



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair]), Wright State University (Dan Krane [Secretary]), Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Ohio State University (Myroslava Mudrak and Jim Rathman), Bowling Green State University (Mark A. Earley), and Youngstown State University (Nancy Wolfgang).

Members Absent:

University of Cincinnati, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Cleveland State University, Kent State University, Ohio University, Shawnee State University, Bowling Green State University, University of Toledo, and Miami University.

Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM on May 11, 2012.

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

The minutes of the April 13, 2012 meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council were amended approved by unanimous consent of the members present.

New Business

There is an interest in inviting Vice Chancellor Dave Cannon to the June meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council.

Nominations were opened for the positions of vice chair and secretary of the Ohio Faculty Council. Dan Krane (Wright State University) was nominated to be vice chair and Chet Cooper (Youngstown State University) was nominated to be secretary. Elections will be held at the June Ohio Faculty Council meeting.

A discussion was held regarding the faculty governance structures at the different institutions represented at the Ohio Faculty Council.

The University of Toledo has a new university council that was established by action from the university's administration.

The University of Akron also has a new university council that has been in place for five months. This council is expected to make recommendations regarding planning, facilities and parking (but not pertaining to academic matters) – matters that impact all the groups (students, faculty, administration and staff) represented on the council. Discussions that led to the creation of the council began in 2005. All groups get equal representation on the council. The council may have oversight over the university's budget but that has not yet been tested. The council reports directly to the university's provost.

Bowling Green State University has student representation on both undergraduate and graduate councils where curricular matters are discussed.

Ohio State University has a university senate that is comprised of 137 individuals of which approximately 70 are faculty, 26 are administrators and the remainder are students. When the 70 faculty members caucus separately they constitute a faculty council. A staff advisory council is active is separate from the university senate. Students do have input on curricular matters and their perspective has often proven to be valuable – their participation also enhances their sense of being a part of the university community.

Wright State University has a faculty senate that is comprised of approximately 40 full time faculty with proportional representation from each of its colleges. The faculty senate makes recommendations to the university's provost and board of trustees on matters from undergraduate and graduate curriculum and degree programs to information technology and building and grounds. Conversations are underway regarding the creation of a university council that would have representatives from faculty, staff, students, administration and possibly alumni.

Cleveland State University has non-voting student representatives on their Board of Trustees.

It was also observed that no one was aware of any standard definitions either within or between universities regarding what constitutes a certificate program, a minor, a concentration or a track though it was noted that certificates tend to be interdisciplinary programs.

Campus Reports

Bowling Green State University

- The university has been talking about revising its general education curriculum. A single faculty member has been championing this issue recently and progress has been made by considering pieces of the curriculum rather than its whole.
- The university's new president has had a good first year in terms of faculty engagement.
- The university is working on a June 1 deadline for its first contract now that its faculty are represented by AAUP.

Ohio State University

- The big issue on campus has been the potential privatization of the university's parking. Bids are due on May 31. There are very strong opinions on the matter and faculty are concerned that their concerns about the privatization of the university are not being heard.
- Representation of clinical track faculty in faculty governance is becoming an issue for faculty as a whole. Discussions are underway regarding how to balance patient care and higher education needs.

Wright State University

- The has hired a new dean for its business school. A decision will be made soon regarding the new dean for the university's medical school and a new vice president for diversity.
- Rudy Fichtenbaum, a faculty member in the university's business school has been elected the national president of AAUP.
- Open forums have been held regarding the university's new budget model which has been branded "mission driven allocation." The new model will run in parallel to the university's current budget model (a traditional base budget model) in the next fiscal year.

Central State University

- Local attorney, Cynthia Jackson Hamilton has been appointed president of the university.
- A search is underway for a new provost.
- After working for more than a year without a contract, faculty and administration have agreed to terms for a new contract.

Youngstown State University

- A revision of the charter and bylaws from the university's academic senate is underway.
- Discussions about the need to require undergraduate science students to take foreign language classes is still on-going.
- The Starfish program is being used to assist with tracking and monitoring the progress of at-risk students.
- Searches are underway for a vice president of development and an associate provost.

University of Akron

- The university will be undergoing the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation process next spring.
- Discussions are underway with Pearson's eLearning about managing some of the university's on-line courses. Concerns have been raised about who would own the substantive material in these courses.

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, June 8, 2012 at 12:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.