



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present: Bowling Green State University (Keith Bernhard [Vice Chair]); Shawnee State University (Chip Poirot); University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair]); University of Cincinnati (John Cuppoletti); University of Toledo (Harvey Wolff); and Youngstown State University (Ken Learman, and Nancy Wolfgang); Wright State University (Tom Sudkamp and Jackie Bergdahl); Kent State University (Don Hassler); Ohio State University (Susan Shockey); Ohio University (Hugh Bloemer) and Northeast Ohio University College of Medicine and Pharmacy (Claire Borguet)

Shockey, OSU;

Members Absent: Cleveland State University; Medical University of Ohio at Toledo; Miami University; and Central State University

Call to Order:

The monthly meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) was held on Friday, May 14, 2010 in the Ohio Board of Regents' office. Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

Rudy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes:

The committee postponed approval of last month's minutes pending thorough review by the members of the committee.

Old Business:

UPDATES

A. STRS: Rudy Fenwick is starting to receive monthly updates. Any pension legislation will not take place until the fall after the election. They want to phase in proposal over a longer time period and include a higher COLA. The other proposal is that STRS wants to extend the average to highest 5 years but want the ability to change it at will.

B. PENDING LEGISLATION

John Cuppoletti reported that regarding the textbook House Bill 472 they are trying to schedule a hearing in the house. The meeting is May 21st. Proponents want to have the opportunity to discuss this and then the opponents will have a chance to rebuttal.

There have been no updates on other legislation issues including state-wide collective bargaining for part-time faculty members or same gender partnership protections.

New Business:

According to bylaws we nominate and elect committee positions.

Opened nominations for vice chair. Briefly reviewed duties of vice chair position.

It was announced that John Cupoletti was elected the president of the AAUP for Ohio.

Susan Shockey inquired if there is anything that can be done to promote our position on changes in STRS with the Government Affairs Committee. Discussion was held regarding this matter.

Further discussion on STRS included the statement from Rudy Fenwick that he did not believe that some of the more drastic changes proposed by STRS would come to pass including the privatization of the system.

Rudy Fenwick offered congratulations to everyone who worked to assist in the passing of Issue 1 earlier this month. It is a victory for us all.

Jackie Bergdahl stated she would be willing to be secretary. John Cuppoletti subsequently nominated Jackie Bergdahl for the secretary position and Ken Learman seconded this motion. The motion was unanimously agreed upon and the committee elected her to be the secretary for the 2010-2011 academic year.

It was decided to wait on nominations for vice Chair position. There was discussion on the juxtaposition of the OFC's bylaws to hold elections in the spring of the year and several academic institutions policy to nominate OFC positions in the fall; making it difficult to know who will be each University's representative at the time of elections.

It was noted that the OFC website was not up to date as of 2 months ago and it was verified that the members list is currently not up to date. It was stated that it is the secretary's responsibility to get the website updated but it is accomplished by Mr. Richard Taylor, OBOR.

It was pointed out that the OFC should appoint a representative to the Ohio Faculty Senate. The committee decided it may be a good idea to have the Vice Chair of the OFC to be the representative and elect 1 – 2 alternates. It was decided to wait until the fall to elect the alternates.

John Bellsworth has suggested that since the AAUP State Conference is scheduled for 3-4-11 and he thought that it would be a good idea to combine this with the OFC meeting.

Chip Poirot brought up a discussion about the document he created in response to the committee's request to document potential issues regarding the upcoming changes to the state funding system. A discussion ensued and many points were brought up. In summary:

- 1) We will attempt to get an operational definition for the new formula that determines the at-risk student.
- 2) Perhaps invite Paula Compton, who oversees the TAG system, to come speak to the

committee regarding TAG system processes.

- 3) Each OFC member will attempt to procure the average GPA of all students for the past 10 years. We will also attempt to break them down by instructor status (tenured vs. no-tenured vs. part-time)
- 4) We will attempt to track data relevant to the concerns stated.
- 5) We will refrain from bringing this document to the Chancellor until the concerns can be validated with relevant data.

Campus Reports:

Youngstown State University (Ken Learman) –The new President will start on July 1. There may be other administration vacancies that will need to be filled this summer as well.

