



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present:

University of Akron (Rudy Fenwick [Chair] and Bill Rich), Wright State University (Dan Krane [Vice Chair]), Ohio State University (Kay Halasek), Ohio University (Elizabeth Sayrs), University of Cincinnati (Tracy Herrmann), Cleveland State University (Joanne Goodell), Kent State (Mack Hassler and Paul Farrell), Youngstown State University (Ken Learman), Shawnee State University (Andrew Feight), and NEOMED (Frederick Eruo).

Members Absent:

Miami University, University of Toledo, Bowling Green State University, and Central State University

Guest:

Rebecca Watts, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents

Chair Rudy Fenwick called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM on March 8, 2013.

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

The minutes of the February 8, 2013 meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council were approved by unanimous consent of the members present.

Old Business

Workload Issues (WL): Rudy Fenwick provided an overview of the situation at the University of Toledo as the administration's unilateral decision to take WL to a 4 – 4 model without the benefit of faculty input. This prompted the resolution that has been provided via email and it was further explained today. There was discussion about the need for clear WL policies with faculty input.

There was discussion on who should receive this resolution:

It should be sent on to the Chancellor

To the faculty at each member institution

It was suggested to be sent to the IUC

There was discussion on how much support HB 59 was receiving from the university presidents.

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.

New Business

Rebecca Watts presented a new policy on college readiness assessment. She reported that the new standards for mandatory placement testing will be ACT subscore 18 for English, 21 for reading and 24 for math. Previously, the statewide variability ranged from 18 to 27. The main problem facing institutions and students is that with course alignment, content should also be aligned implying that readiness should also have alignment. The presidents (IUC) created these uniform standards. If these scores are met, remedial coursework cannot be required. The students must be offered credit bearing courses. This policy was created for greater uniformity and to reduce the number of non-credit bearing courses some students are required to take by some institutions. The credit bearing courses do not necessarily have to be transferrable but do have to have credit. This issue of transferability will have to be addressed (the Math Summit will look at math courses in April). It is assumed that this policy may improve retention rates on those students who have been required to take more remedial coursework. Students will still be permitted to take placement tests to improve the level of the courses they are allowed to enroll in but cannot be required to take remedial coursework. There was discussion about placement testing for engineering and other critical math curricula and it was reported that the Math Summit would address this issue, in April, as well.

The OGT will be phased out in the 20014-15 academic year and will be replaced by the partnership for assessment of readiness for college and careers (PARCC) test. The PARCC will not be used instead of ACT or SAT but will be supplemental. When the PARCC is required 4+ will be the standard score for college readiness not requiring remedial course work.

The Council was also provided with information regarding average remediation rates for each of the 615 school districts in Ohio for 2011. The average remediation rate was 14% statewide with a range of 0 – 88%. There was discussion about the K – 12 responsibilities for providing the required skills for college readiness and Ms. Watts expressed that this was also an issue that would be addressed. Currently, a committee is working on standards for high school preparation. There was also discussion on the preparation of individuals who will become K-12 teachers including the use of Praxis scores.

It was requested that OFC members take this information back to the member institutions.

Campus Reports

Akron University

- No report

Bowling Green State University

- No report

Central State University

Kent State University

- Our AAUP Bargaining Unit for NTT Faculty has reached an agreement for a new three-year contract, and it is scheduled to be ratified by our Trustees at their March 13 meeting.
- A new Dean of the College of Business Administration, Deborah Spake, commenced her term in January. She was formerly Associate Dean & Professor of Marketing at the University of South Alabama.
- Dr. James Blank, Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, has been appointed Interim Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences until June 2015.
- Searches are anticipated for an Associate Provost and a Vice-President for Human Resources.
- Faculty Senate and the Provost have charged a subcommittee of the Educational Policies Committee to examine academic policies and their impact on student success. The aim is to look at an overview of the policies and their interaction to see if they can be improved.
- At our last Senate meeting, we had a long discussion of a new university-wide requirement for advising for all freshmen and sophomore students. The University will put a hold of student registration until each has a meeting with a College advisor. We are arguing to have this function of advising extended to advisors within Departments as well.

NEOMED

- No report

Ohio State University

- New Provost (effective July 1, 2013)—Joe Steinmetz (currently Executive Dean, ASC—has been appointed
- New VP for HR (effective February 25, 2013)— Andraea Douglass, “a seasoned professional, with particular expertise in aligning organizational culture with strategy and structure. She has worked with a diverse range of organizations, from Nationwide Insurance to Merck Pharmaceuticals to the United States Air Force”—has been appointed
- Mike Hofherr has been promoted from Senior Director of Learning Technology to Associate Vice President of the newly reorganized Distance Education and eLearning
- Faculty Council has named an ad hoc committee to review the SEI (Student Evaluation of Instruction), with a report anticipated by the end of Spring term.

- The University community continues conversations regarding a tobacco-free campus environment

Ohio University

- No report

Shawnee State University

- In February, our Provost presented the plans for a reorganization and realignment of the university's two colleges. The plan proposes moving Teacher Education from the College of Arts & Sciences to the College of Professional Studies, moving the developmental courses in English and Mathematics to our new University College, hiring full-time instructors (non-tenure tract faculty) to teach these developmental courses, and reorganizing the College of Professional Studies, creating two new departments out of the current Department of Health Sciences. The administration sought input from the effected departments and the plan was debated in our Faculty Senate, with the Department of Teacher Education expressing unanimous opposition to the changes.
- The administration announced a \$3 million budget shortfall due to a decline in enrollment and has instituted budget cuts, including capping faculty overloads. Additionally, the Administration has announced a reduction in the maximum number of hours (6 per semester) that can be taught by adjuncts -- this was said to be due to the Affordable Care Act, so as to avoid having to pay health insurance benefits to our adjuncts.

University of Cincinnati

- No report

University of Dayton

- No report

University of Toledo

- No report

Wright State University

- Sundaram Narayanan, the dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science who helped create and lead the Wright State Research Institute, has been named provost of Wright State University.
- Narayanan, Ph.D., P.E., will assume his duties as the university's chief operating officer and chief academic officer on March 18.
- Narayanan was named provost following a nationwide search that resulted in six finalists for the position. He succeeds Steven Angle as provost. Angle was named chancellor at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga last week.

Youngstown State University

M I N U T E S

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- YSU is currently holding a search for a new president. It was reported that the search committee had been announced and there was only one current faculty member on the committee and none of the College Deans had been appointed to the committee. This was a cause for concern that was recently discussed at the Academic Senate meeting.
- YSU is also searching for a new Dean of Graduate Studies but this position will not be filled until the new President has a chance to have input in the decision making process.
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The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, April 12, 2013 at 12:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.