McCann called the meeting to order with the following members present: Belmonte, Borland, Champlin, Zhao Collins, Depperschmidt, Fishbein for Doust, Ekman, Emerson, Grubgeld, Hurst, Johnson, Jones, Kak, Khojasteh, Moss, Lewis, McFarlane, Pivateau, Peek, Ramsey, Rebek, Richards, Sheehan, Walker, Wanger, Ware and

Also present: August, C., Beard, K., Bird, L., Brasche, J., Carr, K., Chandler, C., Dawes, B., de Villasante, E., Hargis, B., Hartman, J., Jackson, J., Jones, L, Kensinger, Z., McGregor, C., Miller, B., Misener, T., Ormsbee, C., Peaster, R., Robinson, M., Shutt, G., Talley, J., Tucker, S., Weaver, J., Weger, C., Wray, K., and Zhu, L.,

Absent: Lovern, Tenorio and Zhang.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Special Report – Matt Upson …………………………….……………………………….….

Joe Milek …….…………………………………………………………….

Remarks and Comments –President Hargis……………………………..................................

Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations and other Vice Presidents…….…….

Reports of Liaison Representatives …………………………………………………….……..

Emeriti…………………………………………………………………………………

SAC……………………………………………………………………………………

Wellness ………………………………………………………………………………

Graduate Council………………………………………………………………………

Reports of Standing Committees ………………………………………………….…………..

Academic Standards and Policies ……………………………………….…………….

Athletics ………………………………………………………………….……………

Budget …………………………………………………………………….…………...

Campus Facilities, Safety and Security ………………………………….……………

Diversity………………………………………………………………….……………

Faculty ………………………………………………………………….……………..

Long-Range Planning and Information Technology ………………….………………

Research ……………………………………………………………….………………

Retirement and Fringe Benefits ……………………………………….………………

Rules and Procedures ………………………………………………….………………

Student Affairs and Learning Resources …………………………….………………..

McCann called the meeting to order and asked everyone present to sign the roll call as it is circulating the room and if you are a proxy for someone please sign your name as well as that of the council member whom you are representing. McCann asked if there was any discussion regarding the February 13th minutes that were sent out to everyone. Seeing none, asked for a motion to approve. Jones moved, Ramsey second. Motion passed. McCann asked for approval of the March meeting agenda. Jones moved, Sheehan second. Motion passed.

**Special Reports:**

1. **Matt Upson – Edmon Low Library – Open Textbook Network**

Upson is a faculty member in the Library and presented the following handouts to the council members:

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The handout addresses a workshop that the Library will be hosting on April 3rd on the topic of Open Textbooks. Upson stated that in short open textbooks are specially licensed content or courses that can be adapted by faculty members or instructor of the course that are freely accessible to students online. Typically these can be printed at a low cost or often in collaboration with the book store. This workshop will bring in the Open Textbook Network, which the Library has partnered with. The workshop starts at 9:00 a.m. and will explore adopting/adapting one of the open textbooks. That could potentially save students hundreds of dollars for a course. Those attending will be asked to write a brief review to hopefully dispel any concerns over the quality of the open textbook. The workshop will address these concerns/process. An initiative for 2019 that the Library hopes to support is the adoption of an open textbook for courses here at OSU. They have prioritized this for some of the courses over 50 students to maximize the savings for those students.

Upson stated that at 2:00 the same day they will hold a session in the Library which is more of a general overview of what open textbooks are. This is for those interested in learning about the creation process, how to access the textbooks and potentially using them down the line (those who are not at this moment considering adopting these textbooks) for a course. Later in the day there will be a session specifically for the Library but everyone is invited to attend if you cannot make one of the earlier sessions.

Upson opened the floor for questions and stated that his contact information as well as a link to the registration form can be found on the handout. There is limited space so please register early. Kak asked if used books will be replaced by these in 2019. Upson stated that if you have already adopted an open textbook for a course please let the library know. Upson stated that the Library will provide $500 to an instructor who implements an open textbook in the 2019 calendar year. This what the Library is aiming for.

