

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council 2014 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.

2014 MEMBERS

Research Universities

Kari E. Boyce, University of Oklahoma
Edgar A. O'Rear, III, University of Oklahoma
Warren Finn, Oklahoma State University
Kenneth E. Bartels, Oklahoma State University

Regional Universities

Jim Ford, Rogers State University
James W. Mock, University of Central Oklahoma
Michael T. Dunn, Cameron University
Fred Gates, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

Community Colleges

Craig Dawkins, Rose State College
Don Stinson, Northern Oklahoma College
Julie Dinger-Blanton, Connors State College
Albert C. Heitkamper, Oklahoma City Community College

Independent Colleges

Ram S. Mohan, University of Tulsa
Leon DeSecottier, Mid-America Christian University

CHAIRMEN

January - March 2014
April - September 2014
October - December 2014

Craig Dawkins
James Mock
Kari Boyce

During the 2014 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.

2014 WORK PLAN

In October 2013, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 2, 2013. The 2014 FAC members used this information to design a work plan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2014, the FAC addressed the following work plan items:

1. **Improve and identify best practices for general education and college student competence in key areas such as financial literacy, computer proficiency, critical thinking and communicating:** Discussion included a history of State Regents policy on general education requirements and the process for making changes in policy or at the institution.
2. **Explore faculty workload impact on academic efficiency:** Existing national and Oklahoma information was reviewed and discussion included a need for tracking adjunct numbers, comparing among institutions and sharing best practices.
3. **Improve retention of college students and identify best practices in career advisement, student motivation, program changes, faculty development and enrollment management:** Learned about best practices from enrollment management practitioners. Received update on the status of Summer Academies.
4. **Improve success of transfer students and identify best practices in efforts such as course equivalency, articulation, curriculum alignment, outcome assessments and feedback reports:** Learned about issues that impact transfer students and examined some data.
5. **Explore success of concurrent students especially in online courses:** Discussion included a review of the TCC EXELerate pilot program to reach more students.
6. **Support and provide advice on current State Regents initiatives including Complete College America and the Online Education Task Force.** Received updates on Complete College America progress and discussions in the Online Education Task Force.

2014 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 2014 State Regents' meeting.

Shared ideas with the Student Advisory Board on online education, Complete College America, feedback from faculty in courses, academic advising, and financial literacy.

Participated in Higher Education Day at the State Capitol.

Provided comments at the Annual Tuition Hearing.

Approved a resolution opposing legislation that would allow guns on campuses.

Conducted Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities in October 2014.

Hosted annual Faculty Assembly on November 1, 2014 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.