

OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE
2017-2018
Joint November/December Meeting
November 9, 2017 Minutes

OSU-CHS Faculty Senate Members

Christopher Thurman, D.O., President
Jarrad Wagner, Ph.D., Past-President
Charles Sanny, Ph.D., President-elect
Franklin Champlin, Ph.D., (19) Secretary and OSU-CHS Representative to OSU Faculty Council
Regina Lewis, D.O., (17), Sergeant-at-Arms
Jason Beaman, D.O., (18)
Justin Chronister, D.O., (18)
Kathleen Curtis, Ph.D., (20)
Aric Warren, Ed.D., (20)

Recorder: Jean Keene

Members Present: Dr. Thurman, Dr. Sanny, Dr. Beaman, Dr. Curtis, Dr. Warren

Members Absent: Dr. Wagner, Dr. Champlin, Dr. Chronister, Dr. Lewis

Administrators Present: Dr. Stevens, Dr. Stroup, Mr. Polak

Guest: Dr. Wymore

Call to Order: Dr. Thurman welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. The meeting was held in the Executive Board Room.

Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Thurman called for Approval of the minutes of the prior meeting. Approval was moved by Dr. Beaman, and seconded by Dr. Curtis; the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Administrative Reports:

Dr. Stephens

Dr. Stephens reported that we had a brute-force cyber-attack. He provided some details, but said there were many unknowns. He indicated there is hope the restoration process may be handled before Thanksgiving, but there are so many computers that have been compromised that it is difficult to predict just how long the restoration process will take.

Dr. Stephens advised that a request for an additional class size increase from 115 to 165 had been submitted to our Board of Regents; those 50 students will be in Tahlequah. This request has been approved. Coupled with that was the request for approval for positions as Dean and Associate (or Assistant) Dean for the Tahlequah location. These positions were approved and are now open. The next step is to have it presented to the State Regents for Higher Education. The approval for the site itself goes through the HLC (Higher Learning Commission), and that approval was requested a few months ago, and has now been approved. He said it is through the Stillwater HLC. Dr. Stephens reported that Natasha Bray is heading that effort and she is very active on-site to put the documents together.

The Faculty Senate requested that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed regarding the additional site in Tahlequah, and that group has met. Dr. Stephens advised that he attended at the beginning of the committee's initial meeting to provide extensive information on the process and status for the additional site; Dr. Bray attended the meeting by phone.

He noted that the Cherokee Nation will provide the space—rent-free, remodeled, and ready to go for 50 students. An additional important aspect he provided was that although the initial interest was for students in the COM, other programs are being looked at and may be available also. In addition, Dr. Stephens provided important information that faculty will be hired for that location; he emphasized that CHS faculty will not be expected to travel to the Tahlequah site as a part of their teaching commitment. He said there is no intention for them to become “freeway faculty” in order to meet the teaching needs at the Tahlequah site. He said there are 15 faculty positions planned for there: 11 biomedical faculty and four clinical faculty.

Accreditation for the site requires a feasibility study, and a well-respected firm has been hired to produce it. One meeting with them has already occurred, and another is planned for January 8. Further, we hosted Cherokee leadership and their architectural firm during the prior week and they were impressed with what we have here, and what could be designed for us there.

The schedule is planned for an entering class in 2020. We recognize that is dependent upon the completion of the new building to house the functions now in the W.W. Hastings building, and then the Hastings building must be renovated for our use.

Dr. Stephens reported that there has been a lot of media coverage associated with the Opioid Addiction topic. Our Center for Wellness and Recovery was well received and well-launched at the Bedlam game; we even had a sticker on the helmets. Drs. Shrum and Beaman have been active with Town Hall meetings that included community leaders. There was impressive attendance at these meetings, and there was even coverage on local television at various locations. He said it is maintaining its early momentum.

At the Senate Executive Committee meeting, a report was given regarding the failed house vote on Bill 1054. The end result will translate to 2.44% cut for us. From all indications, revenue will continue to be a challenge in upcoming budget years. Dr. Stephens said on a positive note, we probably will not have a Medicaid cut.

