



OHIO FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FINAL Minutes – 15 October 2021
Approved, 12 November 2021, Leanne Petry

12:30 – 2:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom

MEMBERSHIP (ATTENDEES highlighted in yellow)

Bowling Green University: Christopher Frey, David Jackson
Central State University: Leanne Petry, Mitch Eismont, Lubna Abu-Niaaj
Cleveland State University: Bob Krebs, Andy Slifkin, Anup Kumar
Kent State: Pamela Grimm, Ed Dauterich, Darci Kracht,
Miami University: Jennifer Green, Thomas Poetter, Rosemary Pennington
NEOMED: Patrick Gallegos, Natalie Bonfine, Charles Thodeti
Ohio State: Ken Lee, Ben Givens, Amy Darragh
Ohio University: Robin Muhammad, Benjamin Bates, Nukhet Sandal
Shawnee State University: Tony Ward, Erik Larson, Drew Feight
University of Akron: Linda Saliga, Kate Budd
University of Cincinnati: Greg Loving, Dan Carl
University of Toledo: Tony Bigioni, Linda Rouillard
Wright State University: Brian Boyd, Megan Faragher, Laura Luehrmann
Youngstown State: Chet Coper, Mike Ekoniak
Ex-officio: Wright State University, Former Chair Dan Krane

Guests (ATTENDEES highlighted in yellow)

Mike Suver from Inter-University Council of Ohio, Vice President of Government Relations
Mike Duffey from ODHE
Sara Kilpatrick from Ohio AAUP
John McNay from Ohio AAUP
Mathew Ides from OEA
Terry Filicko from Ohio Faculty Senate and Clark State Community College

1. Meeting started at 12:31pm; Approve agenda
2. Discussion and approval of minutes from September 10, 2021 – Request to amend minutes relative to the chat discussion – Motion seconded and carried to approve minutes with amendment to chat section.

3. Welcome to any new OFC members or alternates in attendance

Please help us ensure that the [OFC website](#) and mailing list are reaching the correct people.

- a) Updates and discussion of goal and priorities for AY 2021-2022
- b) OFC [White Paper on Faculty-Board Relations](#): two main concerns: trustee onboarding and textbook policies as well as textbook affordability which is not related to curriculum control.
 - i. With respect to trustees onboarding, working with representatives from the Ohio Department of Higher Education on some ideas to be involved in a resurrected trustees conference at the state level; working with the state since 2019 with the goal of trying to facilitate awareness of the need for trustee onboarding and the inclusion of faculty in that onboarding process, particularly the elected faculty representative. It was clear from OFC discussions last spring that some campuses do more with their Boards than other institutions.
 - ii. Auto-adoption assists bookstores with ordering especially if it is a repeat semester course; auto-adoption can save students' money by reducing textbook costs (House Bill 110; Section 381); in state budget in House Bill 110 there is language about engagement between the boards of trustees and the faculty leadership on our campuses, about supporting or not, an auto-adopt policy; the boards are required to convene with faculty leaders to discuss support or not for auto adopt policy by August of 2022 (verified date is 15 August 2022). Boards need to demonstrate that they have convened with and have conversations with faculty leaders in this process.
- c) “Divisive Concepts” legislation (House Bill 27) and testimony – strategies moving forward (see discussion point #5 below with Guest Speaker) | Pros and Cons approaches as follow up discussion after speaker left meeting focused on request to see IUC letter and submit OFC endorsement letter in support of IUC or even a joint letter with Ohio Faculty Senate (OFS), joint press release. Some campuses already working individually but collectively; approximately eight states have passed legislation related to critical race theory. Many other states are introducing guidelines and even more are looking at proposing it.
- d) Program Reviews (“Program Viability” discussion from listserve) – David Jackson from BGSU shared information related to institutional request to perform “Program Viability” Assessment in four (4) categories and survival of the fittest programs | bad timing in the midst of a pandemic to get program cuts and/or elimination (and BGSU is unionized with language related to this topic) | synergy related to University of Akron situation | claiming faculty involvement because providing the data to drive decisions; interim positions and voluntary retirement offers cloud institutional decision making

