force created with Registrar, Vice-Provost, and others. May have to continue masks, spacing (6 ft), etc, in August. Looking at different outcomes for different levels of vaccinations—modeling exercise ready for March.

**Wright State:** 50% capacity; weighing idea of 3ft distance vs 6ft; better to be in-person and pull back if needed; still masking, etc. Any class at 40 or less—F2F format; 40-60 hybrid; over 60 online. Sending 2 surveys to faculty and students about participation, socialization, etc. Want to see where interests overlap.

**Kent:** 6ft & masking will continue through Fall; 50% F2F; letting faculty choose but encouraging half with at least some F2F component. 50+ completely remote and others definitely on campus—the in-between is up to choice and unit decisions. All Faculty including PT and TAs have choice.

**UC:** Going back to normal with no distancing—official position. Encouraging remaining online for those who want to. F2F will not have restrictions.

**Cleveland State:** Faculty have choice and TAs have to go along.

**Akron:** August may be continuation of current situation.

**Central State:** Faculty have choice; F2F encouraged; Tuesday vaccination clinic on campus with faculty and students able to get vaccinated with Green County Public Health. Medical Director, Karen Matthews, had to fill out application through local and possible state process and based on population as a congregate facility with students on campus, a certain percent of faculty over a certain age, and campus offering to be venue for vaccinations for the population in the county.

**UT:** Limited online decisions; had to get accommodations requests approved; extended class schedule.

**BGSU:** For undergrad: 75% F2F, rest up to faculty; can't require vaccinations for staff/faculty/students;

**NEOMED**—Patient facing institution, so vaccinations for all.

**Shawnee State**—Planning as for this fall as if pandemic in full effect.

4. **Ohio Department of Higher Education**

Jim Bennett, Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Advisor

- On behalf of Chancellor, thank you to faculty—Acknowledging contribution of last 12 months and that we could pivot to online learning in a way that seemed seamless last March when data showed remote was needed.
- Second in nation for CARES Act discretionary money. Gov DeWine chose to use dollars for education. Needed for all that is needed in modifications due to COVID.
- Mental Health: Impromptu round-tables with students; volume of responses regarding mental health regarding COVID challenges and concerns about all online courses.
- \$13.5 million for additional mental health services to students
- Chancellor has stressed value of postsecondary credentials; discussed unemployment rate and lifetime earnings comparisons that have been exacerbated by economic downturns. Most attention to report on January 19, 2021 that quantified net economic impact

of attainment; 5% increase = \$500,000 net impact—increased tax revenue and decreased public assistance. Provided important information to members of General Assembly about benefits of investing in higher education.

- Future biennium—slight increase in SSI, OCOG
- Long budget process—won't be done until June 30<sup>th</sup>; additional opportunity and risk. Hopeful that we can promote benefits of higher ed and if revenues outperform estimates, even an increase above appropriation levels—will continue working hard at it.

### **Questions:**

- UC: argument that students don't like online may in part that they are getting used to the modality; some feedback shows students are navigating courses better and maximizing benefits of online learning.
- Governor doesn't say that everyone has to get a BA—could be credentials and other options Something beyond high school is appropriate and many different ideas as to what each needs.
- Guaranteed Tuition plan—2% increase per year proposed and adjustment as needed for cost of living as calculated by CPI (1.8% total or total of 3.8% for fall of 2021 for guarantee). This is continuation from current year and provides useful guarantee to parents and families. No explicit language about things like faculty workload.
- OCOG up \$500 over the next two years based on current projections of enrollment; \$200 next academic year and \$300 in second. 44% increase over first term of DeWine administration.
- Faculty needs re mental health as well. Request from one institution that requested some of the monies to go to faculty as well.
- Vaccines: If supply were not an issue, everyone would get it. Need to prioritize K-12 educators. Getting back to in-person learning is a key element based not just on getting children into class for more effective learning, but caregivers can then get back to work. Not to say that future phases won't include higher ed. It is a point of frustration.
- Board of Trustees: Selection process in particular and any role of faculty. Governor's appointments and selection office advise. ODHE not consulted on a regular basis; rarely may be asked for advice. Could benefit by slightly different process or others involved. Trustee 2019 was largest in history with new board member limitation materials. Virtual only in 2020 (Dec 17)—250 attended and was not as robust. Emphasis on fiduciary responsibility and ethical obligations to the institution and its long-term stability. Miami: Proposal through Senate on faculty being on Bd of Trustees. Formal lines of communication can facilitate cooperation that could offset later problems.

