

Faculty Assembly Minutes
Monday, April 24, 2023 (12:40am)

Present: Steve Abedon, Terri Bucci, Cynthia Callahan, Eric Anderman, Jamison Kantor, Dawn Kitchen, Phil Mazzocco, Kate Shannon, Carolyn Skinner, Kip Curtis, Carol Landry, Amy Brunell, Glenn Hartz, Sergei Chmutov, Mirel Caibar, Joe Fahey, Elizabeth Kolkovich, Molly Cavender, Heather Tanner, John Thrasher, Faith Wyzgoski, Del Lindsey, Terri Winnick, Scopas Poggo, Dennis Shaffer, Donna Farland-Smith, Kelly Whitney, Ozeas Costa, Agus Munoz-Garcia, Tara Hines

1. Approval of 3/23/23 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes

A motion to approve the 3/23/2023 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes was made by Heather Tanner and seconded by Elizabeth Kolkovich. The minutes were approved with 23 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

2. Committee Reports

See Appendix for standing committee reports. An opportunity was provided to ask questions of each committee. The only question pertained to the Professional Development Committee. A faculty member asked if decisions had been made regarding course releases, FPLs, and SAs for the coming year. Dean Anderman responded that all recommended requests will likely to be supported, but additional budget information is required before final announcements will be made.

Amy Brunell then provided a list of faculty-relevant highlights from a recent Senior Staff meeting.

- OSU Mansfield will be launching our new website on May 19th. Kidron Stamper is willing to hold learning sessions to assist faculty and staff with the new website format.
- Don Wallis will offer “Stop the Bleed” Training for Faculty in the fall. STOP THE BLEED® Interactive Course guides individuals through the three methods of bleeding control using video demonstrations, interactive learning, and spontaneous quizzes. The class will be a mixture of online and in person sessions. The participants would complete an online portion on their own time and then bring that certificate to the hands-on class. We would offer the hands-on portion 4 times. We can accommodate up to 40 participants per session. If we can get enough participants, we may qualify for a grant to get several kit stations on campus. The hope is to get 1-2 kits installed in each building. Training would be offered yearly, with staff attending every other year or yearly if they want. All the training is 100% FREE. I’ve included a link to the interactive portion. See the following website: <https://www.stopthebleed.org/training/online-course/>
- Our Annual Day of Giving will be May 3rd. You will have the option to help fund several of our very impactful scholarships, so please considering supporting.

A brief discussion of campus safety and communications followed. One faculty member expressed a desire to have more available security contact capabilities in Ovalwood Hall. Cell phone reception

remains an issue for some on various parts of the campus, particularly in the Ovalwood basement floor. Additionally, two faculty members noted that we are only able to receive important campus notifications on our phones or via email. Instructors who are teaching or otherwise engaged may miss these communications. Dean Anderman agreed to speak to the Director of Emergency Management look into this issue.

3. Senators' Reports

University Senator

Sergei Chmutov provided the University Senate Report. On March 23rd University Senate meeting a main issue of discussions was about the procedure for bringing an issue to the Senate in general. In the future all requests will have to go through a Steering Committee. At a recent Faculty Council Meeting, the Committee on Academic Misconduct change membership from 40 members to 60 members, comprised of 30 faculty and 30 students. Finally, at the last University Senate meeting, State Bill 83 was discussed. Links to several related resolutions follow:

- [Faculty Council Resolution](#)
- [Council of Graduate Students Resolution](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Government Resolution](#)

Arts and Sciences (A&S) Senator (Heather Tanner, Senate Rep.)

The full text of Heather Tanner's ASC Senate Report is provided in full below:

ASC Senate Report -- Mar. 29, 2023 Meeting

The majority of the ASC Senate meeting on March 29th was devoted to Dean Horn's presentation about the Strategic Plan (see attached document). Dean Horn began by stating that despite President Johnson's departure adding a bit of uncertainty to the process, the Strategic Plan is anchored in the Provost's academic plan and therefore, he and the university leadership believe that it will remain in place with the new president. When asked by Steven Spencer, Chair of ASC Senate, Dean Horn indicated that he did not know why President Johnson was leaving. He said that the firm hired to do the presidential search is known for identifying academics for presidential positions (rather than business leaders or political figures).

Dean Horn then discussed the Strategic Plan and highlighted the following:

- ASC financial resources have dramatically improved, and therefore the funds are available to achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan.
- Throughout the plan, the goal was to be concrete in the metrics to measure the success of the plan.
- There were some built in assumptions about what to do first (as it is a wide-ranging and ambitious plan). Dean Horn did not elaborate on what these assumptions were.
- Enrollment and space were two constraints/gatekeepers of the plan. The ASC deans have asked all departments and programs about where they have the capacity to grow and what new programs would foster enrollment and excellence. Some departments and

programs are currently constrained by space (e.g. biology and chemistry) – so some funds will have to be channeled to renovating and building new spaces.

