



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair] and Bill Rich), Wright State University (Dan Krane [Vice Chair]), Youngstown State University (Chet Cooper [Secretary] and Ken Learman), Bowling Green State University (**NEED REP NAME - DID NOT SIGN IN**), Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Kent State University (Mack Hassler), Northeast Ohio Medical University (Frederick Eruo), University of Cincinnati (Adrienne Lane), and University of Toledo (Nick Piazza)

Members Absent:

Cleveland State University, Miami University Ohio State University, Ohio University, Shawnee State University, and Ohio Faculty Senate Liaison

Guests:

Steve Angle, Senior Vice President at Wright State University and Complete College Ohio Task Force member

Tony Landis, Director, College & Career Transitions □ Ohio Board of Regents

Call to Order

Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) to order at 12:30 PM on December 14, 2012. The OFC met in the large conference room in the Ohio Board of Regents, 36th floor of the Rhodes Office Tower (30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio).

Announcements

Rudy announced that there will likely be no meeting of the OFC next month (January) and when we do convene in February, it will be at a different location given that the Ohio Board of Regents is moving.

Agenda

The meeting's agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes

The minutes of the November 9, 2012 meeting of the OFC were approved by unanimous consent of the members present.

Old Business

None

New Business

Complete College Ohio. Steve Angle and Tony Landis were introduced to the OFC. A discussion regarding the recently released report (<https://ohiohighered.org/completion>) from Complete College Ohio Task Force ensued.

Mr. Angle noted that the report provides a “menu of options”, several of which should be of considerable concern for faculty. While faculty should read the entire report, the following three recommendations are critical for faculty to provide input (these excerpts are taken directly from the report):

RECOMMENDATION 1: Require institution-specific Campus Completion Plans.

Require each college, university and adult career technical center in the University System of Ohio to develop an institution-specific Campus Completion Plan that is consistent with the institution’s mission and strategic priorities. Each plan will include specific, measurable completion goals; a mix of strategies and tactics, including – as appropriate – strategies and tactics offered in this report; a communications strategy; and metrics for success, including both campus-specific metrics and common metrics shared by all USO institutions.

RECOMMENDATION 3: Adopt a consistent, comprehensive statewide definition of “college completion” and uniform statewide credit hour requirements for common college credentials.

Adopt a consistent, comprehensive definition of “college completion” that includes bachelor’s degrees, associate degrees, workforce certificates and other industry-recognized credentials. Ohio also should consider adopting consistent statewide definitions of postsecondary education workforce certificates and establishing a consistent statewide number of credit hours required for an associate degree (60 hours) and a baccalaureate degree (120 hours), unless accreditation requirements mandate additional hours.

RECOMMENDATION 10: Increase opportunities for adults to earn college credits for meaningful knowledge and skills documented through Prior Learning Assessments.

Assist more adults returning to school with earning postsecondary education credentials by maximizing opportunities for these individuals to earn college credit for meaningful college-level knowledge, skills and experiences they can demonstrate through Prior Learning Assessments.

The discussion that followed between OFC members and Mr. Landis and Mr. Angle clearly indicated that each faculty/academic senate of member institutions need to be at the table. Moreover, since “faculty own the curriculum”, it is essential that faculty become involved in Recommendation 3 or the legislature may act in their place. Such activities by faculty need to involve the particular institution’s provost. It was suggested that the OFC contact Stephanie Davidson, OBOR Vice Chancellor, regarding its possible involvement in this process. In addition, Recommendation 10 has potential consequences since it begs the questions not only how will be prior learning assessment be accomplished, but who will guarantee its quality. This recommendation has broader issues than those regarding adult learners or veterans. Conceivably pressure will come bear from persons taking placement tests or online courses beyond the traditional university setting.

The discussion ended with Dan Krane and Rudy agreeing to pursue these issues and report back to the OFC membership at their earliest convenience.

Undergraduates as Instructors. An issue regarding the use of undergraduates as classroom instructors was raised as a topic of discussion at today’s meeting by a Ohio State University OFC representative. However, that institution could not attend today. However, among those present, only Wright State University noted that undergraduates were used as classroom instructors. However, these students are limited to teaching first year courses. This topic may be pursued at the next OFC meeting.

Campus Reports

Northeast Ohio Medical University

Efforts are underway to understand how students can perform better.

