



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present/Absent: Chet Cooper, Dan Krane, Rudy Fenwick, Dwayne Jones, Michael Barnhart, Drew Feight, Anthony Milburn, Adrienne Lane, Joanne Goodell, Ann Darke, Mack Hassler, Ken Learman.

Guests:

John Carey, Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents
Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents

Chair Dan Krane called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM on October 11, 2013.

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

Approval of previous meeting minutes: minutes of the September 13, 2013 meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council were approved by unanimous consent of the members present.

Old Business

An update on "The value of higher education" op-ed piece: Access to higher education: Cincinnati Enquirer, Youngstown Vindicator, and The Dayton Daily News Printed the piece and several others are still considering it. The Higher Ed Op-Ed will continue in the future with more pieces coming up in the future.

New Business

UC requesting at how different universities elect OFC representatives and they are requesting bylaws from each institution on how to elect these reps. Discussion included student representatives and whether or not they are allowed voting rights at various institutions. The following AAUP article was discussed:

[Faculty Members on Boards of Trustees | AAUP](#)

And from AGB:

[Student Trustees | Association of Governing Boards](#)

Discussion on faculty governance and it was decided to have all of us provide information on governance and we can produce a short 2-3 page summary on best practice at the state level.

Similar discussion for understanding on budgeting decisions especially since budgets are getting tight and there may be a need to consider retrenchments processes moving forward.

Resolution commending Dr. Rudy Fenwick on his service to the OFC: Motion to accept Dwayne Jones, UA, seconded: discussion on Dr. Fenwick's contribution to creating a welcoming attitude to new members from the council. Approved unanimously and Dr. Fenwick was presented with a clock.

Chancellor John Carey, Ohio Board of Regents and Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor, Board of Regents: shared the Chancellor's and Governor's interest in increasing degree and certificate attainment in areas that lead to jobs in Ohio (and in areas where students have passion). A particular area of focus is to help high school and college students understand areas of workforce need and career readiness. Current OBR initiatives toward increasing dual enrollment and co-ops and internships help meet that focus. Chancellor Carey discussed the importance of having faculty on board with the plans in order to maximize the student opportunities for dual enrollment and co-ops and internships.

Stephanie Davidson reported that individuals often express confusion about the number of OBR initiatives and aren't sure how they all fit together. She reported that one of her jobs is to help individuals understand that all of the initiatives share a goal of increasing student success. So, whether we are talking about performance funding, college readiness, articulation and transfer, credit for prior learning, new math pathways, etc, they all address the completion issue but from different perspectives.

Dan Krane asked our guests what this committee can do in order to facilitate the initiatives that are ongoing? Stephanie replied that faculty can participate in various OBR committees (examples of current committees are: articulation and transfer, prior learning assessment, Ohio mathematics initiative). The group asked how faculty members are chosen and Stephanie replied that OBR typically reaches out to Provosts/Chief Academic Officers for nominations in particular areas. Members of the group asked how they might find out who the faculty are who are serving on the working groups currently. Stephanie indicated that many are listed on the OBR website (see links below).

Chancellor Carey and Stephanie discussed the status of current rule suggesting that 60% of the curriculum should be taught by full-time faculty. Members of the group expressed concern regarding the treatment of adjunct/part-time faculty treatment state-wide. The group was referred to the draft *Guidelines and Procedures for Academic Program Review*, for the current wording of the rule.

Chancellor Carey indicated that we would be happy to provide additional information to the group on topics of interest during upcoming meetings.

Information provided by Stephanie Davidson included the following:

- registration link for Trustees Conference: <https://ohiohighered.org/node/2492> (please come!)
- draft manual (attached)...this is the version that was available for review this summer
- web link to PLA with a Purpose (a members link will take you to campus participants): <https://ohiohighered.org/PLA>
- web link to Ohio Mathematics Initiative (a steering committee link describes the committee—I will ask Paula to add the actual member names): <https://ohiohighered.org/mathematics-initiative>
- web link to Credit Transfer (there is a list of advisory council members on that site): <https://www.ohiohighered.org/transfer>

Campus Reports

Akron University

- The AAUP and UA administration agreed on a new two year contract, retroactively from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015. The contract includes a 2% raise for bargaining unit faculty for the 2013-14 year, 1.5% across the board and .5% merit. Any salary adjustment for 2014-15 would likely be bargained retroactively during negotiations for the next contract starting in 2015. There were no major changes to other contract provisions.
- Bill Rich and I are on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees Search Committee for the next President of UA.

