

OSU-CHS FACULTY SENATE
2020-2021
January 15, 2021 Minutes
(Approved: 2-12-21 with minor changes)

Zoom meeting: Noon to 1:00 p.m.

*Invitees: Drs. Anne Weil, Jason Beaman, Lora Cotton, Kath Curtis, Gavin Gardner, Sarah Hall, Regina Lewis, Charles Sanny, and Eric Warren
Dr. Stroup
All OSU-CHS Faculty*

Recorder: Dr. Anne Weil

Attendance:

Senate members present for all or part of the meeting: Drs. Weil, Beaman, Cotton, Curtis, Gardner, Hall, Lewis, Sanny, and Warren. Dr. Beaman had to arrive after the meeting started, and Dr. Warren had to leave before the end of the meeting.

Administrator Present: Dr. Stroup

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:02 by Dr. Weil. Dr. Weil started the meeting off with the approval of the agenda for this meeting. Motion by Dr. Hall, seconded by Drs. Curtis and Sanny. Agenda unanimously approved.

Action Items

1. *Faculty Senate Agenda approved. Moved by Dr. Cotton, seconded by Dr. Curtis
Action: Approved*
2. *Minutes from last meeting Moved by Dr. Curtis, seconded by Dr. Hall
Action: Approved with minor edits to page 1*
3. *Correct spelling in Learning Resources Committee Report. Moved by Dr. Curtis, seconded by Dr. Beaman
Action: Approved*
4. *Request for IRB Policies and Procedures. Moved by Dr. Cotton, seconded by Dr. Beaman,
Action: Tabled*

Administrative Reports:

Dr. Stroup followed up with the topic that Dr. Hall mentioned about the Diversity Equity Inclusion Committee in Stillwater. Recommendations were sent but were not included on that council. When Dr. Brenda Davidson was brought on board in October, one of the discussions that Dr. Stroup and Dr. Davidson discussed was creating her own committee here so she can get faculty input and help with the students. That committee is meeting monthly and very active. Dr. Davidson is also working closely with Tina Tappana from Human Resources who focuses on faculty and staff while Dr. Davidson focuses on the students.

Dr. Stroup mentioned that Dr. Weil has a new link on the webpage for Faculty Senate and that Dr. Davidson has a link for the Diversity office. Dr. Stroup encouraged the faculty to explore the links.

The testing pod is running 196 tests a day. Dr. Stroup informed the faculty that even if the pod is full to contact Ms. Teel and she can get you tested. If you're a physician, the best contact would be Dr. Blankenship.

A vaccine clinic has been opened. Dr. Cotton has been overseeing it. They're processing 150 vaccines a day. They are administering the vaccines to patients that are 65 and older and processing through faculty and staff. Employee Health will be working with the hospital to assist with our faculty and staff. Dr. Stroup thanked everyone at Family Medicine.

With the average number of cases staying up, the campus will remain virtual till February 1st. In regards to courses, they are trying to limit large gatherings. Most classes are encouraged to record the lectures, have small group meetings and labs.

A COCA Site Visit is February 9th and 10th which will be virtual. They will be looking at the first 6 months of the Cherokee Nation.

Applications have been closed for the OSU Presidential search. No other updates on the search. The Provost has announced his retirement.

Approval of the Minutes:

With edit changed misspell of Charles Sanny Name on the first page. Motion to approve with minor edits expressed by Dr. Curtis, seconded by Dr. Hall. Minutes unanimously approved.

Faculty Senate President's Report:

Dr. Weil received a report from the Faculty Affairs Committee that the vote affirming the AOA Code of Ethics passed.

The Faculty Senate Web page is now up after some delays of editing documents. The webpage still has some documents to upload.

The packet for the 2020-2021 Faculty Distinguished Service Award is being updated for the call for nominations that goes out in February, and a link will be provided on the webpage.

