

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
Research Park, Oklahoma City

**FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 26, 2011**

Call to Order. The Faculty Advisory Council met at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2011 at the State Regents' office. Members present were Georgia Kosmopoulou, Deborah Lockwood, Denise Deason-Toyne (phone), Robin Jones, Luis Montes, Pat Creech, John Wood, Dany Doughan and Wendell Sutton. Also present was Debra Stuart of the State Regents' staff.

Minutes from last meeting. The minutes of the April 2011 FAC meeting were approved as distributed.

Oklahoma Teacher's Retirement System. Dr. James Wilbanks, Executive Director of OTRS, provided a status report. He described OTRS as one of the five worst funded systems in the country at a 48% funded ration. He cautioned that this is not as bad as it sounds because cash flow is not in crisis, they are averaging 9.5% on investment returns, and they have reduced costs. Future concerns included reduced benefits for new employees, and virtual/home/charter school teachers not paying into the system.

Discussion of 2011 work plan topics.

1. keep weapons away from campus: FAC members supplied current faculty resolutions regarding weapons on campus and are working with presidents to oppose legislation
2. increase student success through high school preparation, retention and transfer: FAC learned about the nationally adopted Common Core State Standards, reviewed college retention data, and will learn about GEAR UP
3. establish educational priorities to be funded as appropriations change
4. study effectiveness of federal and state financial aid programs: FAC will learn about effectiveness of Oklahoma's Promise scholarship program
5. improve effectiveness of adjunct faculty
6. reduce student textbook costs: Text2Trade will be available to institutions via OneNet; FAC members will collect information about its use on campus
7. improve awareness and services for student groups, such as veterans and returning adults: OSU-OKC opened a new veteran center; a presentation on the Council on Adult and Experiential Learning is planned
8. raise awareness of pension plans, including funding for OTRS: received update from Executive Director and recommend that all institutions sponsor retirement workshops
9. improve security on campus: received update on the Campus Life and Safety and Security (CLASS) Task Force

Contacts with faculty at all institutions. FAC members will update the contacts list prior to the annual Faculty Assembly.

Next Meeting. The next FAC meetings are Friday, September 16, at 3:00 pm; Friday, October 14, at 3:00 pm; Saturday, November 12, at 9:00 am; and Friday, December 9, at 3:00 pm in the State Regents office.

Other. The annual Faculty Assembly will be held on Saturday, November 12, at 10:00 am in the State Regents' office. The annual survey will be distributed for FAC members to review in advance of the September meeting. It was suggested that the State Regents' function be included and that the items be ranked instead of rated 1 to 5.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.