

Faculty Senate NEWS BRIEF

The purpose of the Faculty Senate **News Brief** is to keep faculty informed about Faculty Senate meetings. Agendas and minutes of meetings can be accessed by clicking on the [Faculty Senate Homepage](#).

FROM THE SENATE MEETING ON MARCH 8, 2023

The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the addition of Amanda St. John as member of the **Graduate Council** due to her appointment as Coordinator of new Nursing & Allied Health graduate program.

The **Executive Committee (EC)** will meet with President Newsom on March 20. The primary subject of discussion will be the progress – if any – administration has made on their review of the Compensation Proposal drafted earlier this year by the **Budget (BC)** and **Personnel Policies (PPC) Committees**. Among other updates to the current Salary Card, this proposal calls for an adjustment for inflation since the last known update to the Salary Card in 2008.

As we begin the Spring II semester, the Senate would like to remind all instructors of the updated **Office Hours Policy** reflected in [Academic Policies and Procedure Manual](#) (Section 4.9.1): *Unless contractually obligated otherwise, a full-time faculty member is required to schedule office hours according to the following ratio: half as many office hours per week as credit hours taught in a given semester. In addition, full-time faculty are expected to be available additional hours by appointment. Of the given number of office hours, full-time faculty members teaching online classes should be available for synchronous online office hours in approximate proportion to their online teaching load. Departments will establish policies regarding the expected mechanisms for online office hours, and for publicizing faculty office hours.*

The **Planning Committee (PC)** announced it will be emailing out a link to vote for Faculty Awards before Spring Break. Be on the lookout for this message and be sure to recognize your peers!

The Senate also discussed the Community Perception Survey results shared during [the Town of Durant Town Hall meetings on March 6 and 7](#). Of significant note was the community's high opinion of the university and its role, as well as the steep increase in housing costs in Durant over the last three years. View all the results of the survey [HERE](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

The Administration-led **Shared Governance Forum (SGF)** for this Spring has been rescheduled for March 21, 2023. The next Faculty-led SGF will be on April 11, 2023.

The Fort Washita Rediscovery V-R project created by students in Dr. Sparacio's Spring 2022 *U.S. Nationalism and Imperialism* class with the help of CIDT will receive the Bruce T. Fisher Award by the **Oklahoma Historical Society** at the [OHS Annual Awards Banquet](#). The Project also received significant contributions from Librarian Andy Kramer.

Faculty members are always invited and welcome to attend meetings of the Faculty Senate. **The Faculty Senate will next meet at 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 29th in Russell 100 and on Zoom.** The Senate will also meet on 4/12 and 4/26. Please visit the [Faculty Senate website](#) for detailed information concerning *your* representative body!

This Faculty Senate News Brief was produced by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate: Kate Shannon, chair; Amy Gantt, vice chair; Randy Clark, past-chair; Steve Csaki, treasurer; Andy Kramer, archivist; Matthew Sparacio, recorder; Rob Shauger, parliamentarian.