FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

**3:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 9, 2016**

# Council Room, 412 Student Union

**AGENDA:**

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of the January 12, 2015 Minutes

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Special Report:

A. Stillwater Mayor Gina Noble

B. Kirk Jewell – OSU Foundation

5. The President – Remarks and Comments

6. Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations:

President Hargis, Provost Sandefur, and/or Vice Presidents

7. Reports of Liaison Representatives –

A. AAUP – Barry Lavine

The OSU Chapter of the AAUP met in January. Topics of discussion included

the cancellation of the play in the Department of Theater. The attendees

expressed concern about the possible infringement of freedom of speech and academy freedom and planned to gather more information about the incident.

Second, the group discussed OSU's grievance process for tenured/tenure-track faculty, which was recently reviewed by personnel at the national AAUP office. The OSU grievance process as it is now falls short of adhering to the AAUP norms. Most notably is the fact that OSU's grievance procedure restricts the topics for which one can file a grievance; however, violation of academic freedom is not among the choices. AAUP policy specifies that topics for which grievances can be filed should not be restricted. The communication between the OSU AAUP chapter and the national office has been shared with the Faculty Council officers. We encourage the Faculty Council to consider revisions to the grievance procedure to bring it more in line with AAUP national norms.

B. SAC – Naveen Kodadhala

Staff Advisory Council Committees continue with their planned projects and event for the Spring semester.

The Distinguished Service Awards Committee and Public Relations Committee continue to work with Human Resources on the Staff Development Day and Distinguished Service Awards for March 2, 2016. The Public Relations Committee will be submitting a flier via Email with information about the events.

SAC monthly meetings are now being recorded by IT for campus viewing at a later day via OSTATE TV. The PR Committee is working with IT to fine tune these productions.

SAC is reviewing the Appropriate Use Policy at Faculty Council’s request. The Policy will be discussed during the SAC February 10th meeting.

Awards and Recognition continues their planning on the Staff Celebration Day event for May.

Policies, Benefits and Budget Committee have been reviewing and clarifying Recommendations that were submitted by the committee in June, 2015.

C. Wellness Center – Mary Talley



D. SGA – Kyle Hilbert

Feb 16 is Higher Ed Day at the State Capitol. We will have a group of students attending.

Freshman Representative Council's Spring philanthropy will be raising funds and collecting letters for troops overseas.

75 students will be allowed early entry & pizza to the remaining Men's Basketball games. These tickets will be distributed through @okstaterowdy social media.

Green Student Initiative Applications are due March 1. $40k to give away to students for environmental projects. Applications are available at [sga.okstate.edu/applications](http://sga.okstate.edu/applications)

If any faculty would like students to come out to their property for The Big Event at the end of the semester, those job request forms should be out later this month.

E. Women’s Faculty Council – Barbara Miller

We will be reviewing applications for our Endowment scholarship this month, winner to be announced in first week of March.

Deadline for the Research awards is Feb. 29th this year. Please apply, we have up to $15,000 to award in scholarships this year!

We co-hosted with ITLE the Women’s Leadership Panel on Being a Department Head, and are presently co-hosting with ITLE the Book Club (Momma PhD) which is being led by Pam Fry. This month’s filled above capacity within hours of its announcement.

We are hosting Crystal Hoyt (Univ. of Richmond) as a WFC Research Week Speaker on Women’s Leadership issues. Date: Feb. 15th 3 pm in library Browsing Room

F. Graduate Faculty Council – Brenda Smith

The Council reviewed and approved a new program, Graduate Certificate in Arson and Explosives Investigation, and a program revision to the doctoral degree in Veterinary Biomedical Sciences that removed the MS requirement for admission.

The Council approved a recommendation to specify that a grade of “B” or better is considered a passing grade for ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students.

The Council voted to allow graduate students to earn a second option within the same major, provided the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education requirements related to shared coursework are met and the graduate program concurs.

The Council has asked that several issues be discussed at the Subject Matter Group meetings in March, including the notation of academic standing on Banner transcripts, admission of applicants with three-year bachelor's degrees, and the five-year review of academic programs.

Reminder that the OSU Graduate Research Excellence Award applications are due March 7; Three Minute Thesis College Competitions are scheduled throughout February; and the OSU Research Symposium, is scheduled February 15-16 as a part of OSU Research Week 2016.

8. Reports of Standing Committees:

a. Academic Standards and Policies: Mindy McCann – Update

b. Athletics: Tom Royer – No Report

c. Budget: Pamela Lloyd – No Report

d. Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Nathan Walker – No Report

e. Diversity: Lucero Tenorio – No Report

f. Faculty: Glade Topham – Update

Recommendation: Faculty Council Chair Support\*

g. Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Cecil Joe – No Report

h. Research: Andrew Doust – No Report

i. Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Rita Miller - Update

j. Rules and Procedures: Deb VanOverbeke – Update

k. Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Jennifer Borland – No Report

9. Old Business

10. New Business – Vice Chair nominations

11. Adjournment

*Refreshments will be served at 2:45 p.m.*

\*Attached

**Amended by Passed Failed**

**Recommendation No.**   16-02-01-Faculty 1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Moved by:**   Faculty Committee  2.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded by:**  3.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passed**         **Tabled**         **Failed**  4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Title:**   Faculty Council Chair support

**The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that:**

The elected leader for the faculty of Oklahoma State University receive one course release during fall and one course release during spring semester for the year of service. In cases when it is not feasible for the unit to grant one or both of the course releases, the Faculty Council Chair may elect to receive compensation of $6000 (professional development funds or summer salary) for each semester a course release is not granted. This compensation to the Faculty Council Chair should be an annual benefit to occur henceforth with a statement of the fact placed permanently in the Faculty Handbook. We recommend that the funds for the compensation come from central administration, as departments and colleges are rarely in a position to accommodate such releases within their budgets.

**Rationale:**

The Faculty Council Chair serves as the voice of the faculty at Oklahoma State University. It is a national norm for faculty representatives at this level to receive release time from teaching, as it is recognized to be a time-consuming service position. When the leader of the faculty has too many other responsibilities while in this role, the voice of the faculty whom the leader represents is diminished.

The inability to obtain release time has, on occasion, led to faculty members reporting feeling pressured not to run for elected offices or to resign from office after being elected. If the faculty of Oklahoma State University are to have a strong partnership with administration, elected leaders should not feel that there is a conflict between wanting to serve the faculty as a whole, and fulfilling the expectations of their home department or school.

Prior to this recommendation, Faculty Council Chairs have received approximately $8500 in professional development funds, which could not be used for course releases or summer salary. Furthermore, there is no written description of these funds in the Faculty Handbook.