

**The Ohio Faculty Council**  
**February 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)**

**Members Present:**

Dan Krane (Wright State), Cynthia Ris and Greg Loving (University of Cincinnati), Anthony Milburn (Central State), Kyle Vick (Shawnee State University), Ben Givens (Ohio State), Joe McLaughlin (Ohio University), Bill Bowen (Cleveland State), David Jackson (Bowling Green State University), and Wade Lee (University of Toledo).

Those participating via web conference:

Ed Dauterich (Kent State University), Amy Lee (NEOMED), Amy Flick (Youngstown State), Sara Helfrich (Ohio University), Leann Schaeffer and Linda Saliga (University of Akron), and Michael Kalafatis (Cleveland State).

**Members Absent:**

Miami University.

**Guests**

Terry Filicko (chair, Ohio Faculty Senate of Technical and Community Colleges) and many members of the OFSTCC; Bruce Johnson and Mike Suver (Inter-University Council); Matt Ides (OEA); Chancellor Randy Gardner and Sr. Vice Chancellor Mike Duffey (ODHE).

The February 8, 2019 meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council was called to order at 12:30 pm in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor conference room of the Ohio Department of Education Building (25 S. Front St., Columbus, OH).

The proposed agenda, which had been circulated electronically one week previously, was adopted without change for the meeting.

The minutes for the January 11, 2019 OFC meeting were approved with one change (Michael Kalafatis was added to the list of those attending electronically).

**GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

ODHE VISION FOR 2019 (Chancellor Randy Gardner and Sr. Vice Chancellor Mike Duffey)

Chancellor Gardner comes to ODHE with a 33 year and two month track record of service in Ohio's General Assembly. Sr. Vice Chancellor Duffey served eight years as a Representative and chaired the House Higher Education and Workforce Development committee.

ODHE is proposing a Chancellor's directive that recognizes the Ohio Faculty Council as officially serving an advisory capacity to the Chancellor. It will be posted for a ten-day public comment period before adoption. Chancellor Gardner intends to take full advantage of that

relationship and will seek the OFC's input on a variety of matters, including: continued textbook affordability efforts, OCOG reforms, means of attracting and retaining high quality faculty, the role of tenured faculty re: HB 66 study committee, and the on-boarding of IHE trustees.

The Texas STARS Program (<https://www.utsystem.edu/offices/health-affairs/stars-program>) was specifically recommended as something that might be a model for the recruitment and retention of high-quality faculty within the Ohio system. Texas STARS has been in place since 2004 and gives awards ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000 that can be used to purchase equipment, fund renovations, and support graduate students for outstanding faculty in the following areas: those at risk of being recruited elsewhere; those doing translational research in priority areas; and those who excel at teaching. Ohio might consider awards revolving around: teaching, research, service and technology commercialization. A point was made that there would also be an advantage to increasing the overall quality of rank and file faculty – perhaps through the establishment of professional development funds and/or the sponsoring of teaching workshops for faculty within the system. A program that allowed students within the system to take upper level 100% on-line courses taught by world class faculty within the system could simultaneously provide: students access to a variety of electives that would count toward their degrees, a means of attracting students to the Ohio system, and a vehicle for drawing attention to some of the system's world class faculty.

The Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB; <https://www.agb.org>) could provide a valuable framework for the on-boarding of trustees. It might be possible for a one or two day workshop to be developed around materials generated by AGB such as <https://www.agb.org/store/higher-education-governing-boards-an-introductory-guide-for-members-of-college-university-and>. It was suggested that the OFC develop a set of recommendations regarding what should be included in such a workshop and also assessing the attributes of highly effective boards from a holistic perspective.

#### TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY INITIATIVES (Jennifer Becker, McGraw-Hill)

Jen Becker reported that Ohio is widely recognized as a leader in the area of textbook affordability nationwide. She is open to suggestions regarding how McGraw-Hill could further assist faculty in their efforts to reduce student costs. She pointed to the success in 2018 of the use of an inclusive access program at Ohio University: in the 2017-18 academic year, students in 140 classes spent \$2 million less for McGraw-Hill course materials than they did for the same 140 classes in the 2016-17 academic year (and, approximately 97% of those students had new materials the first day their classes met compared to approximately 30% prior years). She is interested in supporting research with an organization like the OFC into things like teaching efficacy for inclusive access courses compared to those in which textbooks are provided in a traditional way.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### CAMPUS FREE SPEECH RESOLUTION/POLICIES (Dan Krane)

OFC members were urged to have their respective faculty senates either 1) consider adopting a variant of the Cleveland State resolution on free speech or 2) identify a resolution and/or policy that espouses the same support for free speech and academic inquiry. An OFC-level resolution will be considered as new business at the March OFC meeting.