1. **OSU Assistant Police Chief Joe Milek**

Milek introduced himself and those who accompanied him to the meeting: OSU Police Chief Leon Jones, Captain Colt Chandler and the Chief Public Safety Officer Mike Robinson. Milek stated that in July, August and September the new administration have come together and are trying to take the OSU Police Department in a new direction. Many may have seen this in the classroom and throughout the core campus. Milek stated that the credit for this goes to Chief Leon Jones. He was instrumental in putting more officers out in the center of campus and opening a shop for the officers in the Student Union so they can interact better with students as well as getting to know more faculty members. This will pay huge dividends which in turn keeps us all safe. Milek stated that first and foremost, what will keep everyone safe is the relationship we foster between each other and our students. If the students feel they can approach an OSU Police officer or other students with their problems it will keep everyone safer. Milek believes they have made tremendous headway in this respect. Chief Jones continues to follow this philosophy of keeping everyone safe. The next level includes expanding core campus. The OSU Police Department just moved Sergeant Adam McQueen to the Student Union core campus office. Sergeant McQueen does most of the training here on campus. Sergeant McQueen will have the core campus officers start doing the trainings so that when students hear the names – Jim Davis, Curtis Burns and Mark Wheeler – they will have more opportunities to interact with the officers in a positive manner. Faculty will also get to know more of the officers by name and interact with them as well. Milek ultimately believes that this will result in most dividends for everyone. Milek stated that there are 860 cameras scattered throughout campus and the department is reviewing placements to make sure they are in the right places for optimum safety. Milek said they are not turning a blind eye to systems they are just getting back to grassroots if you will and what it will take to be effective and efficient to protect the OSU campus.

Milek urged faculty members to contact Chief Jones with any and all concerns, wants and things that may be needed to ensure safety on campus. The department really wants to know what faculty think and how they feel about the department and safety on campus. The department is trying to do a better job of marketing many of the safety programs already in place (Orange Shield, Safe Walk, etc.) to faculty and students on campus. They will be asking for help in getting this message across campus. Jones stated that the other day she had a friendly exchange with two of the officers in the student union. She was there with her Pet Posse pup Otis with her and Otis wanted to go meet the officers. While with the officers a few students stopped to pet Otis and the officers did a great job interacting with the students. Milek stated that the department feels that they are making a positive impact and this type of feedback is very much appreciated.

**Remarks and Comments – President Hargis:**

Hargis stated that the shortfall for this year is unclear. The teachers are threatening to strike in April for a $10,000 raise for themselves as well as funding for classroom. Hargis stated that in order for the legislature to be able to do anything like this, they will have to pass some revenue bills. So far they have not been able to do this. Hargis stated that those who have children make plans in case they do strike. Hargis feels the teachers need this and supports them.

Hargis stated that the issue of taking Murray’s name off Murray Hall has come up again. Hargis stated that this year the SGA unanimously passed a resolution to remove his name. Hargis stated that as bad as Murray may have been, his son Johnson Murray who was also governor, was pretty good. Hargis said that the university has a naming process that the Regents have passed but we do not have an un-naming policy. Hargis stated that the administration has formed an un-naming committee to recommend to the Regents a process to do this. Dr. Sandefur is the chair of this committee. Hargis said interestingly enough a number of schools do have an un-naming policy in place. Hargis feels it will be next fall before anything is really done. Hargis stated that un-naming Murray Hall will cost money due to the limestone name plate on the building. It will cost approximately $100,000 to change the name. The story of Bill Murray was put in the basement when the building was renovated.

Hargis opened the floor for questions. Miller asked if there had to be a procedure in place for un-name a building which will need to go to the Regents for approval. Then have to submit a new name to the Regents for approval as well. Hargis stated that any naming or un-naming has to go to the Regents for approval. Kak asked due to the budget shortfall is there any incentives to faculty to retire. Hargis stated no, he is not a big fan of this process. Weaver stated that the ag agencies have done this but OSU has not.

**Report of Status of Council Recommendations:**

**President Hargis, Provost Sandefur, and/or Vice Presidents**

Joe Weaver reviewed the pending recommendations for Dr. Sandefur.

Both of these have been accepted:

17-03-01-FAC/ASP: Revisions to P&P 2-0905 “Nomination & Appointment Process for Regents

Professors”.