- The Strategic Plan is not exhaustive, more a list of goal and values. The drafters didn't want to be rigid, but it won't be established and then die a quiet death. Dean Horn stressed that annually, the plan will need to be reviewed and implementation steps developed.
- The plan has been reviewed and feedback shared with the drafters from faculty, staff, students, advising, deans, and chairs. As a result, the plan is going to be revised to add more partnering with the regional campuses; addressing staff concerns, associate faculty needs, and the international and global mission of OSU; and leaning into the land grant mission of OSU. The metrics are also being fine-tuned.

In the Q&A portion:

- The Dean responded positively to more explicitly including research support for regional faculty into the Strategic Plan. He stated that more staff had been hired to help faculty find and get research funding and that the Development folks were doing very well, especially in securing alumni giving to the university.
- In response to a question about S.B. 83 and its impact on the Strategic Plan and the new GEC, Dean Horn replied that in a recent meeting of the deans and chairs, Governmental Affairs had stated that they were compiling a significant list of harms that the bill would do to the university (e.g. strong disincentive in attracting top talent to university (scholars and students); disincentive for international firms from locating in Ohio; loss of \$13 million in tuition dollars from provision regarding China; OSU could no longer have ROTC programs; among others). Dean Horn was cautiously optimistic that the bill would not be passed.
- In response to the dramatic drop in TT faculty as regional campuses, he indicated that the budget model made it more difficult to address hiring needs and salary compression on the regional campuses. He used the phrase "we're stuck with this budget model" when stating that hiring is enrollment driven. He then noted that Vice Provost James Orr of Strategic Enrollments was creatively and aggressively working on addressing this issue. He noted that curricular innovation would be a source of new enrollment, and that there were some opportunities in online education too.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in discussing whether the ASC Senate should draft a letter to the Board of Trustees requesting more information about the cause(s) of President Johnson's departure. It was decided that it would be better write a letter to the Board regarding the current presidential search which would enunciate the faculty's concerns about the Board's lack of transparency and the need to put academic excellence as the top priority. Todd Thompson, John Freudenstein, and Judson Jeffries will draft the letter to be circulated to the ASC Senators to be reviewed and voted on in the next couple of weeks.

4. Dean's Report

Dean Eric Anderman provided the Dean's report:

The maintenance staff has provided assurances that offices will be vacuumed more regularly and bathrooms will be cleaned more regularly. Trash should still be left outside of office if needed.

Enrollments for Fall Semester are up relative to where we were at this time last year.

Faculty Fellow opportunity will be available again next year. This position will entail 50% time working with the Deans.

The issue of lower staff compensations on the regional campuses is being discussed in Columbus.

The faculty then asked questions:

Q: Have there been any impacts of the Columbus plan to increase regional enrollments?

A: We have worked with central admissions to get Columbus non-accepts lists much earlier. More impacts will be evident in the next academic year.

Q: We have lost 6 full-time faculty this year. How will we accommodate?

A: There were to be no searches this year, next year remains a question mark and it will depend heavily on enrollments and our budget. It should be noted that the salary savings from former faculty are often needed to plug other holes in the budget, and so we cannot always simply rehire to replace lines.

5. Upward Bound: Request for faculty volunteers during summer programs

The Upward Bound program/grant, which will be hosted at OSU Mansfield this summer, is looking for faculty interested in contributing to the program, either by teaching or sharing information about career opportunities. These are paid opportunities. Students will be middle school students from challenged backgrounds.

6. Election of EC and Senate reps

The following slate of candidates was presented to the Faculty Assembly for approval.

President: Terri Bucci

Vice President: Jamison Kantor

Secretary: Philip Mazzocco

At Large Representative: Elizabeth Kolkovich

University Senator (2 yr term): Donna Farland-Smith

University Senate Alternate (2 yr term): Kip Curtis

As there were no contested positions, the slate was unanimously approved by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Phil Mazzocco, Faculty Secretary.

Appendix: Standing Committee Reports

Teaching & Learning Committee End of Semester Report

During the SP23 Semester, the T&L committee met twice via Zoom for regular meetings: On February 6 and March 6. Minutes of both meetings are available at [THIS LINK](#). O. Costa and D. Farland-Smith decided to share the chair position during the academic year. During the 2/6 meeting, members discussed the details of advertising, calendar invite, and setting up the Zoom meeting for Kate Shannon's upcoming virtual brownbag on March 2; We also discussed questions from the gallery survey & curricula as well as ChatGPT in coursework and possible Teacher Leader Endorsement.

During the 3/6 meeting, we followed up on the possibility of new student members, reviewed a PowerPoint from a meeting (OAE) regarding a data-gathering exercise about the implementation of their programs (such as Honors, Scholars, STEP, Undergraduate Research, Fellowship, and Service Learning) at the regional campuses, and discussed staff/ townhall updates. The possible Teacher Leader Endorsement was also discussed.

