

Minutes

June 5, 2017, 6:00 PM, the Mt. McLoughlin Room of the College Union (Klamath Falls) and Conference Room #402 (Wilsonville).

Attendance/Quorum

President David Thaumert called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. All senators or alternates were present except Leanne Reed and Erin Ferrara, Administrative Council, Interim Provost/Dean Leanne Maupin and Sean St. Clair, Academic Council. A quorum was determined.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 2, 2017 meeting were corrected as follows:

- Corrected the Academic Standards second bullet item; it read: “Discussion included concern for Advanced Credit Program (ACP) and ACP scores. There was a question regarding what the minimum ACP score for college credit.” It was amended to read: “Discussion included concern for Advanced Placement (AP) and AP scores. There was a question regarding what the minimum AP score for college credit.”
- Mark Clark corrected the IFS report. The second bullet to read: “Transfer agreements are also of concern as legislators are considering automatic credit of 90 hours from community colleges. This bill has been amended; however, this continues to be an issue.”
- Christopher Syrynk had one correction in the New Business section. The “s” needs to be dropped so that Linda Young and Marilyn Dyruds’ titles read “Communication Professor”.
- Minutes of the May 2, 2017 meeting were approved with the above amendments.

Reports of Officers

Report of the President – David Thaumert

- David asked for feedback on chairing the Faculty Senate meeting from the Wilsonville campus.
- Dr. Naganathan has established the first task force and their goal is to refine the strategic goals set forth from the Leadership Retreat. He would like no more than twenty goals targeted for the coming 14-18 months. The task force has listed these goals and forwarded 17 to the President’s Leadership council to deliberate. These will then go to those who attended the retreat. David read the goals but stated that the goals will be released by the task force to all, so he did not go over them in detail. He did state that some goals are already being worked on.
- On May 16, 2017, David attended the “TRU Day” (Technical & Regional Universities) in Salem to work with legislators.
- David attended the Board of Trustees meeting and highlighted Senate Committee work which has been generally well-received by the Board. There has been some pushback on the concept of a compensation philosophy. Dr. Naganathan is still trying to get a sense of the important things that need to be accomplished at OIT.
- David Thaumert stated that now is the time to inform the various committees of issues you would like addressed during the next year.

Report of the Vice President – Hugh Jarrard

- Hugh stated that the job of the Elections Committee is done. This election was the first time the entire election process was done electronically. He stated that of the 189 ballots sent out, 109 were returned for a 57% participation rate. He asked that if anyone has suggestions on possible improvements to the election procedures, to let the committee know. There were questions regarding nominee statements. Hugh stated that he thought this was a strong suggestion that nominees offer a written statement but that it is not a requirement to have a

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 5, 2017

written statement. It was later stated during the meeting open floor period that the Faculty Senate By-laws Article II, Section 1 (C) states that nominees will submit a 200 to 500 word statement.

- Academic Council has not met. No report.

Report of the ASOIT Representative – Zachary Pascual

- The Student Award Banquets was held last week and eight awards were presented.
- Faculty, staff, and students attended the TRU Day in Salem May 16 to talk to legislators.

Reports of Standing Committees

Faculty Rank Promotion & Tenure (RPT) – Ken Usher

- Ken moved that the committee's draft policy on Academic Appointment, Rank and Promotion for Non-Tenure Track Instructional Faculty be approved. Mark Clark seconded. This is OIT-20-04x. From the April Senate meeting discussions, service and workload statements were changed. Fixed term and non-tenure track are terms which are used interchangeably for the same positions, but non-tenure-track (NTT) is more common and thus preferable. There should be an increase for salary in rank, so the committee is requesting that this part of the policy be left as is. Aja Bettencourt-McCarthy moved and Iris Godwin seconded a change to remove the words "or exemplary" in the sentence "with satisfactory or exemplary performance in other areas". Discussion followed. Vote was taken and the nays prevailed. Motion failed. On paragraphs two through four, page eight of the packet, it was discussed whether to delete the statements when non-tenured appointments are or are not appropriate. Mike Pierce moved to strike these paragraphs, there was no second and the amendment motion died. There was a question on why there was no inclusion of adjuncts. This was left to possibly be taken up during the next academic year. Later it was pointed out that there is already a policy covering adjuncts: Part-Time Faculty - OIT 20-011.
- Ken walked through the timeline on page 15. He moved to approve the timeline as attached, Mark Clark seconded. There was a friendly amendment regarding spring week 1 by deleting "prepares and". No discussion followed, vote was taken. No oppositions and no abstentions, motion passed.
- Separately, Ken moved to amend OIT 20-040 (Academic Rank and Promotion for Instructional Faculty) on page 16 to add Provisional Assistant Professor, deleting Instructors. After some discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.
- On pages 17-18, Ken moved to recommend that the Oregon Tech Board of Trustees amend adopted OAR 580-020-0005 to include Instructor I and II and add Provisional Assistant Professor. Mark Clark seconded. There was no further discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed.
- Regarding pages 19-20, Ken moved to approved changes to Promotion Portfolio guidelines. Mark Clark seconded. Discussion included questions on specific requirements including not using the LiveText format portfolio. There was a friendly amendment to add alternates (e.g. open source LaTeX in addition to Adobe Pro). Vote was taken and the motion, with the friendly amendment, passed.

