



The Ohio Faculty Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held June 13, 2008

Present: Ahuja, King (YSU); Wolff (UT); Billman, McKee (OSU); Cuppoletti (UC); Sudkamp (WSU); Wright (OU); Bernhard (BGSU); Ray, Gelman (CSU); Fenwick (UA)

OFC was called to order at 12:20pm.

Minutes of the May 9 meeting were unanimously passed with changes.

New Business

There was a discussion of the letter from OFC to Chancellor Fingerhut and the points that should be included. (See final letter attached.)

Campus Reports

(WSU)

The faculty senate enacted a resolution requiring faculty input into program name changes.

Negotiations on a new contract with faculty (AAUP) were ongoing; and negotiations seemed to be going ok.

The administration was developing a strategic plan with mission and goals.

(OU)

The administration was considering changing from quarter to semesters. The plan was to take the proposal to the Board of Trustees in the fall. The earliest the change could be made was 2011.

A resolution seeking collective bargaining between faculty and the administration had been introduced into the faculty senate for first reading. The resolution was triggered by the concern that the university administration had not continued their commitment to maintaining unspent money in a health insurance reserve.

Dr. Wright announced that this would be his last OFC meeting because of retirement.

(CSU)

The Taskforce for Engagement and Excellence was continuing to meet, although it was not clear what it was doing.

There were 3 open positions on the CSU BOT.

A new BOT member had proposed a policy of having a retired CSU faculty member being awarded an honorary degree each year at graduation ceremonies.

Sheldon Gelman announced that this would be his last OFC meeting.

(YSU)

The computing operating system “Banner” was “going live” at YSU over the summer, although there had been some glitches.

YSU’s 100th anniversary was coming up.

The Dean of the Health and Human Services College was retiring.

The Provost was appointing a committee to respond to the Chancellor’s Master Plan for the University System of Ohio. The committee would include members from the faculty senate, union, etc.

The plan for developing a community college was continuing.

Dr. Ahuja announced that this would be his last OFC meeting. Chair Cuppoletti thanked Dr. Ahuja for serving as vice chair of OFC.

(UT)

Faculty (AAUP)-administration labor contract negotiations have been ongoing for a year and a half. Fact finding was being scheduled for the end of August if negotiations had not concluded.

The Arts and Sciences College had voted “no confidence” in its dean. An outside revue of the A&S Dean was to begin in the fall.

A staff member in Human Resources had been fired for writing an anti-domestic partners letter to the Toledo *Blade*. There was a threat of a lawsuit against UT.

(UA)

There were legal issues surrounding UA’s use of eminent domain to acquire land to build an on-campus football stadium. Some landowners were seeking greater value for their property than was offered and had taken the university to court.

(OSU)

President Gee stated support for moving to semesters, but there was no specific plan to do so.

A Dean of Education was to be appointed July 1.

President Gee had stated support for requiring all non-Columbus freshmen to live in OSU dorms. He also expressed support for streamlining the OSU bureaucracy.

The five colleges of A&S were combining into 3. Biological Sciences had merged with the Math and Physical Science College.

(UC)

UC was probably going to semesters. The faculty senate was concerned about the costs of this change.

There was a serious free speech issue at UC. An emeritus professor of Architecture and Planning had objected to changes in the curriculum. In response, according to an article in the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, the BOT had revoked emeritus status and banned the person from campus.

(BGSU)

The university's president was leaving. Former KSU president Carol Cartwright will be appointed as interim President. A nine person search committee, including four faculty, was being formed to look for a new president.

There was a concerned faculty meeting with administrative, staff and contract professionals also in attendance. The concerns were over the University System of Ohio, centers of excellence, top-down strategic planning, etc.

An AAUP organizational effort may be under way.

Dr. Muego received an informal reprimand by the dean resulting from a trip to Vietnam.

OFC passed a resolution thanking Wright, Gelman and Ahuja for there service.

OFC adjourned at 2pm.

Next meeting: Friday, August 8, 2008.

M I N U T E S
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Respectfully submitted,

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