17-03-02-FAC-ASP: Guidelines for Search & Screen Committee Best Practices.

The following recommendation is still pending with minor edits:

17-11-01-Exec Comm: Background checks for all new faculty members and Graduate

Assistants (teaching and research).

**Report of Liaison Representatives:**

1. Emeriti Association – Barbara Miller

The Emeriti Council met on Feb. 26th, 2018. The Emeriti are considering a bad weather policy, tied to school closings and/or OSU closings, for their monthly dinners and/or meetings of the various interest groups within the organization. There was also much discussion about encouraging retiring faculty and staff to join the Emeriti association. Various new avenues of advertising are being considered.

1. SAC – Katie Carr
   * + Distinguished Service Award were presented at the Staff Development Day Luncheon on March 7th.
       - Top 3
         * 1st Place – Becky Cheary - Horticulture & Landscape Architecture in the College of Agriculture.
         * 2nd Place – Shelby Morris - Human Resources in Administration & Finance.
         * 3rd Place – Collin Craige - Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering in the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
       - 7 Semi Finalists
         * Veneta Banskalieva Dobreva – Robert M Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center
         * Connie Budd –Undergraduate Microbiology Lab
         * Chase Rheam – Office of Undergraduate Admissions
         * Simon Ringsmuth - Institute for Teaching and Learning Excellence (ITLE).
         * Michelle Stewart – College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology
         * Chuck Willoughby - Robert M Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center
         * Susan Ramsey – College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology Professional Development
     + Staff Celebration Day May 24 at Boone Pickens Stadium
     + Nomination’s for new council members will open the end of March
       - Elections will be in April
2. Wellness Center – Kim Beard



Beard also distributed the following two flyers for everyone’s information:





Beard introduced Todd Misener, Chief Wellness Officer. Misener stated that the department of wellness has been busy doing a lot of things within the department and they have a number of things on the move currently. Misener has been involved in research relative to some of the mental health issues on campus. He is excited that many of his colleagues are reaching out and collaborating to create some really good opportunities to help students. Misener stated that they are working on a transformation of the Colvin Center. They are working on how to get people more involved in activities on campus. The Wellness Department is committed to making changes and creating innovative ideas to attract more people. The department works closely with HR in developing and marketing programs. The department is actively involved in revisiting the strategic plan for wellness for the campus to make sure it’s relevant and addressing the needs of faculty and students. Misener is willing to speak with anyone in any department. If there is a way to bridge gaps and promote wellness he is interested in opening a dialog. Misener stated that other universities are amazed at the level of support this program receives from our administration. It is something special. Misener stated that they want to help faculty help their students succeed.

1. Graduate Council – Rebecca Sheehan

The Graduate Council held our latest meeting on Friday, March 9th, 2018.

The Graduate Council approved six items from the Academic Program Committee, including an MS in Family and Consumer Sciences Education through the Great Plains IDEA (Interactive Distance Education Alliance), a new stand-alone Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology, Graduate Certificates in Statistical Methods and Analysis, Educational & Psychological Measurement, and School Library Certification, and a name change from MS in International Studies to MS in Global Studies, to reflect the school’s name change.

Academic Affairs will have new academic integrity videos available. Watch the Graduate College Monday Memo for more details.

The Graduate College is working on degree sheets for graduate degree programs to align with the institutional VA certification requirements and implementation of degree works. Please stay tuned for more information this spring.

The Graduate College is issuing a RFP to replace the current application/admission system. Details will follow, but this change will result in significant modernization of the system and potential cost savings for the College.

Oklahoma State University’s English Language Institute is working to identify graduate programs who would like to admit students provisionally, which is academically qualified with language test scores below unqualified admission. The ELI program serves as a bridge for students’ language improvement.

The Graduate College is continuing to explore the guidelines for TOEFL subscores and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education have a working group looking at the potential adoption of the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) for admissions.

The Graduate College is reviewing the Graduate Faculty database after our institutional accreditor, HLC, issued additional guidance on faculty credentials. For Graduate Faculty, the focus is on the appropriate professional qualifications in lieu of the terminal degree. OSU current Graduate Faculty process is very robust, and there are very few individuals in this category, which will require additional follow up.

