



## The Ohio Faculty Council

### Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick[Chair], University of Toledo (Nick Piazza), Wright State University (Dan Krane and Jacqueline Bergdahl [Secretary]), University of Cincinnati (John Cuppoletti), Kent State University (Ralph Lindeman), Ohio State University (Tim Gerber), Youngstown State University (Chet Cooper) and Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Ohio University (Ken Hicks), Belmont Technical College (Carter Kaplan), Shawnee State University (Chris Kacir and Chip Poirot), Cleveland State University (Brian Ray).

Members Absent: Ohio State University (Myroslava Mudrak), Ohio University (Ann Paulins), Youngstown State University (Ken Learman), Bowling Green State University, Lakeland Community College, Miami University, and Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine and Pharmacy.

Meeting called to order at 12:30 pm.

Chair – Chancellor to visit May 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. John Cuppoletti UC will be awarded exemplary service award. Motion to approve minutes from March meeting?

Minutes approved.

Chair – Letter - how many have taken letter to president?

UC – President got it yesterday. Faculty Senate decided not to give it to him because time had passed. He took position that he has no position on state bill 5.

CSU – President will still bargain in good faith. IUC is not representative of all opinions.

UC – Asked to give positive statements about faculty in two public forums.

Chair – Handed letter to president's secretary and got response letter which he shared. Pretty much what we figured we would get. He hates the idea we are a collective bargaining campus. He and BOT dismantled important committees several years ago. Using faculty senate against unions basically. Having shared governance isn't a guarantee that you will have rights. Senate does not challenge the president much any more.

SSU – Pretty good crossover between union and faculty senate.

Chair – Not much crossover at Akron.

CSU– Some discussion of incorporating contract provisions into faculty handbook. Role that IUC played behind the scenes against bargaining rights. Public workers should have the right to decide whether they want the right to bargain or not. It should not be stripped from those who have already elected it. President understands that.

Chair – most groups see collective bargaining as fundamental human right. Appears again in state budget - teaching an extra class every two years.

UC – You can't change an existing contract. SB5 – unions are gathering funds - \$200K to allow them to write petition and pay people to gather signatures. 3 things came up – budget for higher education, 3 year degrees and extra teaching. OSU provost agrees about these 3 areas and we need to get on board somehow.

Chair – when chancellor comes we'll have an idea about charter universities. Because it will affect our future.

UC – Their president is no longer so enthusiastic since it turns out still won't have much say about tuition.

SSU – What relief have they gotten that they are so happy about?

Chair – Streamline construction contracts at universities. There are specific items of revised code that IUC mentioned in letter. Something to do with prevailing wage.

SSU - ICU's page says we're happy with the deregulation we got. When he asked what they got – the answer was not clear. Something in budget and SB5. Little blurb about something having to do with multiple prime contractors which will save 5-25 million dollars.

CSU – Proposed regulatory relief in budget. Tuition limits and very specific things in budget about faculty.

SSU – Our faculty senate voted to send letter to president stating our objections to SB5 and fundamental unease with deregulation focus of IUC.

Chair – Freedom of Information Requests – handouts. What was done to give rise to this policy position? Faculty need to know. Does OFC want to support submission of Freedom of Information requests?

Discussion of whether or not OFC will support submission of Freedom of Information requests. Decided that individual schools will decide whether to join request or not.

Chair – I will invite Bruce Johnson to visit this group. The other question – would it be possible to find a media outlet that would take this request?

CSU – Us soliciting a media outlet seems more like trying to go to war. I'm not sure I want to do this. But I want IUC to know that we know and we are paying attention. The number of requests in our draft of a freedom of information act is a requirement of the type of document we created. Public record officers deal with these things all the time.

Chair – what is IUC? Kind of like us. It is clear that is not the case – it may be more like a lobbying group. That's what Chancellor Fingerhut called them.

CSU & UC – IUC is a trade group.

SSU – If public records request is made at this meeting – do you have a sense about how much time it would take to get an answer?

CSU – Law allows for a negotiation.

WSU – it could take years.

CSU – Yes

Chair will draft letter to invite Bruce Johnson to come visit this group in May. And circulate to group.

BTU – OFS might be useful to gather information by inviting Bruce Johnson as they have a different relationship with Chancellor and IUC.

Campus Reports

UT - Out of loop. Women's team won.

WSU – Resolution against SB5 endorsed by faculty senate, Science & Math Dean Search almost complete, building started on student housing at Lake campus, former dean of College of Liberal Arts is new president at Bowling Green, CFO search to start soon and college of nursing dean candidates list is being scrutinized

BTU – Continuing to hire new faculty. Parking lot is overflowing. Morale is decent. Plug for book.

OSU – Also out of loop. Trying to get back up to speed. Please with Provosts Aleuto's speech on Wednesday. He will send it to all of us. Hired new dean of engineering. New director of development. Just hired Ryan Cummings to VP for Technology Commercialization. Announced our commencement speaker is John Boehner.

KSU – 1. A new Faculty Senate Chair, Paul Farrell, has been elected for AY 2011-2012.

2. A major hotel and conference center is being planned for downtown Kent. Although funding is private, developers worked closely with the Kent State architects in planning for the center.

3. Kent State is suing former head basketball coach Geno Ford for breach of contract. Ford is moving to Bradley University at a sharply higher salary.

SSU – The Constitution did pass with overwhelming support and should go to the Board at the end of summer (it was too late for the May meeting). However, the President decided arbitrarily to eliminate the line item budget for the Faculty Senate, thus effectively removing control of the Faculty Senate over its own budget. This was done with no consultation or discussion with the Faculty Senate. I should add that the Faculty Senate had already accepted a 70% cut in its budget and the elimination of carry forwards. We also accepted having silly restrictions put on our budget such as being forbidden to have refreshments available for Senate meetings. In addition, I had taken steps to develop specific line items within the Faculty Senate budget for expenses the Faculty Senate has never paid for before (e.g. student assistant, my travel to the OFC meetings, copy expenses).

Needless to say, this is hardly a confidence builder as we move towards a new governance structure. It is curious that in spite of the multiple conversations I had with the President over the course of the last two years about governance and the role of Faculty Senate, the President neglected to even once discuss the Faculty Senate Budget.

In other budgeting news, a rather odd situation has arisen: There was an unanticipated negative variance in the overall instructional budget of between 1.2 and 2 million dollars. While it is true that we have a lot of overloads (because we are understaffed it is hard to see how a 14% change in overloads could lead to such a large budget variance.

CSU – Hiring Law Dean and close to education. Science still working on. Vice Provost of Academic Affairs internal appoint. Budget the big issue. Somewhat optimistic. Okay in terms of planning.

YSU – Middle of negotiations except fiscal matters. Academic senate meeting 1.5 hours about changes to general education. Bottom line – two courses being cut.

OU – Resolution passed in support of OFC SB resolution. Provost interested in RCM.

KSU and WSU doing it too. Greater differential cuts against academic colleges.

UC – President was initially interested in charter university. Faculty Chair created committee to investigate. Now president no longer interested. President interested in committee and findings, chancellor too. August 15<sup>th</sup> delivery date about entrepreneurial universities. UC is already way past – it may have been a good idea 10 years ago.

Chair - Akron faculty senate approved merger of some departments. In Arts and Sciences. Rest will merge with nursing and become a health college. New CFO. CBA

M I N U T E S  
OFC Meeting • April 8, 2011

will last through end of 2013. Raises negotiated will contract even with budget as of now.

Adjourned 2:35 pm.