### **5.Board of Trustees issues**

- Wright State—Complete the table so that we can get information on status quo <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AUapD1y20zNu7IYDpTWKNcD7dLRN6Jkhhm027Pd1xO0/edit>
- What are meaningful ways to engage?
  - Boards include faculty: Akron resolution asking for faculty on board since there are two students. Various institutions have faculty “on the board” but questions what

roles and responsibilities are for these positions and if commensurate with appointed students.

- Onboarding: Who is involved in local onboarding of BoT members? Wright State helps with onboarding and there is a vacancy right now.
- Diversity: Discussed in terms of racial, ethnic, and gender diversity. Also, members are primarily from business, banking, lawyers, doctors; few from non-profit world. Wright State: their equity committee suggested a diverse candidate; form asks interesting questions.
- Faculty-generated appointee: California allows a faculty generated appointee; perhaps faculty could come up with three to five candidates in terms of specific choices. Since Presidents or current Boards do this, perhaps faculty could work with institution to include a candidate.
- Task Force: Examine selection in other states. Demographics and sectors where they come from. Legislators see this as a problem; recommend Ben on a task force, for example.
- Speakers: Miami U has had a “Leading Change” program; those who work with boards nationally came to speak. ACTA—conservative but mission is to ensure that skills and expertise are noted. John Altman would be happy to come to talk to us about how to get this changed.

5. **Legislative Update:**

HB 1—K/12 plan includes billions in new money

HB 6—extends authority for temporary nursing licenses

HB 32—suspends past due debt collection for higher ed

HB 43—extends remote meetings

HB 77—does same for Bd of Trustees

HB 82—eliminates school districts from requiring standardized tests

Anti-hazing legislation

State of Iowa—wants university employees to be polled for political party; tenure bill

<https://www.thegazette.com/subject/news/education/iowa-lawmaker-wants-public-university-employees-polled-about-political-affiliation-20210210>

Legislators: Ideas to invite some of the new legislators: Rick Carfagna—Assistant Majority Floor leader (priorities/agenda) as well as on the budget committee to look at education; Higher Ed Career Committee; Senator Serrano, freshman

6. **Campus examples of shared governance successes and challenges**

Wright State: Two reports recommendation from joint AAUP committee to mitigate retrenchment; report of Interim Provost that included more granular data with recommendation for retrenchment of 113 bargaining unit members; 49 from one college; 32% reduction of faculty in College of Liberal Arts; individual department and different needs under two different enrollment scenarios; devastating to departments. One joint may have raised hopes; report to President and Provost diminished hopes.

Strong retrenchment article, so most would have at least 12-18 months where they would still have employment. Everyone is trying to figure out mitigation options. Bowling Green: working to save ASL program; non-TT are qualified rank faculty—3 deadlines for when they can be terminated—1 eliminated who created the program. Program that has 400 students. Petition that has 29000 signature. Preparing to enter bargaining.

Central State: shortage of ASL speakers who are bilingual so they are trying to build a program.

OSU: hiring new administrators; senior vpresident for research, not senior executive Vice President for a larger research/innovation group—Grace Wang; Cleveland State Shawnee State: Finance leader left last summer; former VP of financial affairs reinstated but no search.

UC: New Provost search; Adjunct minimum wage tied to AAUP contract minimum salaries that would quate somewhat to what faculty are being paid.

OSU: New Provost search (have a New President).

7. Adjourn at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Ris, Secretary  
Ohio Faculty Senate

**Sources provided in chat for various purposes:**

Chancellor Gardner and others including from ODHE presenting to finance committee:  
<https://www.ohiochannel.org/video/ohio-house-finance-committee-2-11-2021> (Chancellor Gardner at 2hrs 20 min)

Other information from that meeting:

[https://ohiohouse.gov/committees/finance/meetings/cmte\\_h\\_finance\\_1\\_2021-02-11-0930\\_64](https://ohiohouse.gov/committees/finance/meetings/cmte_h_finance_1_2021-02-11-0930_64)

Regarding Ohio Boards and Commissions, including link to application for those:

<https://governor.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/governor/administration/boards-and-commissions/>