

Ohio Faculty Council Meeting Minutes June 9, 2017

Dan Krane called the meeting to order at 12:39 p.m.

Those in attendance were Dan Krane (Wright State), Anthony Milburn (Central State), Ben Givens and Blaine Lilly (Ohio State University), and Amy Flick (Youngstown State University). Those participating via web conference were Beth Quitslund (Ohio University), Amy Lee and Fayeze Safadi, (NEOMED), Deborah and Ed Dauterich (Kent State University), Bill Rich and Leeann Shaeffer (University of Akron), Thomas Atwood and Amy Thompson (University of Toledo), Dave Border (Bowling Green State University)

APPROVE AGENDA: The agenda was approved as distributed.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE May 12, 2017 OFC MEETING (available at <https://www.ohiofacultycouncil.org/sites/ohiofacultycouncil.wright.edu/files/page/attachments/OFC-minutes-2017-May.pdf>) Minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ohio Faculty Congress Update

- Representatives and elected officials cannot invite us to hold retreat due to ethical issues. ODHE would be able to make a request, but they declined to do so. However, any member of the public can reserve the atrium of the state house for a nominal cost. July 31 and August 18 were dates available. Representatives Duffy and Perales are available on those dates as well. It was decided that we would do July 31, 2017. We will now reserve the atrium and move forward with sending invitations, sent from both Dan Krane and Darrell Minor of the Ohio Faculty Senate.

Possible topics for afternoon portion of the retreat: More state support for higher education, College Credit Plus, Best Practices for working with political bodies on issues relative to higher education

Letter Regarding Voluntary Institutional Support for the OFC

- Considering the fees that the OFC expends on expenses relative to legislative communication, the Technology and Commercialization Award, and informational documents, \$1000 a year would be ample. It was asked whether we should ask for a \$250 donation from each institution. We could use the letter used by the Ohio Faculty Senate with minor changes, emphasizing what the OFC does and what it aims to use the money for. It was suggested that we discuss this with the IUC given the work we do with that organization. Dan will send a letter requesting contributions, prorating the asked amount to align with school's budget.

Technology Commercialization Award (<http://ohiofacultycouncil.org/technology-commercialization-award>)

- Please seek more nominations for this award, as there is only one nomination thus far.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Update: HB 49 and HB 66

(<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA132-HB-66>)

- We should not be expecting an increase in SSI. There is some push for a decrease and some push for an increase, which might balance each other out.
- In this budget, Johnson is confident tuition caps will be removed from state institutions. This would lead to a potential 6% raise in tuition for 2018 students plus cost of living increase (2%), with a guarantee of no increase to students over the four years that they attend; however, incoming students might experience a raise in tuition.
- The language regarding textbooks has been omitted
- There is a technology innovation piece that will be added as a possible part of tenure consideration.
- Rep. Perales is asking questions on the behalf of the OFC relative to HB 66
- HB 66 might not move out of committee, given limitations of the bill (ex. all faculty would have to teach undergraduate courses, even NEOMED which has no undergraduate courses)
 - Ben Givens noted a potential substitute HB 66, which he will send to the OFC listserv for review

Opportunity to be Involved with Statewide Curriculum Development

- Barnes and Nobel are developing 10 gateway courses that could be used statewide for a state fee of 2.5 million dollars. Faculty could still use the texts that they choose. They have asked Dan for the OFC to be involved in the curriculum development. Concerns raised include: corporate curriculum capture and that this may be a gateway for state required use of these material. However, this would also allow the OFC influence over the curriculum, and it could generate money for the organization. This matter will be left under consideration.

OFC Meeting Dates for the 2017-18 Academic Year

(<http://ohiofacultycouncil.org/meetings>)

June 9, 2017

August, 11

September 8

October 13

November 13 (Monday due to Veterans Day)

December 8

January 12
February 9
March 9
April 13
May 11

CAMPUS REPORTS

(1 to 3 minute oral reports limited to updates on senior administrative openings, major initiatives and/or matters of general interest to faculty such as contract negotiations)

Central State

Hiring because of increased size of incoming class. Faculty in negotiations.

Ohio State

There is a new Vice President for HR

Youngstown State University

Faculty negotiations are ongoing. HLC will be visiting in 2018. Candidates for the Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer position are in progress.

Wright State

There will be a sizable budget cut for the next year. Faculty, staff, and administrative positions will not be filled. There will also be involuntary separations to be made next week. A new president starts in July. There appears to be an increase in the athletics budget because the budget for athletics historically has been incorrect. There has been

Kent State

On May 31, Faculty Senate Chair, Deborah Smith, gave the first ever Report from the Faculty Senate Chair to the Board of Trustees. Kent State currently has no faculty representation on the Board of Trustees. We hope that the Faculty Senate Chair Report will become a standing agenda item.

The University will offer an early separation plan to eligible full-time faculty. The offer includes the equivalent of a year's salary (capped at 85K for tenured faculty and 45K for full-time non-tenure eligible faculty). A similar offer was made to non-faculty this past year. The savings from the early separations will be put toward increasing the number of tenured and tenure track faculty.

Ohio University

There are budget issues, but there have been no discussions regarding the specifics in the reduction in force.

Bowling Green State University

BGSU is working on development of a new Academic Calendar. The intent is to expand the Spring Semester to include a three week winter academic session. Additionally, the Fall term and the Spring terms are being shortened by one week. Much of the work yet to be done will involve talks between the administration and the union (BGSU- Faculty Association)

University of Akron

Things have been relatively quiet lately at UA. We're still undergoing budget cuts to dig our way out of our poor fiscal condition. A buyout plan was considered but rejected on the grounds that it wouldn't necessarily save much more money than it would cost. The University did adopt a program to encourage retirements by allowing faculty to make the transition gradually rather than abruptly, continuing to do the parts of their jobs that they want to continue doing and that the University needs them to continue doing, at reduced salaries. So far, not many faculty members have opted to participate in it, but the University plans to continue the program beyond this year

MEETING ADJOURNED at 2:26 PM