

## **FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes**

**Call to order.** The Faculty Advisory Council met at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the State Regents' office. Members present were Edgar O'Rear, Kenneth Bartels, Marie Hanigan, Fred Gates, Jason Prather (telephone), Pamela Louderback (telephone), Rayshell Clapper, and Kirk Jackson. Also present was Debra Stuart of the State Regents' staff. Kenneth Bartels presided.

**Minutes from last meeting.** The minutes of the April 2015 FAC meeting were approved as distributed.

**Veteran Issues.** Dr. Thom D. Balmer, Assistant Professor in Department of Psychology at Cameron University; Dr. Shad Satterthwaite, Visiting Assistant Professor and Equal Opportunity Officer in Department of Political Science at University of Oklahoma; and Jennifer Trimmer, Veterans Student Services Coordinator and Tillman Point Person at University of Oklahoma described some of the issues facing veterans on campus and the services offered. Balmer recommended talking about normal life, respecting the flag, recognizing that team work, clearly defining steps that are flexible, managing classroom and using texts. Trimmer described the Veterans Support Alliance (veterans.ou.edu) that include Top Ten Green Zone tips and making veterans aware of resources at institutional, local, state and national levels.

**Diversity issues.** Members voted to endorse the Student Advisory Board's recommendation on "Diversity" and include national origin as follows:

The- Student Advisory Board recommends that all public colleges and universities in Oklahoma actively promote diversity in terms of race, age, culture, gender, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, and socioeconomic status. The Student Advisory board also recommends that each higher education institution in Oklahoma develop a general academic recruitment plan that has an intentional focus on increasing the diversity of their student populations in an effort to have a state-wide higher education student population reflective of the demographic diversity of Oklahoma.

#### **Discussion of 2015 work plan topics and discussion of priorities.**

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. Other future topics will cover how school counseling impacts choice of major, issues related to transition from high school, and how graduate and professional programs differ. OU and Cameron University described services for veteran students.
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.*

**Future meeting dates and time for Fall semester.** Members will be contacted during the summer regarding dates.

**Other.** Ken Bartels led discussion about adjuncts in professional and graduate programs and other categories of faculty regarding benefits and hiring practices.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.