Youngstown State University

- A “paperless committee” of the Academic Senate is nearing completion of a means to transact business electronically.
- The Academic Senate voted to revise its Charter and By Laws.
- The Dean of Graduate Studies has announced his retirement.
- Recently, there has been some minor controversy regarding the awarding of health-care benefits for part-time faculty in accord with “Obamacare”.

Bowling Green State University

- Morale is declining in the absence of a new faculty contract. The sticking points are benefits and salary.
- Faculty are becoming engaged in standardizing student expectations.
- Discussions are being held regarding the use of undergraduates as learning facilitators in large lecture courses.

Central State University

- The pre-visit of the Higher Learning Commission was generally positive.

University of Cincinnati (modified from email from Adrienne Lane)

- There is concern regarding the impact of the costs of sports upon funding for academics and faculty pay. The University has lost its third coach in recent years and is changing conferences at great costs.
- The provost committee on teaching excellence is examining how to reward teaching in a manner similar to research excellence.
- 2013 is a faculty contract negotiation year.
- An academic integrity task force was formed to focus on educational integrity. It will be managed out of provost office as opposed to adjudication by judicial affairs.
- Distance learning discussions are being held regarding right sizing/operationalization across colleges.

University of Toledo (as received from Nick Piazza)

- The new provost at UT is proposing to create about 6 new colleges. He is proposing to create a
 1. University College for under prepared students
 2. UT-X-Net to include DL, web assisted, and UT's answer to MOOCs
 3. College of communication
 4. Break up the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service into three new colleges. A college of Education, a college of allied Health, and a college of human service. Details will be worked out over the Winter and implementation will begin around April, with full implementation July 1.
- University Council
 1. BOT wanted to suspend all faculty and university governance bodies and replace them with a University Council. Didn't do this when they realized that there would be no way to do any work.
 2. UC starts meeting in January. Should have constitution and by-laws in place and be fully functional by July 1.
 3. All faculty governance bodies will have to revise their constitutions to reflect how they relate to the UC which will be the sole voice to the BOT other than the President.
- Budget: UT is anticipating a \$36 million shortfall over the next two years. Plan is to take about \$12 million out of administration and \$24 million out of academics. There are no details as yet where this money will come from.
- Hiring
 1. Administration looking to provide a career path for Lecturers. Proposal is to allow Lecturers to be promoted to Assistant and Associate Professor,

however, they will not be on a tenure track. They will be given 3-5 year renewable contracts.

2. Faculty are concerned that retiring tenure track faculty will be replaced with non-tenure track, lower paid Lecturers.

Wright State University (as received from Dan Krane)

- The search for a dean of our college of Liberal Arts is almost complete. The plan is to announce the new dean in January. It appears as if at least two or three of the finalists are good fits and that the search will succeed (unlike a first attempt last spring).
- A search for a new provost is also underway. The expectation is that a new provost will be introduced in late March or early April.
- In January the University's Faculty Senate will be debating: a missed class policy; the definitions of things like "certificates," "programs," and "concentrations"; a smoke-free policy for the campus; and the integration and effectiveness of the University's information technology.

Kent State University (as received from Mack Hassler)

- Administrative hires: we have two interim deanships that need to be filled with permanent deans, one in Arts and Sciences and one in our Honors College. Searches for both will be done in the next twelve months. We just completed a successful search for a new permanent Dean in Business.
- Even faculty hires are moving forward now: for example , we have three TT hires authorized for search in my department.
- Our new Provost has in progress a year-long creation of strategic planning for academic affairs. He has been on campus since last spring and is well-liked.
- There was a lot of excitement and progress all fall about the new downtown development in Kent and about the new health of our football team.

University of Akron

- An advisory trustee, not appointed by the governor, will soon be added to the Board of Trustees.
- Four Dean positions are open; two searches are in progress with the other two to begin later.
- There is a discussion to make Summit College a branch campus of the University.
- There is a heavy reliance on part-time faculty as more full-time faculty retire.
- The University Council is now in place.
- The faculty union has asked for a re-opening of salary discussions.
- General education reform discussions continue.
- Reorganization of various colleges and programs are being considered.

M I N U T E S
OFC Meeting • December 14, 2012

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council is anticipated to be on Friday, February 8, 2013 at 12:30 PM. A notification of the meeting location will be sent prior to that date.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chet Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

Chet Cooper, OFC Secretary