



## The Ohio Faculty Council

### Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair] and Bill Rich), Wright State University (Dan Krane [Vice Chair]), Ohio University (Nicholas Kiersey), Bowling Green State University (Mark Earley), University of Cincinnati (Adrienne Lane), Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Kent State University (John Marino), Youngstown State University (Ken Learman), Shawnee State University (Andrew Feight and Michael Barnhart).

### Members Absent:

Miami University, University of Toledo, Central State University, Cleveland State University, NEOMED, Ohio State University, and Cleveland State University (Joanne Goodell did join us remotely)

Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM on April 12, 2013.

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

The minutes of the March 8, 2013 meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council were approved with minor correction to the attendance list by unanimous consent of the members present.

### Old Business

Workload resolution -- impacted by modification to HB 59 with workload language being extracted by the House of Representatives this week. There remains a small risk that the Senate could reinstate the language during their deliberations or the language could reappear as a separate bill.

UC passed a resolution along the lines of the one that the OFC drafted at its March meeting at their Senate meeting on April 12.

WSU's faculty senate passed a similar resolution on March 11.

Members of the OFC are interested in having a resolution from the OFC on the general principle of shared governance on matters pertaining to workload.

Akron U currently has a vice provost reviewing each individual faculty member's workload which is raising questions about the procedural process since there is no equity between departments or colleges. The Akron U administration has stated that "faculty are not teaching to capacity" but no one has defined "capacity." Board of Trustee rules at

Akron U give faculty the right to establish all workloads and administrators should have no say in that matter. The AAUP chapter at Akron U has filed a grievance and will be taking the administration to court to press the issue. There was discussion about the possible motivating factors including the need to have AU professors teach more undergraduate classes thereby reducing the need for adjunct faculty which may ameliorate the impact of the Affordable Care Act.

Shawnee State reports that it has recently been announced that no adjunct can teach more than eight credit hours per semester because of implication of the Affordable Care Act. The OFC resolution regarding the need to engage faculty in any discussions about changes to workloads was amended and unanimously supported.

There was discussion about the status of the current resolution this committee has been working on in light of the change in proposed legislation. After discussion about workload policy changes currently underway on several campuses, it was decided that we should remove specific reference to HB59 and proceed with the general idea of current trends in workload and write a resolution of support for those campuses. There was discussion on whether or not we wanted the resolution to be specific to the University of Toledo's situation. It was finally decided that two resolutions would be best with a general resolution concerning WL policy and faculty input with a second resolution in support of UT at this time. It was decided that these two new resolutions would be created in draft form and circulated for comment via email. The first resolution was completed during the meeting and would be routed.

### **New Business**

CSU's vote of no confidence in its administration was discussed. For this discussion, Joanne Goodell joined us remotely to lead the discussion and answer any questions. The main complaint is stemming from the process surrounding the curricular change making all classes 3 credits. The faculty felt that process was occurring too quickly without adequate time and discussion to ensure that changes did not harm students in preparation for meeting all requirements from graduation. The faculty believes that more time to consider the changes is necessary and that administration was attempting to circumvent the university's shared governance structure. The administration did not believe they needed faculty input on these changes. In addition, when the new strategic plan was developed, there was no meeting directly with the faculty. The plan was developed using ad hoc committees. These events led the faculty to believe that the Board of Trustees was acting inconsistently with typical and acceptable procedure prompting the draft of a resolution and vote of no confidence. Additional comments were provided from CSU on the subject.

"I'm sure that there was much more to it, but my sense from afar is that the faculty thought it had an agreement with the administration to start the 4-credit conversion with Gen-Ed courses and to go more slowly on everything else (and justifiably believed that this represented a significant compromise on their part as well as a prudent approach given the complexities and range of possible unintended consequences of wholesale

conversion). The Board resolution requires converting everything immediately and specific justification for any course that stays 4 credits."

## **Campus Reports**

### Akron University

- Budget report: shortfall of 25-35 million dollars.
- Projecting a 3% increase in enrollment
- University passed a policy to phase in changes in admissions to be more selective.

### Bowling Green State University

- No report

### Central State University

- Faculty will be required to be on campus during the summer to engage in activities like search committees.
- Faculty to increase office hours from the current 10/week
- Increase teaching load from current 24 to 30 per year
- Projecting an increase in enrollment despite stricter admissions standards
- Using forced advisement for students to increase retention
- Offered buyouts to faculty, staff, administration
- Furloughs for administrators and staff members, as well as asking faculty to participate in them
- There is a current push to increase online education but they just got rid of their online support staff
- Currently in process of hiring new Deans for all but one college.
- Considering a new name for the institution

### Cleveland State University

- See new business for campus report.

### Kent State University

- Enrollment is up.
- Changes being made to attempt to increase retention
  - Mandatory advisement for freshman and sophomores before they are allowed to register to ensure they are staying on track
  - Reducing class size for English students from 25 to 19
  - Working on IT issues is teaching to improve quality
- There is campus wide concern over the erosion of tenure track faculty
- Plans for a new building for architecture have been developed

### NEOMED

- No report

### Ohio State University

- No report

Ohio University

- No report

Shawnee State University

- No report

University of Cincinnati

- Contract Negotiations started March 1
- Active Searches
  - Provost
  - VP Academic Affairs
  - Vice Provost Academic Personnel
  - VP Foundation
- Athletics--- new conference -- American Athletic Conference
- Passed UC specific resolution regarding proposed increase in workload

University of Dayton

- No report

University of Toledo

- No report

Wright State University

- Internal searches are underway for an Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs and the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science.
- A national search for a Dean of the Graduate School will begin at the start of the upcoming fall semester.
- The administration has agreed with recommendations from the WSU Faculty Senate to lay the foundations for hiring a Chief Information Officer at the VP-level late this year.
- Matt Rizki, professor and chair of Computer Science, has been elected "Faculty President-elect" and will be joining Dan Krane as the WSU representatives to the OFC.
- The university is projecting a slight increase in enrollment for the 2013-2014 academic year. Tuition will increase by \$188 such that in-state tuition will be \$8,542. The increase of 2.2% is the most allowed by the state (tuition increases are capped at either 2% or \$188, whichever is greater).
- Wright State's tuition will be the fourth lowest among public Ohio universities and second lowest (higher than only Youngstown State) of those that do not receive special supplemental funding from the state.

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- The draft operating budget for the 2013-2014 is \$298 million and the fiscal year 2014 budget totals \$403 million (and is balanced).

Youngstown State University

- YSU is currently holding a search for a new president. We are currently in the interview process of eight individuals to narrow down to four candidates to bring to campus.
- YSU is also searching for a new Associate Dean of Graduate Studies to be filled by July 1, 2013.
- Instituting the software Starfish to use as an early warning mechanism for student achievement.

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, May 10, 2013 at 12:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 PM.