



The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present:

Wright State University (Dan Krane [Chair]), Youngstown State University (Chet Cooper [Vice Chair], and Amy Flick [Secretary]), Bowling Green State University (Ann Marie Darke), University of Akron (Leann Schaeffer), Cleveland State University (Mekki Bayachou), Shawnee State University (Andrew Feight and Michael Barnhart), University of Cincinnati (Tracy Hermann and Sally Moomaw), and University of Toledo (Linda Rouillard), Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Ohio State (Ben Givens)

Members Absent:

Kent State University, University of Toledo, Miami University, Ohio University, and North East Ohio School of Medicine

Chair, Dan Krane called the meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) to order at 12:30 PM on February 12, 2016. The meeting was held in the 7th floor conference room of the Ohio Board of Regents building (25 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio).

APPROVE AGENDA

Minutes from the January 15, 2016 OFC meeting (available at: https://www.ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/ofc/minutes/2016/OFC_Minutes_January2016.pdf) approved

Ohio Faculty Senate reminiscent of OFC from 3-4 years ago. The Senate meeting goes from 10-4 and are held twice a term and its members are very much like those of the OFC. OFC members are welcome at these meeting as and a representative from the Senate has been invited to OFC meetings per the OFC charter and bylaws. Krane shared the op-ed pieces with the Senate. Unanimously adopted our resolution on State Share of Instruction and they are interested in cosigning the op-ed piece.

Patty Klein from the Ohio Department of Higher Education confirmed the following dates for OFC meetings:

August 12
September 9

M I N U T E S

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October 14

November 18- Meeting will take place in basement conference room

December 9

*All other meetings will be held in the seventh floor

CHAIR'S REPORT

Krane met with Ohio Department of Higher Education staff to discuss OFC administered Technology Commercialization and Teaching Innovation Awards. He is going to now begin trying to secure venture capital and bank money to bank roll these awards. The feeling is that if there were funding, the Governor will be more likely to be on board.

Two faculty nominees for Commercialization (one from the Provost; One from the Faculty Senate)

Teaching Innovation awards would also have at most probably two nominees from each institution. We would also need to be considerate of two-year institutions.

It was asked what is meant by commercialization. Krane explained that certainly some universities would be in a better position than others. It was expressed that given funding issues, some universities may not be able to nominate anyone. Because of this, it was recommended that the criteria be open enough to be inclusive.

Krane also noted that in the next month he will begin working with the Ohio Board of Education as a Special Assistant for Completion Initiatives. He asked the members of the Council if they had any concerns about the ethics of him remaining as Chair. It was asked whether this position in the Ohio Board of Higher Education was attached to the president of the OFC position. It was explained that the Board position was not attached in this way.

OLD BUSINESS

STATE SUPPORT OP-ED/RESOLUTION (Dan Krane)

It was decided that the less strident version of the op-ed would be more acceptable. It was recommended that some of the piece could be omitted. It was also suggested that we acknowledge the increase in SSI. Ben Givens will work on rewording the piece and the new text will be disseminated on the listserv for final review.

The op-ed will then be signed by Krane as OFC Chair and then members will sign using individual titles if they choose to do so. The signing of individual university representatives can be then used as leverage to get published in local publications.

The Council then looked at the proposed OFC SSI Resolution. It was recommended that we state in the resolution the need for additional funding. Krane noted that we would need to state "Therefore be it further resolved..." After discussion, it was decided that we would hold off on that verbiage until a later date if necessary. The resolution will be posted on the website. This can also be mailed to every state representative. Lastly, this sets us up to testify the Senate Education Committee.