Mr. Polak

Mr. Polak reported we need to get an “Earth Change” permit associated with the work on the pond and walking trail. The fence around the space is already up, and actual work may begin as early as November 29. It will be very attractive when it is completed; there is a plan to have it ready in June of 2018. This schedule allows approximately two months of flex time that may be needed due to weather conditions.

Dr. Thurman thanked the administrators for their thorough reports, noting that the Senate appreciates the collegial relationship existing across our CHS administration and faculty endeavors.

Verbal COC Update Report:

Dr. Wymore presented a brief verbal report on actions regarding the COC. He said that the major issues that were discussed centered on two things: attendance, and board review for the COMLEX

examinations. He provided background on what had occurred previously, and what the outcome had been last year. After thorough discussion, the COC recommended that we continue with the process that was followed last year, which had proven to be successful. He explained the following:

1. That students would take a COMSAE.
2. Those who scored above 451 could attend those sections of the board review of their choosing; those they believed would be of help to them.
3. Attendance was mandatory for students who scored below 451.
4. A new aspect this year was suggested: If a student chose not to attend, they would be required to sign a statement indicating that the faculty recommended they attend the complete board review, but they chose not to do so.

Dr. Wymore provided some statistics regarding the scoring from the prior year; the scores indicated there was a significant general increase across the score ranges not just for students who were considered to be at risk. There was a general upward shift.

He said to be clear, the COC supports mandatory lab attendance and perhaps would like to see it stated even more forcefully; the attendance question centers around standard lecture style classes.

Faculty Senate President:

President's Report:

Dr. Thurman said his report would be brief. He advised there was a delay in establishing the Ad Hoc Committee the Senators voted to approve at the prior meeting. He said the delay in part was that he wanted to give the administration the information that the committees would be developed. Dr. Thurman said the administration will provide information to the topics, and then the Senate Ad Hoc groups will move forward. One goal is for the groups to answer sticking points and report back to the Executive Committee, and then the Senate.

He noted that Ad Hoc Committee on Testing has not yet met due to the chair being in Uganda. He reported the membership on that group is: Dr. Lewis, Dr. Wymore, Dr. Rouch, Dr. Alfrey, and Dr. Wilson. Dr. Beaman suggested that student input could also be sought.

Dr. Thurman reminded the Senators that the next meeting would be in January since the General Faculty Meeting is routinely scheduled to occur in December. He noted the agenda for that meeting would be distributed by email for a vote for approval.

Voting Item:

FS 17-18-003 was presented and discussed. Dr. Thurman explained that the Budget and Benefits committee level recommendation was presented and discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and it received very strong support. He advised that Dr. Champlin knew he would not be able to attend the Senate meeting and therefore wrote a lengthy endorsement in strong support of the motion asking that it be shared with Senators. Dr. Thurman read the message. The motion was moved for a vote, and Senators unanimously approved it. The approved formal recommendation will be forwarded to the administration for their response/approval/action. A report will be made at the next Senate meeting on the status. Dr. Thurman advised that the motion was a clear example of service to our faculty being performed at the Committee (Budget and Benefits) and the Senate levels.

He commented that in his view, it is a worthy goal for the Senate to have a few items upon which to focus each year, and that they should be done well. He said this is one of those worthy items that will be of service to both our our faculty and the institution during the 2017-2018 Faculty Senate term.

Dr. Curtis commented that being able to use the checklist the Senate provided for the process of presenting formal recommendations may have been instrumental in getting FS 17-18-003 moved forward. She expressed appreciation for the efforts that produced the helpful document.

Committee reports:

Dr. Thurman said due to the brute-force cyber-attack, the combined written committee reports document would be distributed at a later time. Many committee chairpersons were not able to access their files in order to prepare a report. The combined committee chairpersons' reports would be distributed for review in advance of the January Senate meeting, and would also be added to the Joint November/December Minutes for completeness of the files and the permanent record of activities.

Old Business:

There was no old business to address.

New Business:

There was no new business to address.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.