

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council 2015 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.

2015 MEMBERS

Research Universities

Edgar A. O'Rear, III, University of Oklahoma
Kenneth E. Bartels, Oklahoma State University
Marie Hanigan, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Randall Davis and Jarrad R. Wagner, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Regional Universities

Michael T. Dunn, Cameron University
Fred Gates, Southwestern Oklahoma State University
Jason Prather, East Central University
Pamela Louderback, Northeastern State University

Community Colleges

Julie Dinger-Blanton, Connors State College
Albert C. Heitkamper and E. Ginnett Rollins, Oklahoma City Community College
Rayshell Clapper, Seminole State College
Larry Robinson, Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City

Independent Colleges

Leon DeSecottier, Mid-America Christian University
Kirk Jackson, Oklahoma Wesleyan University
Jyoti Abraham, Bacone College

CHAIRMEN

January - March 2015

April – June 2015

July - December 2015

Edgar O’Rear

Kenneth Bartels

Michael Dunn

During the 2015 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.

2015 WORK PLAN

In October 2014, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 2, 2014. The 2015 FAC members used this information to design a work plan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2015, the FAC addressed the following work plan items:

To improve understanding of (a) the diverse work responsibilities of faculty across the State of Oklahoma and (b) the impact that policy and funding have on students, faculty and staff in their roles related to teaching/learning, advising/mentoring, research/scholarship and institutional, professional and community service.

- 1. Enhance public understanding of faculty work load, market value of salaries and instructional costs. Describe faculty work load by institutional mission and responsibilities such as teaching, advising, service, and research. Provide information on cost of instruction and economic impact. Expand use of Salaries in The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education annual report. Develop communications for distribution.** Discussion included how responsibilities vary based on institutional mission and discipline and investigating whether videos exist. Information will be collected for discussion at a future meeting.
- 2. Expand communication with all faculty. Share information that comes to the Faculty Advisory Council. Develop communication strategy that reaches all institutions.** Discussion included ways to link FAC website to that of the institutions, ways to improve communication with all faculty and to provide input to legislators.
- 3. Improve student preparation for college and services for college students including veterans. Learn more about the current K-12 standards and the process for developing new standards.** The concern about preparation of students for college, often expressed in the annual faculty survey, led to a focus on retention. The FAC learned about the development of the K-12 Oklahoma science standards and how retention information is used at research universities, regional universities, and community colleges. Presentations from

high school counselors about the transition from high school led to identification of issues related to preparation and retention. Presentations on campus veteran services included discussion of what services are available at each institution.

4. **Support and provide advice on current State Regents initiatives including Complete College America, Online Education Task Force, Campus Safety and Security Task Force, and legislation.** Resolution opposing firearms on public university and college campuses in Oklahoma was approved. An endorsement of the Student Advisory Board's recommendation on diversity was approved with the addition of national origin.

2015 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 student preparation and retention, academic advising, K-12 science standards, and gun resolutions.

Participated in Higher Education Day at the State Capitol.

Provided comments at the Annual Tuition Hearing.

Conducted Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities in October 2015.

Hosted annual Faculty Assembly on November 14, 2015 for discussion with faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Blake Sonobe presented the state of Oklahoma higher education.