Bowling Green State University

- Faculty workload is a hot topic across BGSU's campus at this time. According to our union (BGSU-FA) the central administration and deans have been developing faculty workload policies since at least July of 2013 with no input from faculty, the BGSU-FA or other shared governance institutions such as the Faculty Senate. After the union learned of this, the administration changed its tone and is now calling this policy a rough draft and is soliciting a list of current practices from each department. Note: they are not working with faculty to develop this policy, just asking for current practices. I'm sure this will continue to be a topic of discussion. Also, Provost Rogers will be holding an open forum on Monday, October 28th at 10:00 a.m. to discuss faculty workload.
- We currently have 76 fewer faculty members than we had last year. The administration is saying we may be facing more cuts next year, while increasing faculty workload and class size. President Mazey currently estimates a shortfall of \$3 million to \$10 million over the next 2-3 years. We currently have 749 full-time instructors and 279 part-time instructors on our main campus (not Firelands campus).
- Another hot topic is retention. We are looking into many areas to help increase our retention rates. The main focus is currently on developing clear, detailed academic advising procedures. We recent named one central person across campus to set consistent expectations university wide.

- BGSU had a career fair on October 1, 2013. 188 employers were present including a large number of BGSU graduates recruiting for their companies.
- Homecoming last weekend: BGSU beat University of Massachusetts 28-7 which brings our record to 3-0 for the season.

Central State University

- Faculty vacancy lines are not being filled currently
- New student center is going up. Students complained it doesn't have basketball courts and a bowling alley.
- New Provost is going around and meeting with students, faculty, and staff to see what challenges they are facing.

Cleveland State University

- We welcomed our largest ever incoming freshman class of around 1,750 students this year. The new privately run housing that took up three parking lots is at 95% occupancy and the school-owned dorms are also at capacity with waiting lists. This is changing the face of CSU considerably. Ensuring the success of all of our students, but particularly freshmen, who are in the most vulnerable year in terms of dropping out, is the mantra from the President, and while there are many more supports for students now than when I first joined CSU 14 years ago, the major influence on a student's decision is still the experience they have in our classes. We had 7 faculty and 10 visiting positions unfilled at the beginning of this year, and we have had more than 30 new searches authorized for this year, which means we are nearly all on a search committee! Our numbers have been falling consistently since 2007, from a high of 450 to the current number of 360, a 20% reduction while our enrolment is way up in undergrad (but less in graduate) and unless we can fill all our searches this year, the strain on the established faculty to pick up the teaching and service loads for unfilled faculty lines grows every day.
- Meanwhile, administrative bloat continues unabated. Here are some sobering figures compiled by our AAUP chapter. The table below shows the numbers of administrative positions in 04-05 and 11-12 and the increase.

	Vice President	Vice Provost	Dean	Assoc. Dean	Asst. Dean	Dir.	Assoc. Dir	Asst. Dir
04-05	9	4	8	13	5	45	9	5
11-12	16	4	8	14	5	62	6	19
Change	7	0	0	1	0	17	-3	14

- We are in the midst of changing our entire undergraduate curriculum from a predominantly 4-credit model to a predominantly 3-credit model. The real work did not begin last year until after the Board passed their resolution in March that was in opposition to the recommendation of the University Curriculum Committee. This was followed at the next Senate meeting by the Vote of No Confidence in the Administration. The day before the Senate meeting there had

been a open forum which was supposed to be for faculty, however someone got a lot of rowdy students to come to it and take over the meeting by shouting at the president and those on stage, including the chairman of the Board and another Trustee, that they didn't want their degree to be longer or more expensive, which is what they had been told by "someone". This had a sobering effect on the administration, but did not change the resolve of the BOT to implement the change for the 14-15 academic year, less than one year from now. A new time-block grid will be introduced at the same time, which has been the source of more frustration about faculty voices being left out.

- The curriculum conversion really ramped up over the summer, and some faculty got small summer stipends to work on it, but one of the biggest problems that has come to light recently is that the lack of time has caused a lot of issues with coordinating across departments and colleges.
- The next major stumbling block in this implementation process likely to be how to ensure that thorough advising of students in transition is completed in the Spring Given the complexity of the changes we are implementing, there is no easy way of doing this, other than face-to-face appointments. Our advising staff and faculty advisors are already managing huge case loads, so it the university administration working with faculty and staff do some strategic thinking and planning around this issue.