Faculty Welfare – Yasha Rohwer

Yasha stated the committee is working on their year-end report.

Academic Standards – Chris Caster

- Chris stated the committee met May 15, 2017.
- Regarding their first charge, Chris moved and Joe Reid seconded, to add a few qualifying words to the first sentence and delete the second sentence as shown in the paragraph under section A. on page 4. There being no further discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed.
- Regarding the second charge, the withdrawal policy, the committee recommended that the instructor's signature be removed from the "Drops" section only on the Registration Form - Add/Drop/Audit/Withdrawal. The

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 5, 2017

Registrar's office will email notification of drops to the instructors and advisors. Discussion followed. It was suggested that the Registrar do the same to notify if there is a complete withdrawal. This motion passed.

- Regarding the third charge, ESSE, the committee would like to explore this further before reporting to the Senate.
- Regarding the fourth charge, Transfer Credits, the committee would like to wait before suggesting changes due to changes that the HECC may make.
- Regarding Digital Badging, the committee would like to have Senate adopt the Principles of Badging. Chris moved to adopt the badging principles for further development. Spirited discussion followed focusing on the concept of Digital Badging rather than the purpose of the Principles of Badging document. Erika Veth attempted to explain the importance of setting standards for Digital Badging; however, a consensus could not be met. Ken Usher moved and Mark Clark seconded to table this discussion until next year. Motion passed to table the Principles of Badging.

Faculty Compensation (FCC) – Sharon Beaudry

- Sharon Beaudry stated the MGT report has been finalized. According to the communication at the comp study presentation at the beginning of April, HR was schedule to send individual letters to faculty by first week of May. These letters are intended to show each faculty member where their pay is in relation to the results of the MGT study. Several senators have repeatedly asked for HR to send out the faculty compensation letters. To date this has not been done. Later in the meeting the Resolution Regarding Faculty Compensation Information was drafted. Reference the fourth bullet on the Open Floor period of the meeting.
- Joe Reid has been reaching out comparator institutions regarding adjunct pay. To this date, he was unable to obtain information.

Reports of Special or Ad Hoc Committee

Robyn Wilde, Chair of the ad hoc Academic Calendar Review Committee reported that they will take a hiatus over the summer and get back to work in the fall.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

The student registration process is being reviewed; currently, enrollment opens at one minute after midnight. Faculty are asked to collect feedback on this policy. Student feedback so far, via an *ad hoc* survey, is that students would prefer enrollment open at 6:00 or 7:00 am rather than midnight. The ROCK team found the same sentiment, that students prefer early morning enrollment. David Thaemert will collect feedback and pass the information to the Registrar's office.

Open Floor Period

- Aja Bettencourt-McCarthy stated the CCT grants are open and asked faculty to sign up for two events in September, they will be providing a workshop and conference that will be focused on teaching excellence.
- Eve Klopff asked Dean Neupert about the various open positions on campus, such as Director of Library Services, VP Strategic Partnership, etc. Dean Neupert stated that Dr. Naganathan is reviewing all these open positions.
- Barbara Neal, Special Projects & Grants, explained that her department has a newly updated and improved website and would like faculty feedback.

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 5, 2017

- Mark Clark, being familiar with memorandums of Resolution, wrote a resolution for Senate approval. Titled “Resolution Regarding Faculty Compensation Information”, he read the document to the Senate. This resolution is to compel Human Resources to do what they stated they would do and send out the compensation letters to faculty. Discussion followed. Mark Clark moved to approve the Resolution, it was seconded and the vote was taken. No opposition, no abstentions and the motion passed.

Report of the Provost – given by Interim Dean Hallie Neupert

Dean Neupert stated that the Interim Provost is working on the strategic plan with the Department Chairs. There will be a retreat in August when the new Provost will be in place. Part of the agenda for the retreat will include reviewing faculty and equipment needs.

