

The Ohio Faculty Council

Members Present:

Wright State University (Dan Krane [Chair]), Central State University (Anthony Milburn), Ohio State (Ben Givens and Beth Kocher), Kent State University (Ed Dauterich), University of Cincinnati (Sally Moomaw), University of Toledo (Linda Rouillard), Bowling Green State University (Ann Marie Darke), University of Akron (Roland Arter), Wright State University (Doug Petkie), Shawnee State (Mike Barnhart and Jennifer Pauley), Ohio Education Association (Matt Ides), Ohio Faculty Senate of Community and Technical Colleges (Kim Gaudy).

Members Absent:

Cleveland State University, Youngstown State University, 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 January 15, 2016. The meeting was held in the 7th floor conference room of the Ohio Board of Regents building (25 South Front Street, Columbus, Ohio).

Agenda Approved

Minutes of Dec. 11, 2015 approved

New Business

Discussion of University System of Ohio financial ratios:

Dan Krane gave an overview of the ratios, explaining that the numbers are meaningful, especially in comparison to other institutions. Having a high number probably means the institution is not investing aggressively enough; having a number at the bottom of the scale indicates a revenue shortfall.

Jim Bennett, CFO for ODHE provided an historical overview of Senate Bill 6 enacted in 1997 in response to the financial situation at Central State University. SB6 is a score that reflects the financial health of an institution. The Ohio Revised Code stipulates that an SB6 ratio of 1.75 is the threshold; below that, the institution is put on fiscal watch. An institution must reach a 2.4 to be released from fiscal watch.

When asked how Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 68 (www.gasb.org/jsp/GASB/Pronouncement_C/GASBSummaryPage&cid=1176160219492) affected SB6 scores, Mr. Bennett explained that this had required a change in the implementation of SB6, otherwise all institutions would have been underwater. The modification requires that the Chancellor now produces a report with two scores for each institution, one with and one without GASB 68. The scores calculated without GASB 68 will be directly comparable to those calculated previously.

Mr. Bennett indicated that in FY2017, funding for higher education in Ohio is almost equal to FY11 SSI plus stimulus funds.

Issues with College Credit Plus

Some faculty report having students as young as fourteen years of age in these college classes. Instructors are concerned that there may eventually be pressure to suppress class discussions of sensitive topics when such young students are present in these courses. There was also concern over the competition among higher ed institutions for high school students in CC+ classes.

Dan Krane reported that the OFC resolution on HB48 was delivered to each Ohio seantor, but expects no movement on this bill until March (after the primaries). With regards to other academic issues, he proposed that the OFC use the Young Invincibles report as a launching point for other resolutions, or for an op-ed piece. Sally Moomaw suggested we collect relevant resolutions from each of our institutional faculty senates and forward directly to the state representatives, the governor, and the chancellor.

Adjourn at 2:30.

Campus Reports