

## Faculty Assembly Minutes

Tuesday, 19 November 2024

(4:30-6:00 PM) H120

### Present:

Jamison Kantor, Amy Brunell, Mollie Cavender, Carol Landry, Cynthia Callahan, Phil Mazzocco, Mirel Caibar, Ozeas Costa, Elizabeth Kolkovich, Terri Bucci, John Thrasher, Kip Curtis, Dawn Kitchen, Terri Winnick, Dennis Shaffer, Sergei Chmutov, Donna Farland-Smith, Agus Munoz-Garcia, Tara Hines, Joe Fahey, Faith Wyzgoski, Steve Abedon, Jason Opal, Suma Robinson

### I. Approval of 22 October 2024 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes

Cynthia Callahan made a motion to approve the 22 October 2024 Faculty Assembly meeting minutes. Agus Munoz-Garcia seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with 13 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

### II. Committee Reports

The following committee chairs provided committee activity reports to the faculty assembly. The links to these reports are attached.

1. Resource Stewardship Committee, chair, Terri Winnick. [RSC.report.11.19.24 \(Terri Winnick 19 November FA meeting\).docx](#) The chair summarized the mission tasks that each committee member is currently pursuing.
2. Teaching and Learning Committee, chair, Mirel Caibar. [Teaching and Learning Committee - minutes-oct24 \(19 November FA meeting\).docx](#) Discussion focused on hosting and promoting the Launchpad OSU initiative whereby students form teams and devise business plans for various projects. Also, the committee will sponsor a Brown Bag seminar that will focus on integrating AI based tools into teaching and learning.
3. Professional Development Committee, chair, Stephen Abedon. Discussion focused on the grant notification process. Several faculty members reported that in the past year they did not receive notification of approval or rejection of grants they had submitted to the PDC. Stephen Abedon noted that the decision of the PDC regarding grant and travel approval was advisory only and that ultimately the dean either would either approve or reject the application and communicate that decision to the applicant. Associate Dean Kitchen and Dean Opal will clarify and update the notification process in the next months. [PDC Report \(19 November FA meeting\) Steve Abedon.docx](#)

4. Student Support and Enrichment, chair, Dennis Shaffer. Topics discussed include the following:
  - a. training for faculty providing information how to deal with various student situation
  - b. funding for student travel
  - c. brainstorming how to provide events for prospective students
  - d. logistics of the Student Research Frenzy event
  - e. vetting one student webform application for education abroad
  - f. scholarship monies for students
  - g. potential speakers for the next academic year

[SS&ECommitteeMeetingMinutes.11.01.24 \(19 November FA\).docx](#)

### **III. Faculty Senate Report (Kate Shannon)**

Kate Shannon highlighted several issues discussed at the 10/23 Faculty Senate meeting.

1. She cited the Senate's acknowledgement of the backlog in processing new GE applications as well as communication problems with the GE rollout. She also stated that the Senate discussed difficulties with coordinating Student Life Disability Service (SLDS) due to fewer personnel and an exponential increase in student SLDS demand.
2. She stated that Alan Kalish (OAA) is working on streamlining and clarifying the GE vetting process and allocating funding to the appropriate committees to facilitate that goal. He will also develop faculty seminars to simplify and clarify the GE application process.

[Arts and Sciences Report \(Kate Shannon\) 19 November FA meeting.pdf](#)

### **IV. Dean's Report**

1. Dean Opal reported that the inspection report on Eisenhower, Ovalwood and Conard will be available by 2 December to anyone who would like to read it.
2. He also announced the addition of Kodey Kreglow who is the new Disability Services Specialist and Food Pantry Coordinator.
3. Dean Opal reminded faculty of the administrative redesign survey and stated that he will report the results at the 4 December FA meeting.

### **V. Cynthia Callahan—United Way**

Cynthia Callahan announced that the online portal for giving to the United Way provides an alternate way of participating in the fund drive. She emphasized that United Way funds many different agencies and programs in Richland County and reiterated the importance of a high rate of OSU-Mansfield faculty and staff participation. Supporting the United Way supports the greater Mansfield community. It also demonstrates the good will and support of our campus has for the community, while enhancing our visibility in the community and underscoring the idea that we are also an integral part of the Mansfield community.

## **VI. Amy Brunell—COAM**

Amy Brunell announced the availability of COAM resources to faculty and students. She stated that these resources can easily be incorporated into students' Carmen modules and assigned optional quiz points to incentivize students to read and understand what academic misconduct encompasses. Faculty can access COAM documents and resources here: [Mansfield Campus COAM - General - All Documents](#)

## **VII. Agus Munoz-Garcia- Change to SS&E Committee Charge**

On behalf of the SS&E committee, Agus Munoz Garcia argued for a slight change in the wording of the committee's mission statement. That redacted and new wording can be found here: [SS&E Charges \(at 19 November FA meeting\) .docx](#)

After a very short discussion, the faculty Assembly voted 20 yes, 0 no and 0 abstentions in accepting the proposed change in the wording of the SS&E Committee's mission statement.

## **VIII. Associate Dean's Report**

Associate Dean Kitchen reported the following:

1. There will be a second round of spend authorization guidance coming from Columbus.
2. 5 December is a reading day so there are no classes.
3. 6 December is the party for recent OSU-M faculty and Associate promotions. The celebration will be held at Dean Kitchen's residence. She invited everyone to reply to the RSVP which had been sent out and plan to celebrate these recent promotions.
4. Dean Kitchen announced and congratulated three faculty members who will celebrate 25 years of service to the OSU campus and community--Joe Fahey, Terri Bucci, and Scopas Poggo.
5. She announced the launch of IPP (Barnes and Noble) virtual bookstore and welcomed comments about the rollout.
6. A 10 January or possibly 29 January date is being planned for two promotion events--one for the STEM program and one for the Engineering program.
7. She announced a new pilot program by directed by Alan Kalish to improve and update the current online SEI instrument. As a sidenote, she stated that OSU-Mansfield could pilot this SEI makeover in the spring, 2025 if desired. Rather than focusing on the "student evaluation of instruction" the new SEI would focus on "the student learning experience," reflecting the view that students are less adept in evaluating instruction than they are in reporting their own learning experiences. This new instrument would focus on students' sense of belonging, their engagement with their courses, and their feelings about instructor approachability and availability.
8. There was a brief discussion about guidelines for the use and administration of AI. Dean Kitchen pointed out that the AI policy is still evolving. Mirel Caibar earlier provided some context for this by referring to Sam Altman's (Open AI's CEO) statement that we are in the second stage of AI development—"Reasoners" level.
9. Amy Brunell pointed out that not everyone has received any AI guidelines to date.

## **IX. Campus Curriculum Conversation**

1. Citing the four GE themes that OSU-M advisors determined were most important for OSU-M students, Elizabeth Kolkovich asked whether we should proceed with our GE discussion based on the advisors suggestions and observations or determine the most desirable GEs independently. Other FA members asked how we might best schedule these themes to allow students to fulfill their GE requirements without overlap or interruption. Still other faculty members suggested that we should “broaden” the prospective GEs to make them more synergistic and relevant. Cynthia Callahan and others suggested that we should inform faculty what the current GE offerings are and then begin the process of coordinating and scheduling these GEs. The second step in this process is meeting with the various coordinators to get a better picture of specific GE needs keeping in mind what the advisors have suggested and going forward from that point. The conversation will resume at the next Faculty Assembly meeting on 4 December.

## **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:45

Respectfully submitted,

Sjoyce