Report of the President’s Council Delegate – David Thamer

No report, as they have not met.

Report of the Association of Oregon Faculty (AOF) Representative – Christian Vukasovich

- Not many new bills introduced, HB3418 withstanding, which is not likely to hurt PEBB and doesn't seem to do anything but save PEBB money.
- HB2864 cultural competency bill got a Bi- partisan vote and will get a work session; it will likely move.
- HB3170 collective bargaining bill scheduled for hearing on the May 18. No oral testimony wanted, as it will be a short hearing trying to pass beneath the anti-labor radar. OSU might come out with concerns, but other universities have not been in opposition. Perhaps the OSU position is due to the public announcement of union organizing movement there. There is an amendment removing language relating to collective bargaining agreements to make it less limiting (minor amendment that is not controversial).
- SB196 adjunct faculty health care is sitting in Ways and Means now. Sitting in stasis, but bill will cost money and we are hoping to get action if they can defer costs until later. Likely to remain alive through end of session.
- HB3288a bill for non-instructional positions reported to explore cost drivers at institutions. The hope is to reign in administrative bloat. It is a positive bill that is likely going to pass with bi-partisan support.
- SB1040 bill for right to work for local employees is on the house floor (to fix problems after legal challenge), with vote likely next week. It basically allows right to work for local non-public employees to get benefit of union without paying dues.
- HB2998 bill that was amended to make it more palatable, is getting info hearing in senate educational committee tomorrow before going to House and senate floor, then to the governor. This is the transfer policy bill. Costs associated aren't too significant, so it is likely to become law as amended. We are neutral on this as is.
- SB 207a AP credit bill for a three or better. There is an amendment to remove lack of choice with firm score of three in statute, but kicks it to the HECC to work on it. It is still kind of dumb, as it isn't necessary. Arnie Roblan loves College Board and showed up to speak in favor of SB207a. The universities think it is not needed, and AOF thinks it takes decisions out of hands of universities and into someone else's hands. However, it is likely to pass as amended and not terribly worrisome currently. AP is better than dual credit, because it has a rigorous test that dual credit lacks (and is more rigorous curriculum) so this is why we didn't actively oppose it. We are watching and hoping it goes away.
- Most bad bills died, and the ones we pushed have passed.
- SB54 HECC catch-all bill changed annual review to every other year. No red flags that we can see. Clean up bill that is likely to pass with a high priority. Changes make sense.
- HB2019 is scheduled for work session the 24th requiring corporations to share more info from their books. This is part of tax reform and revenue discussions.
- Revenue package would raise \$2 billion (Tina Kotek's bill), which we support, is unlikely to pass in light of other tax increases on the docket that republicans will oppose. Almost certain to be deferred if passed due to games played by business community. They said they would play ball, but now only want more belt tightening instead of giving any ground. We need five or six republicans to vote for it. Long term budget fix not likely to pass, but we will continue to fight and follow this.

Oregon Institute of Technology Faculty Senate Minutes – June 5, 2017

- A measure came out this afternoon May 17, to be a resolution to continue going and avoid a shut-down.
- May 24th higher education lobby day. We will be representing AOF there. We will be working with legislators and the governor's office. Targeting leadership folks with revenue and budget issues.
- PERS – the situation is that all bills have died except for two bills at Ways and Means to be part of a review package bargain. SB559 and SB560, which are now being held (empty vessels) for future bargaining use. Current content doesn't mean much right now.
- The Morrow case removed protections for benefits in PERS, so legislation may now withstand legal challenges we previously used to protect them. This is why we need to very much support AOF's PAC activities (fund them) moving forward.

Report of the Interinstitutional Faculty Senate (IFS) Representative – Mark Clark

IFS met at SOU and discussed HB2998 which relates to community colleges and higher education and the transfer path for students. Next meeting will be in October in Portland and will focus on transfer issues. It will include community college faculty and representatives from Oregon's public universities in addition to IFS senators.

Report of the Fiscal Operations Advisory Council (FOAC) Representative – Hugh Jarrard

- Brian Fox gave a quarterly report and also reported on faculty compensation and tuition.
- The Geothermal plant on the Klamath Falls campus is now back up and running.

Report of the Administrative Council Delegate – Leanne Reed

No report:

Adjournment

President David Thaemert reminded everyone of the Organizational Meeting to follow the adjournment of this regular Faculty Senate meeting. He adjourned the meeting at 9:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Don McDonnell, Secretary
/jP