Kent State University

- Searches are proceeding for a new President, and for Deans of Nursing and Podiatric Medicine.
- Official openings of the Kent State Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Kent, and the University Esplanade connecting the university and downtown. The latter will be named the Lester A. Lefton Esplanade by the Board of Trustees at its December meeting to honor the current Kent State President and his role in the fostering the new era of town-gown collaboration.
- Work has commenced on a new building for the College of Applied Engineering, Sustainability and Technology and is planned this year on renovations and extensions to other buildings the science corridor.
- Fall 2013 Semester, Kent State University has set a new record, attracting the biggest and highest-achieving freshman class at the Kent Campus in the university's 103-year history. With the release of the university's official 15th day census data for the Fall 2013 Semester, Kent State reports the total number of first-time, full-time freshmen enrolled at the Kent Campus is 4,314. This exceeds last year's freshman class count of 4,076 by 5.8 percent. It also surpasses the record set in 2011 of 4,284. The average GPA of our new freshmen is 3.3, which is terrific. More than 75 percent of our incoming freshmen have GPAs of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment at the Kent campus in Fall 2013 increased by 1.1 percent. Total enrollment across the university's eight campuses is now 41,891 students. Enrollment of international students is up 10.37 percent at 2,447 total international students.

M I N U T E S

OFC Meeting • October 11, 2013

- Kent State is conducting a pilot study on online in-class administration of Student Surveys of Instruction in the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 semester to determine if this can achieve comparable response rates to those of paper surveys.

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NEOMED

- No report

Miami University

- No report

Ohio State University

- No report

Ohio University

- No report

Shawnee State University

- Changes to the State-Share of Instruction (SSI) Formula, a drop in retention and enrollment, and a change in the use of reserve funds in budgeting led to a \$4 million short fall, with \$2 million of the required budget cuts being applied to the compensation line of the university budget.
- Thirteen positions have been impacted, with ultimately four layoffs and a handful of early retirements. No faculty lines were eliminated and one Vice-President's line was not filled for this year. Faculty overloads and adjunct hours have been curtailed, as well. And, the administration is anticipating an additional need for \$1.5 million in cuts to next year's budget.
- The university's board of Trustees has ordered programmatic reviews for all departments on campus, thus adding to the anxiety on campus in regards to next year's cuts.
- The Faculty Senate is revising its constitution as a result of a realignment of the colleges and departments this past spring. Existing election districts have changed colleges and new districts are being created for faculty in new academic departments, as well as for faculty in the recently created University College.
- Online course evaluation system was piloted in spring and will go to 2 classes for each faculty this fall and depending on success all next spring. Response rates were 50-60%

University of Cincinnati

- Online course evaluations have been used for years but they range from 0-100%.
- Negotiations continue....our contract end date was 6/30/13.....current continuing under that contract. Large increase in our AAUP-UC membership even though number of eligible faculty have decreased.
- Faculty are involved with OBR PLA and Textbook Affordability Groups. Our Provost Office does communicate need for faculty involvement in OBR initiatives to Faculty Senate Chair.

M I N U T E S

OFC Meeting • October 11, 2013

- Faculty morale has been and continues to be a topic of Senate discussion.
- New Provost has requested that the 5 Year Enrollment Plan include faculty needs.
- We have one Dean search going on and anticipate the retirement of 2 deans.
- President is starting monthly Faculty Teas in his suite. The goal is to build relationships and they will begin next Wednesday.

University of Toledo

- No report

Wright State University

- "Searches are still underway for an Associate Provost of Faculty and Staff Affairs and a Dean of the Graduate School at Wright State"
- A ground breaking ceremony is being held today for a \$17M Student Success and Classroom Building that is slated for completion in time for the 2014-2015 academic year.
- The University Administration and non-tenure eligible faculty have reached an agreement on a new collective bargaining agreement and workload policy. The new CBA is modeled after the existing CBA for WSU's tenure-eligible faculty and in many sections the two CBAs are identical. The two CBAs now in effect (one for tenure-eligible and one for non-tenure eligible faculty) both expire on June 30, 2014 and it has already been agreed that successors will be negotiated simultaneously. Negotiations should begin in January, 2014. Salaries for WSU faculty have fallen relative to those of Ohio's other public universities during the course of the last three-year CBA and WSU-AAUP feels that the next CBA will need to include 6.0% raises just to account for past inflation and forthcoming increases in retirement contributions.
- An op-ed piece co-authored by faculty president Dan Krane and university president David Hopkins on the value of higher education was published in several Ohio newspapers over the past month and has been very well received."

Youngstown State University

- The YSU administration announced a budget-balancing plan to eliminate a \$6.6 million deficit. This plan included layoffs of five full-time and four part-time non-faculty employees. At this time, full-time faculty positions have not been affected.
- Recently hired an Associate Vice President for Enrollment Planning and Management, a new position at YSU. He was hired from Bowling Green State University.
- Provost will retire on June 30, 2014. A search for a new provost is expected to begin soon.
- The President made some organizational changes in the administrative structure that were long overdue and should imply to those affected that accountability is expected.

M I N U T E S

OFC Meeting • October 11, 2013

- So far, after three months in office, the new YSU president is receiving high marks by most faculty and staff.

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be on Friday, November 8, 2013 at 12:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.