

# Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

## FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL Minutes

**Call to order.** The Faculty Advisory Council met at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at the State Regents' office. Members present were Kari Boyce, Edgar O'Rear (telephone), Kenneth Bartels, Jim Ford (telephone), James Mock, Michael Dunn, Fred Gates, Craig Dawkins, Don Stinson (telephone), Julie Dinger-Blanton, Ram Mohan, and Leon DeSecottier (telephone). Also present was Debra Stuart of the State Regents' staff. Craig Dawkins presided.

**Minutes from last meeting.** The minutes of the January 2014 FAC meeting were approved as distributed.

**State Regents policies related to General Education.** Dr. Blake Sonobe, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Daniel Archer, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs presented a history of general education in the State Regents policy *Undergraduate Degree Requirements* (3.14): same since 1994 with computer proficiency option added in 1998. Blake suggested that FAC members discuss possible changes with their academic officers because institutions have flexibility within policy and include as topics at the Course Equivalency Project (CEP) faculty meetings. Discussion included HLC expectations for more frequent review of what is general education and how to add courses to a curriculum.

**Legislative Update.** Hollye Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, updated the FAC members on the status of bills and the priorities leading up to the deadlines for committees and chambers.

**Annual Report to State Regents.** Jim Ford reported on the presentation of the FAC Annual Report to the State Regents. The State Regents asked about online education, e-texts as the method for reducing costs, and faculty workload.

**Discussion of 2014 work plan topics.** The following topics were selected as 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: review existing information.
3. Improve retention of college students and identify best practices in career advisement, student motivation, program changes, faculty development and enrollment management: Learn from practitioners.
4. Improve success of transfer students and identify best practices in efforts such as course equivalency, articulation, curriculum alignment, outcome assessments and feedback reports.
5. Explore success of concurrent students especially in online courses.
6. Support and provide advice on current State Regents initiatives including Complete College America and the Online Education Task Force.

**Future meetings.**

Tuesday, March 25, at 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 24, at 9:00 a.m. -- State Regents Annual Tuition Hearing

Tuesday, April 29, at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 13, at 3:00 p.m.

**Other.** Debra Stuart shared the FAC work plan with the Student Advisory Board who will consider possible shared resolutions. The SAB expressed interest in #5 and #6, including timely feedback and grades in #2, and including academic advising in #3.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.