



## **The Ohio Faculty Council**

### **Members Present:**

Dan Krane (Wright State), Chet Cooper (Youngstown State), Amy Lee (NEOMED), Ed Dauterich (Kent State), Wendy Berry-West (Central State), Vicki Gallagher (Cleveland State), John McNay and Cynthia Ris (University of Cincinnati), Beth Quitslund (Ohio University), Kyle Vick (Shawnee State), Ben Givens (Ohio State University), and Frederick Polkinghorne (Bowling Green State University).

Those participating via web conference:

Lori Liggett (Bowling Green State University), Travis Doom (Wright State), Amy Flick (Youngstown State University), Michael Kalafatis (Cleveland State), Deborah Smith (Kent State University), Bill Rich and Leeann Shaeffer (University of Akron), Thomas Atwood and Amy Thompson (University of Toledo).

### **Members Absent:**

Miami University

Chair Dan Krane called the meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) to order at 12:32 PM on October 13, 2017. The meeting was held in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor conference room of the Ohio Board of Regents building (25 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio).

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The meeting's agenda was approved by unanimous consent of the members present.

### **APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of the September meeting of the OFC were approved by unanimous consent of the members.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

The following new members were introduced: Cynthia Ris and John McNay (University of Cincinnati); Vicki Gallagher (Cleveland State). Dan Krane also introduced the new Chair of the Ohio Faculty Senate, Terry Filiko (Clark State).

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Technology Commercialization Award 2016-17 Winner (Dan Krane)**

- Dan Krane announced the winner of the award, John Heikenfeld (University of Cincinnati) and the runner-up, Amit Seth (Wright State University). A joint press release from the OFC and the two universities has gone out.
- The award will be presented to Dr. Heikenfeld at the November 13 OFC meeting by Chancellor John Carey. Dr. Seth will also be invited for recognition.
- The website has been updated with information regarding eligibility and deadlines for the 2018 competition.

#### **Mission Statement for the OFC (Beth Quitslund)**

- The draft discussed at the September OFC meeting was updated based on member feedback to include a specific statement of support for academic freedom.
- The Mission Statement was approved by a unanimous voice vote of members present.

#### **Textbook Affordability Initiatives (Dan Krane)**

The Resolution was amended based on discussion with representatives from the University of Cincinnati prior to the meeting. A parallel version was passed by the Wright State Faculty Senate on October 9.

- Discussion included the desirability of passing a resolution quickly, given that conversation with lawmakers around the biennial budget bill had emphasized that institutions and their faculty would be able to contain textbook costs without legislative interference. Dan Krane indicated that Rep. Mike Duffey felt that the costs for incentivizing open-source materials would be feasible.
- Ben Givens suggested an amendment to the final Resolved to refer to “particularly high-enrollment courses” to match the final Whereas.
- The Resolution was adopted, with all amendments, unanimously by a voice vote of those present.

#### **Bylaw Amendment that Would Allow Electronic Voting (Bill Rich)**

Dan indicated that there may be further need for amendments to by-laws. This one is intended to allow for resolutions to be adopted between meetings via electronic communication.

- Discussion included the reasons for such an addition to the bylaws, which is urgent business that may come up between meetings (including during summer). There were also comments that resolutions should go to the chair rather than be initially sent to all members.
- Most discussion was about whether the process would allow for individual members to prevent votes via this process and whether subsidiary resolutions, especially motions to delay, would be permitted and require an extra week (thus effectively preventing hurried action). Bill Rich argued that the bylaws probably could not address all contingencies, and there was general agreement that it would work for occasions on which there was widespread agreement.
- Additional discussion concerned whether a form of secret ballot could be accommodated. The bylaw change as written does not allow that possibility.
- The Bylaw Amendment was adopted by voice vote by those present with two members opposed.

#### **Bylaw Amendment that Would Allow Seats to be Declared Vacant (Bill Rich)**

This amendment was proposed during the meeting via the OFC-list in order to accommodate the vacant seat provision in the previous amendment. It also might permit for more effective quorum counting.

- Discussion clarified that the amendment concerns particular seats (*ex officio* or elected members) rather than institutional representation.
- Bill noted that the language is permissive rather than obligatory.
- The Bylaw Amendment was approved by a unanimous voice vote of those present.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **132nd General Assembly Proclamation Regarding the Faculty Congress of Ohio**

The framed proclamation was passed around. When the webpage for the FCO is created, it will feature this proclamation as well as the Mission Statement.

**HB 337 (State Sales Tax Exemption for Textbook Sales; Dan Krane)**

This bill is sponsored by Rep. Mike Duffey, who indicated that a “groundswell” of support would be helpful. Members are requested to bring the bill and model resolution from Wright State to their Faculty Senates, Student Senates, and Boards of Trustees for resolutions or statements of support. If possible, the OFC and OFS, acting as the FCO, will jointly pass a resolution that references these statements at our February meeting.

**HB 66 Interested Party Testimony (Dan Krane)**

Interested party testimony is likely to occur on October 25.

- Steve Mockabee of the AAUP offered Opponent testimony on October 11.
- The draft testimony circulated received verbal approval from members present, though there was no vote to officially designate it as the OFC position.
- Any changes are welcome until the weekend before the testimony. Dan indicated that others are welcome to testify as well.
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**Position Paper Regarding Tenure (Beth Quitslund and Marc Scott)**

- The “Tenure Facts” document was initially circulated on the list and changes suggested by various members were incorporated.
- It was approved as an OFC position paper by a unanimous voice vote of those present.

**HB 363 (“Campus Free Speech” bill)—Dan Krane/Bill Rich**

Members expressed disapproval of the key points in the bill. There is some question of the bill’s chances in the Senate. Discussion will be continued on November 13.

**CAMPUS REPORTS (submitted electronically)**

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.