

FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
to the
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER. The Faculty Advisory Council to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education met at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 2, 2003, in the State Regents' Library Conference Room. Members present for the meeting were: Al Schwarzkopf, Chuck Edgley, Nancy Osborn, Jim Lambert, Judy Colwell, and Claudia Buckmaster. Chairman Buckmaster called the meeting to order and presided.

2. MINUTES. The minutes were approved as presented.

3. FACULTY ASSEMBLY. Chairman Buckmaster reported that only four faculty surveys had been received. The deadline to return the faculty surveys is November 1. She suggested FAC contact individuals that have not responded as the November 1 deadline approaches. FAC reviewed the agenda for the Faculty Assembly, scheduled for Saturday, November 1, 2003, at 8 a.m. FAC discussed the draft of the FAC annual report, which will be presented to the Faculty Assembly.

4. ACADEMIC POLICY ISSUES. Dr. Phil Moss discussed the addition of Advanced Placement statistics to the college admission curriculum requirements for mathematics. He and Bryce Fair also discussed curricular issues relating to the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program and high school graduation. Bryce Fair indicated that the policy could be changed to allow students to choose between several history or government courses for part of the current 3 unit requirement. He stated that the change in the grouping of the courses would not affect the overall requirements.

Dr. Moss stated that the policy pertaining to the residency status of undocumented immigrant students had been changed based on SB 596. The changes would allow graduates of Oklahoma high schools to receive state student financial aid. He discussed a policy revision relating to military dependants, which allows graduates of Oklahoma high schools to be admitted as Oklahoma residents. Dr. Moss also reported that the State Regents have also approved the use of the IELTS in addition to the TOEFL for admission of students for whom English is a second language.

Dr. Moss discussed possible revisions to the undergraduate graduation policy, noting that currently at least 15 of the final 30 hours must be completed at the institution awarding the degree. The changes would allow institutions flexibility in the requirements to account for extenuating circumstances, such as military service or other unforeseeable life changes.

5. EDGE UPDATE. Dr. Ruth Ann Dreyer reported that regional hearings have been scheduled at various locations around the state. Each institution will be hosting a forum (excluding Connors State College, who has joined with Northeastern Oklahoma State University for the event). Each forum will provide an opportunity for the public to learn about and give input and opinions on the Expert Panel recommendations.

6. RETIREMENT. Tommy Beavers, Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System, discussed the benefits provided to employees of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. He noted the importance of keeping beneficiaries updated. He also discussed the retirement procedures and encouraged

faculty to avoid missing benefits by beginning paperwork early. He explained retirement options and provided examples of benefits to retirees and beneficiaries.

7. **OTHER.** The FAC discussed plans for the November 1 Faculty Assembly meeting. They also reviewed a rough draft of the FAC annual report and made several changes.

8. **FAC WORKPLAN FOR 2003.** FAC discussed the following workplan topics:

a. Faculty Compensation (faculty salaries, budget restraints, faculty workload issues) and Faculty Benefits issues (retirement and medical).

b. Governance/Faculty Voice at Capitol (legislative issues).

c. Student Performance (student preparation for college, student assessment issues, academic integrity).

d. Technology (OneNet, distance learning, Use for Academic Effectiveness, voice over IP).

8. **ADJOURNMENT.** With no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.