M I N U T E S

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The Resolution was passed by unanimous vote. It was further decided that this resolution should be mailed to Ohio representatives.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND MANDATES (Dan Krane)

Krane suggested a white paper outlining who at each university would be responsible for filling out this form, how faculty are being involved, and how these issues are being handled overall. Sharing these ideas can help us to further involve faculty in this process and identify best practices. Information from each institution will be collected and shared by the March OFC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TOPICS (Dan Krane)

Funding for higher education in Ohio will not be decided upon next until March, 2017. Krane suggests 6-7 resolutions and op-eds to address issues and concerns in the interim. Among these concerns are racial tensions, political correctness/censorship on campus, administrative costs versus instructional costs, declining number of tenure track faculty, attack on the concept of tenure, the firing of tenured faculty at Mount St. Mary's (Maryland), and the growing role of part time faculty. Representatives from University of Cincinnati will look at the diversity resolution recently passed at their institution and see how that might be adopted by the OFC. Regarding political correctness and diversity, it was suggested that maybe we work on a white paper to see what each campus is doing in this regard. Krane also suggested that we write about unfunded mandates. The Council will take these under advisement.

Campus Reports

By consent of the members present, the following campus reports were submitted following the conclusion of today's meeting:

Bowling Green State University

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Cleveland State University

- CSU is participating in the APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities Designation program. Currently, a committee is finalizing the CSU application.
- CSU is engaged in a broad effort, named Pathway to 2020, aimed at examining all aspects of University operations. The goal is to look at all parts of the University, including administrative and institutional support costs, and to formulate a new way of planning budgets for academic units. There is broad-based involvement in this program, with faculty as well as students represented on each of the projects in the program.
- The Trustees response to the Governor's Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency will largely be derived from the Pathway to 2020 program.

- This year, we are searching for 60 faculty positions, tenure-track and lecturers.

Northeast Ohio Medical University

- No report submitted

Kent State University

- Denise Seacrest Dean of Stark campus
- Strike was averted

Youngstown State University

- No Report

Central State University

- Final stages of Dean search

Ohio State

- Working on technology commercialization plan
- Enrollment management- disproportionate enrollment in business and engineering

Shawnee State University

- Our faculty senate has completed the reform of our General Education Program and have introduced a new 1-credit hour First Year Experience program.
- We are also finishing up a search for a new Provost and completing the first year of a strategic planning initiative.
- We are also in the process of revising the university's policy on Intellectual Property, with the goal of it being adopted by our Board at their May meeting.
- Lastly, we are beginning negotiations for a new shared-governance committee structure agreement with our new president.

University of Cincinnati

- Passed diversity initiatives resolution and a resolution of showed no support for concealed carry
- Renegotiating AAUP contract
- Search for Associate Dean in Graduate School

Wright State University

- The university is in the last stages of preparing for our HLC visit in March and that the Faculty continue to advise with the administration on matters of crucial interest to the university.

University of Akron

- The Faculty Senate took a no-confidence vote (a resolution) regarding their president, Scott Scarborough, and it passed 50 to 2. The directors and

department chairs also took a no-confidence vote and it passed 26 to 14. The Board of Trustees have met and there's been no actions taken. The Board Chair plans to meet with the chair of the Faculty Senate, Bill Rich.

Ohio University

- In early December, the dean of the College of Fine Arts resigned effective immediately, and a search will take place in the fall. The interim dean is the normal dean of our University College (undecided students, Specialized Studies, and academic support for students)/Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, so we now have an interim one of those as well.
- Our Board of Trustees just approved rates for next year, including a 1.7% increase in our tuition for the incoming cohort. (Under the OHIO Guarantee, tuition and all other normal fees are fixed at the same rate for four academic years; the legislation allowing this also allows us to raise the rate for each new cohort by the state cap + 5-year-average-CPI.)
- The Board also voted to demolish the President Street Academic Center, a century-old building in the transition area on the margin of campus that is half town and half university and which the local historical society fought bitterly to save. It will eventually be replaced by a new building for which the College of Business is currently raising funds.

University of Toledo

- Interviewing 4 finalists for Provost position. Once that person is in place, there will be searches for Honors Dean, Grad College Dean, Ed Dean. The Colleges of Social Justice and Health and Human Services have been merged; still talk of merging the College of Languages, Literature, and Social Sciences with College of Communications and The Arts (recently formerly College of Visual and Performing Arts)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Flick
OFC Secretary
Youngstown State University