

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council 2013 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.

2013 MEMBERS

Research Universities

Georgia Kosmopoulou, University of Oklahoma
Kari E. Boyce, University of Oklahoma
Edgar A. O'Rear, III, University of Oklahoma
John N. Veenstra, Oklahoma State University
Warren Finn, Oklahoma State University

Regional Universities

Abbas Johari, Cameron University
Steven J. Maier, Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Jim Ford, Rogers State University
James W. Mock, University of Central Oklahoma

Community Colleges

Aaron Elmer, Murray State College
Albert C. Heitkamper, Oklahoma City Community College
Craig Dawkins, Rose State College
Don Stinson, Northern Oklahoma College

Independent Colleges

Timothy D. Norton, Oral Roberts University
Ram S. Mohan, University of Tulsa

CHAIRMEN

January - March 2013
April - September 2013
October - December 2013

Steven J. Maier
John N. Veenstra
Jim Ford

During the 2013 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.

2013 WORK PLAN

In October 2012, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 3, 2012. The 2013 FAC members used this information to design a work plan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2013, the FAC addressed the following work plan items:

1. **Improve services for current military, veterans and family members including use of prior learning assessment:** Discussion topics included offering services on campus, dealing with PTSD, and contributing to the State Regents ongoing efforts including the annual conference.
2. **Identify and share best practices for IT services and support for faculty:** FAC members participated in a panel at the Higher Education I.T. Summit and are working with Chief Information Officer for Higher Education, and the Council on Information Technology (COIT) to promote the sharing of best practices and OneNet support of campus operations.
3. **Clarify faculty issues and benefits including work load, adjuncts, salaries, retirement, and health insurance:** Discussion included the collecting of examples of changes in workload policies or practices and impact of changes in health care options on adjunct contracts.
4. **Improve college graduation rates including use of online courses and reducing textbook costs:** FAC received an update on the State Regents Online Task Force, MERLOT and Affordable Learning Solutions (ALS) and is offering advice on these projects. Key issues are academic integrity and which students benefit most from online and blended courses.
5. **Improve preparation for higher education of all students including those direct from high school, adults, transfers, and lower division students in areas including math, reading, writing, listening, and financial literacy:** The FAC was updated on the work of the Math Success Group and implementation of the Common Core State Standards and assessments.

2013 ACTIVITIES

The FAC holds monthly meetings to discuss the work plan 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 2013 State Regents' meeting.

Shared ideas with the Student Advisory Board on academic advising, teaching and faculty compensation.

Participated in Higher Education Day at the State Capitol.

Participated in the panel discussion on "IT Services & Support from a Faculty Perspective" at the Oklahoma Higher Education I.T. Summit on March 29, 2013.

Provided comments at the Annual Tuition Hearing on April 18, 2013.

Conducted Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities in October 2013.

Hosted annual Faculty Assembly on November 2, 2013 for discussion with faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities. Chancellor Glen D. Johnson presented the state of Oklahoma higher education.