The OFC and OFSTCC have reserved the Statehouse Atrium for a day-long forum on campus free speech on Tuesday, June 11, 2019. Faculty experts on First Amendment considerations will lead a discussion in the context of a Faculty Congress of Ohio's position on campus free speech. Conservative and liberal legislators will be invited to participate in panel discussions.

In the context of last year's legislation in the statehouse (the FORUM Act, HB 758, sponsored by Reps. Niraj Antani and Brenner), faculty were reminded of the importance of free speech events reflecting a diversity (i.e. both conservative and liberal perspectives, etc.) when organized by the institution of higher education. Much of the national focus on campus free speech today is driven by the perception that IHEs and faculty are overwhelmingly left-leaning and may, at times, discriminate against conservative speech. Discussion occurred encouraging Ohio faculty not to reinforce this stereotype and to try to demonstrate an openness to all perspectives. This, as well as more formal policies on campuses statewide, could help obviate the need for state legislation that could be more prescriptive.

#### EVALUATION OF ADMINISTRATORS (Bill Bowen and Marc Scott)

A set of questions has been circulated to OFC members. Answers should be provided to Bill Bowen and/or Marc Scott prior to March 1, 2019 so that they can be incorporated into a draft white paper that will be discussed at the March OFC meeting.

#### ASSESSMENT OF OUTCOMES (Kyle Vick)

A set of questions has been circulated to OFC members. Answers should be provided to Kyle Vick prior to March 1, 2019 so that they can be incorporated into a draft white paper that will be discussed at the March OFC meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE/HB 66 STUDY COMMITTEE

The Ohio House will have a standing Higher Education committee in the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. Rep. Candice Keller will chair the Higher Education committee. Rep. Rick Carfagna will chair the Finance subcommittee on Higher Education.

The members of the study committee created by HB 66 will need to be identified by the end of March. A member of the House and of the Senate will co-chair the study committee. A report will need to be completed by October, 2019.

##### FACULTY REPRESENTATION ON BOARDS OF TRUSTEES

Discussion on this topic was tabled due to the time. It will be revisited at the March OFC meeting in the context of a consideration of trustee on-boarding (as described above).

##### FACULTY STRIKE AT WRIGHT STATE

At 18 days, the Faculty strike at Wright State University is the longest faculty strike in higher education in Ohio's history and the second longest in the US (exceeded only by a 29-day Faculty strike at Temple University in 1990). Approximately 65% of 561 bargaining unit faculty members have honored the picket line resulting in a failure to reach a quorum for the University's January 2019 Faculty Senate meeting. The University reports that about 20% of

classes have not met since the beginning of the strike on January 22. As many as 250 (including students and faculty from other universities) have picketed at any given time despite very cold and very wet conditions. Just a few negotiation sessions have been held but one with a federal mediator on Saturday may be what is needed to resolve the strike. Many contentious issues in the contract that the administration imposed on January 4 have been eliminated from the contract that is currently being negotiated including: retrenchment triggers (no longer a Senate Bill 6 score of 2.4 or less for two consecutive years, rather a declaration of financial exigency); faculty furloughs (no longer an unlimited numbers of days per semester; rather a maximum of one per semester); and summer teaching (now at 80% of the rate of pay compared to the prior contract). Remaining issues are the Faculty's right to negotiate changes to healthcare coverage in subsequent contracts and pay/benefits for Faculty who withheld their labor during the strike.

Cynthia Ris, UC, proposed the following OFC resolution:

**Whereas**, the Ohio Faculty Council advocates for excellence in teaching and research and the support of faculty so as to engage in those activities to the benefit of students in higher education; and

**Whereas**, the Ohio Faculty Council views shared governance as crucial to achieving those ends;

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that the Ohio Faculty Council encourages the Wright State University faculty, administration and Board of Trustees to defend quality education through shared governance, and we urge the parties to return to negotiations.

The proposed resolution was discussed then unanimously adopted by the Ohio Faculty Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

The next meeting of the Ohio Faculty Council will be held on Friday, March 8, 2019 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm in the seventh floor conference room of the Ohio Department of Education Building.