

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council 2010 Annual Report

Purpose. The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) is to communicate to the Chancellor and the State Regents the views and interests of all Oklahoma college and university faculty on those issues that relate to the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the State Regents. In representing faculty, the Faculty Advisory Council shall attempt to accurately represent the positions of faculty and develop recommendations to the State Regents.

Creation. In 1990, seven representatives were nominated and held its first meeting. Bylaws were drafted by the first Faculty Advisory Committee and approved by the State Regents on December 17, 1990. In June 2002, the State Regents approved the Faculty Advisory Committee's name change to the Faculty Advisory Council. FAC members serve two-year terms. Until 2008, two members represented the research universities (one from OU and one from OSU); two represent the regional universities; two represent the community colleges; and one represents the independent institutions. In February 2008, the State Regents approved expanding membership to a total of fourteen with the same proportional representation.

2010 MEMBERS

Research Universities

LeRoy Blank, University of Oklahoma
Frans Currier, University of Oklahoma
Birne Binegar, Oklahoma State University
Jean Van Delinder, Oklahoma State University

Regional Universities

Denise Deason-Toyne, Northeastern State University
David H. Hartmann, University of Central Oklahoma
Robin Jones, Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Mary Penick, Cameron University

Community Colleges

Rex Ackerson, Northern Oklahoma College
Pat Creech, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College
Dana K. Glencross, Oklahoma City Community College
John Wood, Rose State College

Independent Colleges

Beverly Devries, Southern Nazarene University

CHAIRMEN

January - March 2010	Frans Currier
April - September 2010	John Wood
October - December 2010	Beverly Devries

During the 2010 year, Chancellor Glen D. Johnson worked in partnership with the FAC to serve the interests of higher education faculty and institutions of Oklahoma. Dr. Debra L. Stuart, Vice Chancellor for Educational Partnerships, served as advisor and liaison.

2010 WORKPLAN

In October 2009, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 7, 2009. The 2010 FAC members used this information to design a workplan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2010, the FAC addressed the following workplan items:

- 1. Concealed weapons on campus:** Shared research from institutions to use as resource for resolutions; the FAC resolution was jointly approved by the Student Advisory Board; a more general version will be considered next year and institutional faculty are encouraged to jointly develop resolutions with their students.
- 2. Student preparation for college:** Reviewed the ACT Course Placement Study and followed legislation requiring four years of math in high school that did not pass.
- 3. Textbook costs:** FAC members participated in panel discussion at the March 5 conference in Tulsa; discussion included the complexity of the issues, increasing use of electronic texts, costs structures, revenue models, offering student options, standardizing texts by course, IRS taxing publishers on unused texts, sharing cost saving tips, Text2Trade, and other software; recent articles were distributed; learned about “open” materials and textbook substitutes; distributed the textbook discussion paper to the Council on Instruction; and reviewed survey of institutional practices to reduce textbook costs.
- 4. Communication with faculty state-wide:** FAC members consulted with the State Regents Director of Communications on developing a communications plan; approved a new version of the website at www.okhighered.org/FAC; and contacted faculty senate chairs at every institution.
- 5. Legislative input:** Reviewed and discussed the Chancellor’s legislative updates.
- 6. Integrity of online courses:** Learned about MERLOT - Multimedia Educational Resources for Learning and Online Teaching that has been purchased by the State Regents and discussed the issues of students taking own exams and acquiring answers.
- 7. Concurrent enrollment:** Leaned about the dual enrollment legislation and policy on concurrent enrollment.
- 8. Adjunct faculty:** Reviewed trends in number of adjunct faculty.

2010 ACTIVITIES

The FAC holds monthly meetings to discuss the workplan items and matters affecting all higher education institutions in Oklahoma. Copies of the minutes are on the FAC web site at <http://www.okhighered.org/fac>.

Delivered annual report and introduced incoming and outgoing members at December 2009 State Regents' meeting.

Designed communications plan for reaching all faculty members in Oklahoma.

Met with the Student Advisory Board to discuss concealed weapons on campuses, textbook costs and online teaching.

Reviewed the report, *Salaries in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education 2009-2010: Faculty and Selected Administrative Positions*, in which it is reported that faculty salaries for all ranks at the public institutions is 79.66% of the national salaries.

Participated in Higher Education Day at the State Capitol on February 16th.

Provided comments at the Annual Tuition Hearing on April 27.

Presented at the Textbook Evolution Conference sponsored by Tulsa Community College and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education on March 5.

Conducted Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities.

Hosted annual Faculty Assembly on November 20, 2010 for discussion with faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities. Dr. Beth Jeffries, Program Director for the PTSD Clinical Team, Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center in Muskogee, presented on veterans' issues.