Student Success & Enrichment Committee End of Semester Report

We granted one travel grant.

We worked with Tara to try to increase the percentage of students who received feedback via the student progress reports.

We put together the Research Frenzy (thanks mostly goes to Kate Shannon for this).

We worked with Carol to get Student Research Frenzy presenters to put their presentations in poster format (at no expense to the students) for the Academic Awards celebration.

We reviewed the materials and voted on candidates for the McLeod, Faculty/Staff Merit and Mansfield Campus Academic Excellence awards. We voted to split the Faculty/Staff Merit award between two students.

Resource Stewardship Committee End of Semester Report

The Resource Stewardship committee met three times in the spring semester and focused on the following activities:

1. Following up on two surveys, one for faculty and staff to determine preferences for future workshops, social events, and professional development opportunities, committee members discussed how to coordinate individual committee assignments to best realize those preferences.
2. The committee initiated discussion for a DEI workshop with DEI staff Sophia Antoun and Erin Mercurio and met with them on two ZOOM occasions to plan that workshop, which took place on 10 April. Erin Mercurio of the Drake Institute conducted the “TILT” (“Transparency in Learning and Teaching”) workshop that aimed at providing strategies for engaging students in learning at a more meaningful level.
3. At the request of the committee, Mike Buckland updated the online OSU-Mansfield Faculty and Staff handbook site by removing confusing and outdated material.
4. Also, thanks to Laura Sealy, the photo on the OSU-M website which featured a building on the Columbus campus was updated to feature a photo of the Mansfield campus that emphasizes its natural beauty student-friendly atmosphere.
5. Committee members reported their activity on their assigned tasks:
 - a. Kelly Whitney cited OSU-M faculty achievements and research accomplishments. She also agreed to help maintain and update the Ovalwood display cabinets to make sure the books and articles displayed there are current.
 - b. Laura Sealy and Kelly Whitney suggested planning for several “how-to practical workshops” focusing on new technologies, apps, platforms (Workday, Teams, Chat GBT) that will enhance teaching and learning.
 - c. Mollie Cavender has been working with the East Asian Studies Center (EASC) to organize a lecture on South Korean pop culture in the autumn semester. The EASC has indicated that it would who would aid with marketing and funding of the event.
 - d. Terri Winnick and Steven Joyce will follow-up planning for DEI workshops/presentations as well as retention initiatives.
 - e. Gabe Karns was the committee’s point person in discussing new Eco lab initiatives. The committee discussed initiatives in going forward that include additional funding of Eco lab signage, repairing the path between Ovalwood and Molyet, promoting town gown collaborations as well as developing a plan for curriculum development of the Eco lab project.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Joyce

Professional Development Committee End-of-Semester report

Members: Elizabeth Kolkovich (chair), Steve Abedon, Cynthia Callahan, Sergei Chmutov, Glenn Hartz, Del Lindsey

The PDC conducted business this semester via email and Teams, and we organized several events.

1. The full committee evaluated and recommended 2 applications for small grants and 3 applications for travel funding. All were subsequently approved.
2. Glenn organized a faculty “brownbag” research talk by Dennis Shaffer on Jan. 31. The in-person event was well attended by faculty, staff, and students.
3. Cynthia coordinated and submitted 4 nominations for major faculty-staff university and college awards. The committee thanks everyone—both inside and outside the PDC—who helped write letters.
4. Del organized a Faculty Research Frenzy, held on Zoom on March 9 and featuring short talks by six faculty: Scopas Poggo, Eric Anderman, Ozeas Costa, Carol Landry, Phil Mazzocco, and Agus Munoz-Garcia.
5. Steve and Sergei planned a Promotion Workshop, held on Zoom on Feb. 22, and shared information about campus and university requirements for promotion to full professor.

Points of information:

- In discussions with Associate Dean Dawn Kitchen, the committee learned that PDC funding comes from a donor who specified that the money should assist faculty on the tenure track. That’s why only tenure-track faculty are eligible for PDC funds.
- At the request of a faculty member, the committee began discussing the possibility of increasing the maximum amount for PDC travel applications. The current amounts—\$700 for international travel, \$1000 for supplementary travel—have remained the same for at least two decades. In the fall, the committee will investigate the travel funding on other regional campuses for comparison’s sake and then discuss the matter.
- The PDC welcomes nominations for the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching (for tenure-track faculty, recently won by Amy Brunell!) and the Provost’s Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Lecturer (for non-tenure-track faculty). Please send ideas to Cynthia Callahan (callahan.138@osu.edu). In the fall, the PDC will choose nominees to put forward to the university.

Submitted by Elizabeth Kolkovich