4. Others: Technology Award timeline moved to November OFC Meeting
5. Guest: Mr. [Mike Suver](#), Vice President of Government Relations, Inter-University Council of Ohio joined the OFC at 1:01pm to share thoughts on some effective strategies faculty leaders can use to continue to raise the importance of faculty voices on their campuses and to update the OFC membership on key issues before the legislature – updates on IUC initiatives, specifically the “Divisive Concepts” legislation and testimony which prohibits teaching of divisive concepts | coordination with Sara Kilpatrick from AAUP as well to make a difference as the bills move forward | no hearings in past few weeks due to redistricting and vaccinations | opposed to HB 327; concerned with the fact that (as written), bill requires the Chancellor to withhold up to 100% of institutions SSI for three confirmed reports of “divisive concepts” being taught in the classroom (which in some cases is 20-30% of an institution's funding or operating revenue). | HB 322 is for K-12 Institutions and what is being taught at those levels; it could also “chill the pipeline” of individuals moving into the K-12 teaching profession/workforce. There is a request to exclude universities from HB 327 as adults in public higher education taking university courses are different than those in K-12 settings; there is concern about the way the current draft is written and what it means for faculty teaching in the classroom at public universities in Ohio| SB 135 to give students a recourse if feeling aggrieved or intimidated conflicts with HBs | group discussion related to pros and cons of decoupling HB 327 and HB 322 and focus on specific constituents versus alliance between higher education and K-12; vaccines appears to be dead | current status is Senate not receiving a lot of complaints as universities are providing exemptions even though universities as employers have made mandates in best interest of their faculty, staff and students | tandem work on 435 | notation to please reach back out to OFC to work in collaboration with faculty on these topics to be proactive on issues impacting public institutions of higher education, including vaccine mandate status
6. Campus examples of shared governance successes and challenges – opportunity for collective group to share on this topic or report on leadership changes, etc.; gender gaps and pay inequities; PeopleSoft vs WORKDAY software use and implementation issues for time and effort reporting at OSU and UA; NEOMED collaborative work success related to bylaw modifications for post-tenure review; Board of Trustee discussion continued related to Executive Sessions vs Open Sessions, Live Streaming Sessions vs Face-to-Face Sessions and Onboarding of New Members; universities and the required vaccine mandates have allowed for broad array of exemptions letting the university as an employer make the best decision for its students and faculty in the best interest of their health and safety on campus.
7. Adjourn – Motioned at 2:27pm, seconded and approved

Note: meeting dates for AY 2021-2022 (all 12:30-2:30)

Nov 12; Dec 10

Jan 14; Feb 11; Mar 11; Apr 15; May 13; June 10

Significant Comments from the Meeting Chat:

12:56:54 From John McNay to Everyone:

It would be nice if the legislature would address the real cost-drivers in Ohio higher ed - administrative bloat, grandiose construction projects, and athletic departments that are financial blackholes...

12:59:26 From Greg D Loving to Everyone:

Both our President and Provost have spoken out strongly against HB 327 in public meetings.

12:59:34 From Dan Krane (past OFC chair) to Everyone:

Wright State reported that its autoadopt policy saved students \$923K for the 2019-20 academic year. It also reported saving \$1.07M for its other saving strategies.

13:02:27 From Dan Krane (past OFC chair) to Everyone:

The auto adopt policy is at section 733.20 (pages 2049-50) in the "as introduced" version of the Governor's budget bill.

13:12:51 From Dan Krane (past OFC chair) to Everyone:

Speaking of bad behavior, each institution would have an incentive to alleged that there were decisive concepts being discussed at other institutions. For instance, if OSU didn't get its share of SSI then all the remaining 13 public universities would get that support.

13:14:37 From Sara Kilpatrick to Everyone:

We very much appreciate Mike and the IUC working with us on these issues. AAUP and IUC have both pointed out how HB 327 doesn't jive with the FORUM Act that was passed in the last General Assembly, as well as SB 135, which passed the Senate earlier this year. They are trying to pass bills that guarantee absolute campus free speech while also restricting certain campus speech.

13:15:26 From Laura Luehrmann-WSU to Everyone:

Thanks for that, Sara. It is great to hear of the close collaboration between Ohio-AAUP and IUC on these issues. Thank you for your continued constructive advocacy.

13:20:25 From Sara Kilpatrick to Everyone:

I know that the K-12 unions like OEA and OFT are absolutely opposed and they have refused to even talk to the sponsors about amendments. In their words, it's as bad as SB 5 from 2011.

13:25:40 From Sara Kilpatrick to Everyone:

We have told the sponsors of these bills that we are opposed to these bills on the whole, even the k-12 portions; however, as we do not represent k-12 educators, we have not tried to speak on their behalf.

13:48:14 From Laura Luehrmann-WSU to Everyone:

Joint letter from OFS and OFC

13:48:25 From Terry Filicko - OFS/Clark St to Everyone:

Yes, that would be great --

13:50:51 From Rosemary Pennington MU to Everyone:

That's how ours is framed as well

13:58:06 From John McNay to Everyone:

Another example of them forgetting that the only people who generate revenue at the university are the faculty.

14:00:52 From John McNay to Everyone:

I fought against our regular program reviews. Total waste of time.

14:02:16 From lovinggd to Everyone:

Our Dean publicly praised our external Psychology review as the model for all programs-- and did not implement one recommendation in the review.

14:03:08 From John McNay to Everyone:

We need a viability study of provost offices....

14:03:28 From lovinggd to Everyone:

Viability study of viability studies.

14:06:07 From Laura Luehrmann-WSU to Everyone:

We found much modeled data for graduate outcomes... very problematic.

14:19:38 From Laura Luehrmann-WSU to Everyone:

Are your Boards of Trustees continuing to broadcast their meetings remotely, even if they are meeting in person? Curious to hear experience on other campuses.

14:22:30 From Laura Luehrmann-WSU to Everyone:

Enrollment update from ODHE (day 15 headcount numbers) in aggregate: Main campuses overall are down 2.5%. Regionals are down 11.24%. Communicate colleges are down 2.6%.

14:27:09 From Ben Givens -OSU to Everyone:

<https://livestream.com/wosu/osubotaug2021>

Submitted by:

Leanne Petry, Secretary
Ohio Faculty Council

cc: Chair, Laura Luehrmann | Vice-Chair, Ben Givens | 2021-2022 OFC Members