Academic Program Reviews are located on D2L Brightspace website under your Graduate College tab. These reviews are for your review, and you may comment upon them, sending those comments to Jean Van Delinder at [jean.van\_delinder@okstate.edu](mailto:jean.van_delinder@okstate.edu) by April 4th, 2018.

The Spring Graduate Faculty Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 28th, from 2:30-4 p.m. in 126 ITLE. Graduate Faculty Subject Group Meetings will be in March with the exception of Group II, which will be in early April. Please see the Graduate College’s Monday Memo for more details.

Please mark your calendars for Graduate Education Week from April 23-25th, 2018.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Academic Standards and Policies: Scott Johnson – Update**

McCann stated that at the last meeting Johnson gave the council an update on the Classification of Students. This is actually a University Academic Regulation which needs to be approved by Faculty Council. Johnson stated that the changes were attached to the agenda for review. McCann asked for discussion. Seeing none moved to a vote. Motion passed.

**Athletics: Terry Collins – No Report**

**Budget: Steve Wanger – No Report**

**Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Erik Ekman – No Report**

**Diversity: Justin Moss – Update**

Moss stated that the committee is working on the recently passed guidelines for the Search and Screening committee best practices. They are discussing the possibility of a formal program to provide inclusion and diversity training for faculty on search committees. There is training available through Dr. Jason Kirksey’s office by request. Any department can request this training. Moss stated that Arts and Sciences has a program for training on implicit bias in searches. Moss stated the idea is to continue to take steps and initiatives toward a culture of inclusion at OSU. The committee is talking with Dr. Kirksey’s office about having two formal training sessions a year. The committee is also discussing if this should be mandatory or required for search committee chairs. It would then be the search committee chair’s responsibility to inform the search committee within the first meeting about what steps to follow. Moss stated that if any faculty member has input to please contact him or Gina Peek who is also on the committee. The committee is working towards a recommendation in the fall.

**Faculty: Chris Richards – No Report**

**Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Nathan Walker – No Report**

**Research: Andrew Doust – No Report**

**Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Bobbikay Lewis – No Report**

**Rules and Procedures: Pam Lovern – No Report**

**Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Gina Peek – Update**

Peek stated that the attached recommendation “Guidelines for using social networks in university courses” came to the committee as a draft. The committee had some concerns so the draft went back to Legal. It was returned to the committee with minor edits. The draft policy was then reviewed by the Academic Standards and Policies as well as the Long Range Planning committees. The recommendation presented today has been reviewed by all three committees. McCann asked for discussion. Seeing none moved to a vote. Motion passed.

**Old Business – Background Check Policy**

McCann stated that the Background Check Policy went to the deans who made a few changes to the document. McCann stated that the only one that is substantive is the addition of Academic Verification to the routine faculty check. This was discussed at the previous meeting, where it was agreed that it was a good idea but people didn’t want to add it to the recommendation at that time. Since this is a substantive change it is being presented to the council again. Since this recommendation does not come from a standing committee it does need a second. Ramsey moved to accept the recommendation from the Deans Council. Jones second. McCann opened the floor to discussion. Miller asked if this is a verification from the same vendor. She stated in the past the Library has contacted the university directly and asked for academic verification. So will the Library now need to use this method of verifying? Weaver stated that there would be a policy or practice of automatically verifying academic degrees. Payne stated that the desire is to streamline the process so HR will do all verifications through one vendor. This will be easier on everyone. Wanger asked if this will raise the cost of the background check. Weaver stated yes it will. It is his understanding that if we are just verifying degrees and not checking publications or grants it should raise the cost about $6. McCann asked for further discussion. Seeing none moved to a vote. Motion passed.

**New Business –**

Borland asked for the status of the Faculty Council election. White stated that the bios and position statements for the two Vice Chair nominees should be out to everyone this week. The voting will begin the Monday after spring break, March 26th. Information will be emailed to everyone soon. McCann stated that they are still looking for a few nominees – one from A&S and two from CEAT. If a faculty member is interested in running for one of these to please let Tricia or Mindy know.

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in **412 Student Union, Council Room.**

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Lovern, Secretary