Wright State University (Tom Sudkamp)– Wright State’s Provost announced a restructuring of the administration of his office. The newly defined positions are

- Associate Provost for Undergraduate Curriculum and University College
- Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs
- Vice President for Multicultural Affairs and Community Engagement

The realignment does not increase the size of the administration. These were created to subsume the responsibilities of current administrations held by faculty members who are retiring.

The searches for four of the six Dean positions that opened this year continue. Deans have been named for the School of Graduate Studies and the College of Education and Human Services.

The AAUP-WSU and the administration have reached an agreement on the semester workload and the moratorium on the development of semester curricula has ended. The Faculty Senate has completed the approval of the general education program and policies on credit hour conversion. A completely online course approval process was developed for the semester conversion and we anticipate that approximately 2000 new courses should be submitted for approval prior to the end of this academic year.

Kent State University (Don Hassler) – There is a new Library Dean and Athletic Director. The Executive Dean for Regional Campuses has been eliminated. The Academic Senate has approved a new PhD program in nursing.

Northeast Ohio University College of Medicine and Pharmacy (Caire Borguet) – They have interviewed two Dean of Medicine candidates in the past week. There have been five staff layoffs but no faculty layoffs. The President has decided to include CSU in the consortium under early middle school to urban primary care tract. This change is contingent on funding formula and will increase admissions to 35.

University of Toledo (Harvey Wolff) – Main campus Provost resigned, head of the hospital resigned and the Dean of the Law school was not renewed. Two other Dean’s are interim. Hired a new Basketball coach. There is discussion of reorganization for potential drop in funding for

FY12. They are reviewing the strategic plan.

Bowling Green State University (Keith Bernhard) – Celebrating the 100th anniversary with distinguished alumni on campus. There are thirty-three retiring faculty of which, many have been given emeritus status. There is a new hockey coach and they are refurbishing the old arena to try to facilitate a comeback in that program. They are raising everyone's salary \$120 then charging that sum for parking. Rumored 2.5% raise split half across the board and half merit pay. Faculty submitted application for a collective bargaining election in the fall.

Shawnee State University (Chip Poirot) – Debating open enrollment admissions status to selective enrollment. Poirot solicited Faculty Senate Constitutions and was told they could be found on University websites.

Ohio State University (Susan Shockey) – Faculty Senate approved a proposal to consolidate five separate Colleges in the Art and Sciences to one college of Arts & Sciences. Several colleges are working on May term 2012 as the transition time from quarters to semesters. Grant for OSU extension is currently facing funding challenges. Several counties had funding on their ballots and they the issue was voted down in two?? Counties. This process benefits all universities by supporting the progression of students to be ready for college course work so we are all impacted by this issue.

University of Cincinnati (John Cuppoletti)– In the midst of contract negotiations. They have had their new president for several months and are now looking for a new Provost. This process looks promising with several qualified candidates to interview.

Ohio University (Hugh Bloemer) – Budget planning has begun for FY12 since the President has settled on a budget recommendation. AAUP salary data suggests that OU's position has slipped at each rank and the faculty are not happy with this finding. The Board has been asked to do a presentation of their salary plans at the June meeting. Administration and Board state their commitment to improving faculty salaries as a top priority. Intercollegiate spending continues to be a hot issue. Senate is considering three separate resolutions, one of which calls on President to engage the Chancellor, other MAC Presidents and football Bowl Subdivisions schools in Ohio to consider ways to scale back athletic spending. Nearing the end of the second year in a two year transition from quarters to semesters. It is apparent that a more central, top-down strategy for determining workload and curricular equivalency.

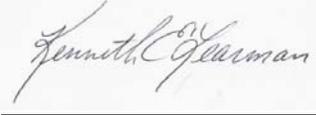
University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick) – the university is looking at the possibility of going self-insured for health care and is considering collaborating with the city of Akron to improve ability to purchase better benefits at reduced rates. The group discussed how all Universities, state-wide, could purchase benefits in this manner. The University is now working on negotiating the second and third years of the labor agreement.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting closed at 2:45 PM.

The next meeting of the OFC will be held on Friday, June 11, 2010 at 12:30 PM in the Ohio Board of Regents' office.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth C. Learman". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Ken Learman
Ohio Faculty Council

Department of Physical Therapy, Youngstown State University, One University Plaza,
Youngstown, OH 44555
Telephone/Voice: 330.941.7125; Facsimile: 330.941.1898; Email: klearman@ysu.edu