



## The Ohio Faculty Council

### Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair] and Peg DiMario), Wright State University (Carol Loranger), Miami University (Steve DeLue), Northeast Ohio Medical University (Fred Eruo), Youngstown State University (Chet Cooper [Vice Chair] and Ken Learnman), Ohio State University (Jim Rathman), and Ohio University (Nicholas Kiersey).

### Members Absent:

Central State University, Lakeland Community College, Shawnee State University, Kent State University, University of Cincinnati, and Bowling Green State University, University of Toledo, Belmont Technical College, and Cleveland State University

### Special Guests:

John Conley (Chief of P-20 Educational Technology, Ohio Board of Regents) and John Magill (Executive Director, OhioLink)

Rudy Fenwick called the meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM on November 18, 2011. The meeting was held in Room 1845 of the Rhodes Building due to conflict with a meeting already being held in our usual room in the Ohio Board of Regents (36<sup>th</sup> Floor). In the absence of Secretary Dan Krane, Chet Cooper was appointed to record the minutes to the current meeting.

Ken Learnman moved that the meeting's agenda be approved. Steve DeLue seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

With minor corrections [the addition of "Bowling" to "Green State University" among 'Members Absent' and the correct of "Sheldon Gavin" to "Sheldon Gelman" on pages 1 and 2 of the draft minutes], the October 14, 2011 minutes were approved by consent of the members present.

Introductions were made among the members of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) in attendance.

### **New Business**

#### OhioLink

Rudy introduced our guests, Mr. Conley and Mr. Magill. These gentlemen reported that in early September a new consortium, including OhioLink, was formed through a reorganization of five different consortia. The new consortium is called OhioTech (OTech). The first advisory board meeting of this group met last week. The advisory

board consists of nine individuals representing libraries from the university, public, private, and community college sectors.

Mr. Conley made it clear that Chancellor Petro believes in the importance of OhioLink and wants to keep the content intact. The voices of many people across Ohio were heard in regard to OhioLink. It was clarified that the problem previously reported had originated from a funding short fall, not a cut. In fact, the short fall was less than had been reported and now stands at \$4.5 M.

For 2012, there will no cuts to OhioLink. Mr. Conley noted that the reorganization had pooled resources, including expertise, which helped resolve part of the current funding problems with OhioLink. However, the OFC may be asked for help in the future. Moreover, a capital bill is now being put together. If successful, this bill will fund OhioLink through 2013.

Rudy and Chet agreed to draft a Resolution of Support for OhioLink for consideration by the OFC at its next meeting.

#### Issue 2/S.B. 5

Rudy noted that Issue 2 (formerly Senate Bill 5) is now dead, thanks to the passage of the recent referendum. However, there appear to be some attempts to now eliminate “fair share” contributions to unions. Rudy also suspects that the “Yeshiva” language may make yet another appearance in future legislation.

### **Campus Reports**

#### Miami

- Ground has been broken for a new student center.
- The General Education program is being revised for the first time in 20 years.
- A “Writing Across the Curriculum” program is being developed in the College of Arts and Sciences
- There is a current Dean search in the College of Arts and Sciences
- The new Provost has begun his job

#### Ohio University

- The quarter-to-semester conversion is ongoing with new concerns regarding teaching loads
- The issue of “performance based budgeting” is causing concern
- There are multiple searches for Deans in various colleges

#### University of Akron

- The Provost announced that 200 faculty would be hired over the next 10 years
- Enrollment is up
- There is a Dean search in the College of Health Professions ongoing
- For the past 10 years, there has been an unnoticed, and as yet unexplained, \$26 M deficit due to a prior early retirement program. The plan is to recoup these funds over the next five years.
- A new Vice President of Marketing and a new Vice President of Communications were hired to replace a single person who performed both jobs previously
- The secretarial staff is exploring unionization

## M I N U T E S

OFC Meeting • November 18, 2011

### Wright State University

- Multiple Dean searches are underway as well as search for a Vice President
- The location of a new classroom is being discussed
- A new retention/success plan by the Provost is being reviewed

### Northeast Ohio Medical University

- A search for a Dean of Pharmacy is being considered
- An agreement has been reached with Cleveland State University to accept 5 students per year into the medical program in exchange for greater access to the hospital community in the Cleveland area

### Ohio State University

- Quarter-to-semester planning continues with significant consideration regarding student advising during this period of change
- Discussions continue regarding the leasing of parking facilities
- A committee has been formed to address the concerns of faculty from regional campuses

### Youngstown State University

- There is a search for a Vice President of IT ongoing, but the search for a Dean of Education has stalled
- There is now a hiring and travel freeze in place
- There is an open position for an Associate Provost
- Labor strife continues

The next meeting of the OFC will be on Friday, December 9, 2011 at 12:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.