For the Regents Distinguished Teaching Awards Dr. Weil reached out to Mr. Franklin and requested some modifications. This award requires a student nomination as well as a letter form the associate dean. The call for nominations will go out with a list of people that the students can ask to co-nominate.

Concerns were expressed by faculty regarding Dr. Stephens' December email projecting a January 19th return to campus and anxiety about the coronavirus, but HR announced extension of the policy to February 1st.

Agenda Item presented for voting:

No items for voting

Discussion Items:

No discussion items.

Senate Review of Committee Reports:

The reports were received by the Senate members. There were no remarks or discussion of the reports from the members. Dr. Weil added that the Student Affairs Committee is doing an internal evaluation of if their committee was representative of both campuses and different kinds of teaching and if that was equitable assorted. The committee will send a proposed revision of the faculty senate bylaws if not equitably distributed.

Dr. Curtis expressed a typo with one report wanted to know if we correct those typos. Motion to correct the type with Learning Resources Report, seconded by Dr. Beaman.

Dr. Hall, OSU-Faculty Council Representative, shared that they had a meeting which was well attended. Speakers discussed the updated MLK parade and other events in Stillwater that will be occurring on January 18th.

They also discussed the Diversity Equity Inclusion task force. They are generating a diversity cord for students, faculty, and staff to wear at graduation ceremony if they participated in certain events.

Dr. Cotton, Oklahoma State Board of Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council Representative, shared at their meeting they discussed at the beginning of a cycle called the work plan they use the annual survey to select action items. This list is still being finalized. One item discussed was gun safety concern and how faculty can defuse conflict in conversations and managing strong emotions in academic settings. Dr. Beaman mentioned the “Crucial Conversations” course taught by himself and Dr. Som that could be adapted to other campuses. The “Mental Health First Aid” was also mentioned and Dr. Beaman stated that there would be several virtual opportunities to participate in that class over the next six months. Dr. Curtis mentioned staff discussions as well. HR has sent an email with professional development links, some of which are applicable.

Old Business:

No items to consider.

New Business:

Dr. Beaman suggested that the Faculty Senate make a special acknowledgement of the faculty who have gone above and beyond during the pandemic. Dr. Hall included ECHO members. Response was enthusiastic. A formal call for nominations and will be conducted next month.

Dr. Beaman brought to the faculty senate’s attention some difficulties involving IRB decisions. Dr. Weil noted the IRB is a regulatory committee, not a Faculty Senate committee, and is bound by Federal policy. There was an extensive discussion about themes arising from Dr. Beaman’s presentation and broader problems came to light.

Firstly, the Faculty Senate is largely ignorant of the procedural workings of the IRB and was unaware of whether procedures were formally outlined or regularly followed.

Secondly, Dr. Curtis described systemic problems with students’ and residents’ understanding of how and when to seek feedback and approval on research protocols. While graduate students are required to complete RCR training, COM students are not. There was general agreement that faculty members needed to assist their students and mentees with IRB approval as part of their training, as well as being required to sign off on anything submitted by their students.

Thirdly, it is possible that some faculty members erroneously believe that they can make a decision on when a full approval process is needed.

A motion was made by Dr. Cotton to request the IRB’s Policy and Procedures, and was seconded by Dr. Beaman.

Dr. Curtis proposed an alternative that she and Dr. Cotton, both members of the IRB committee contact them regarding, specifically, remediation of declined protocols.

Discussion was tabled until next month. Links were provided in the chat. It was requested that these be provided in the minutes. They are as follow:

<https://medicine.okstate.edu/research/human-subjects-research/policies.html>

<https://research.okstate.edu/compliance/rcr/training.html>

Dr. Curtis expressed that all the faculty greatly appreciate the deferring of tenure and promotion decisions due to COVID. Basic science teaching faculty have an annual contract renewal. Dr. Curtis asked about a single year of automatic contract renewal for them. Dr. Stroup advised that it’s the Chairs who decide what contracts to renew.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:35 pm.