

Minutes for the Faculty Senate

Meeting #4 Spring 2023

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Hybrid (Russell 100 or Zoom), 3:00-4:30 PM CST

[https://se-
edu.zoom.us/j/97473144940](https://se-edu.zoom.us/j/97473144940)

ATTENDING

Laura Atchely

Srimal Garusnghe

Matthew Sparacio

Brandon Burnette

Andy Kramer

Jeri Walker

Randy Clark

Chris Moretti

Doug Wood

Steve Csaki

Kate Shannon

Frank Xu

Amy Gantt

Rob Shauger

ABSENCES

Cody Bogard

Meg Cotter-Lynch

Amy Mills

Kathy Boothe

Ashley Hampton

Mila Zhu

GUESTS

Carol Sullivan

I. Call to Order – 3:03 PM

II. Minutes from February 22nd, 2023

a) **MOTION TO APPROVE** the Minutes from February 22nd, 2023 – Senator Walker

i) **SECOND** – Senator Sparacio

ii) **DISCUSSION** – n/a

iii) **VOTE** – Yea 14; Nay 0; Abstaining 0; passes unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report

a) No changes to the treasurer's report.

IV. Committee Reports

a) Budget Committee

- i) Did not meet.

b) Committee on Committees (report on file)

- i) The CoC passed a motion unanimously to add Amanda St. John as member of the Graduate Council due to her appointment as Coordinator of new Nursing & Allied Health graduate program.

(1) *Rationale*: The Graduate Council must include the coordinators for each graduate program, including the newly established Nursing & Allied Health Program.

- ii) **MOTION TO APPROVE** the addition of Amanda St. John to the Graduate Council – Senator Clark

(1) **SECOND** – Senator Atchely

(2) **DISCUSSION** – n/a

(3) **VOTE** - Yea 14; Nay 0; Abstaining 0; passes unanimously.

- iii) An email about preferences for filling university committees has been sent out. If junior faculty members have questions about these committees and their responsibilities, they can contact any member of the CoC for further information.

(1) There will be some significant changes in the future. We are saddened to see faculty advocates Jeri Walker and Carolyn Fridley retire. They cannot be replaced!

c) Executive Committee (report on file)

- i) EC will meet with President Newsom on March 20 at 3 PM. The primary purpose of this meeting is to discuss the faculty compensation proposal.

(1) The President has already expressed concern about finding money to implement the adjustments in the compensation proposal. The EC hopes to see a clear commitment to faculty compensation when determining the budget.

- ii) Travel Fund Options – how can we make this system more equitable?

(1) Provide comparable funding for all three existing funding cycles (September, February, April)?

(a) This may result in more work for the committee spread across of acad. year.

(b) The state allotment for funds is typically granted first to applicants before any funds drawn from the Presidential Partners Fund.

(c) Can we have the April deadline be available only to applicants submitting a second time (if funds are available)?

(2) Each faculty member can receive funding once per fiscal year?

(3) Junior faculty proposals should be prioritized (non-tenured, tenure-track)?

(4) Allot funding evenly across the faculty and disperse through departments?

- (a) Decisions about funding would happen at the department level.
 - (b) This may result in more work for department chairs.
- (5) Support applications asking for *reimbursement* rather than planning *attendance*?
 - (a) Results in less “pre-work;” everyone knows exactly how much was spent.
- d) Personnel Policies Committee
 - i) Did not meet; no report.
- e) Planning Committee
 - i) Did not meet
 - ii) In an email sent to the FS Chair and Recorder, the PC Committee Chair noted that a voting link for Faculty Awards will be sent out before Spring Break.
- f) University Affairs Committee
 - i) Faculty Housing Policy
 - (1) FS still wants to develop a specific faculty contract.
 - (2) Administration has clarified that concerns re housing will only be for *new* faculty who need to be housed. Received assurances that no currently housed faculty will be bumped from their current living arrangements.
 - (3) *SUGGESTION* – compile an intranet list of rental options for faculty; continue working on policy document outline expectations for faculty.
 - (a) We can use a libguide as a template.
 - (b) According to the Town of Durant Community Perception Survey, living costs have steeply increased over the last three years. Pertinent data:
 - (i) Median Rent has increased from \$748 (2019) to \$1400 (2021)**
 - (ii) Median Monthly Housing Costs have increased from \$994 (2019) to \$1,500-1,700 (2021)**
 - (iii) Link to survey: <https://www.durant.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=107>

V. Old Business

- a) ChatGPT Brown Bag Lunch?
 - i) Perhaps moving from a Brown Bag Lunch to a Shared Governance Forum Topic.
- b) Office Hours Policy was approved, so you can update your policy with Spring II courses.

VI. New Business

VII. Announcements

- a) Shared Governance Forum Dates
 - i) March 21, 2023 at 2 PM (Administration will choose the topic)
 - ii) April 11, 2023 at 2 PM (Faculty will choose this topic)

- b) The Fort Washita V-R project (aided with OneNet funding and training secured by CIDT) completed in Senator Sparacio's Spring 2022 *U.S. Nationalism and Imperialism* class will be awarded the Bruce T. Fisher Award from the Oklahoma Historical Society on March 23 at the OHS Annual Awards Banquet.

VIII. Adjournment – 3:43 PM CST

- a) **MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Senator Walker
- b) **SECOND** – Senator Csaki