Peek called the meeting to order with the following members present: Bulut, Cole, Conway, Crick, DeSilva, Dunn, Hall, Finchum, Frazier, Gardner, Gonzalez, Jaroni, Richtsmeier for Kaipa, Kakani, Liu, M. Lovern, P. Lovern, Melancon, Nelson, Neurohr, Noden, Shreffler, Slevitch, Smith, Talley and Hoskins for Yates.

Also present: Berg, M., Eck, T., Essmiller, K., Habiger, J., Hallenbeck, D., Hargis, B., Kirksey, J., Kluver, R., McCullagh, E., Mendez, J., Miller, B., Ormsbee, C., Peaster, R., Roberts, M., Sandefur, G., Sheehan, R., Tucker, S., Weaver, D., Weaver, J., and Wray, K.

Absent: Bindewald, Kazianga, Reichard, Ware.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

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

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

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

Wellness Center….…………………………………………………………………….

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

SAC……………………………………………………………………………………

GPSGA ………………………………………………………………………………..

Women’s Faculty Council……………………………………………………………..

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 …………………………….………………..

Peek introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the Zoom Faculty Council meeting. Peek asked all council members to “sign-in” via chat for the roll call. Peek mentioned that Tricia White was not at the meeting and this will make it easier for Neurohr and White to record those attending the meeting. Peek asked for approval of the August minutes. Talley moved, Gardner second. Motion passed. Peek asked for approval of today’s agenda. Motion passed. Peek stated that last month the Budget portion of the minutes were not approved, and a new report will be brought forward during today’s Budget Committee report. Peek asked for approval of last month’s minutes (minus the Budget committee report) after President Hargis completed his update. M. Lovern moved and Desilva second. Motion passed.

**Remarks and Comments – President Hargis**

Hargisstated that the anecdotalevidence that they are hearing has been encouraging. Hargis stated that we have finished 3 weeks now and thanked all faculty members for all their hard work. Hargis feels our students are observing, for the most part, the masking requirements. A few students can be seen around campus carrying their masks, but he has been told in the classroom there have not been any instances where students have not complied with the mask rules. This is very encouraging. Hargis said to keep it up and keep the focus on social distancing, mask wearing and sanitation.

Hargis said faculty may have seen a statement he made regarding the group called Ok State Stand United. Their mission is to eliminate systemic racism on campus. Hargis met with the students on August 31st. Hargis mentioned this date because in the Stillwater News Press article it stated it took months for the meeting to occur which is inaccurate. The group contacted the President’s office on August 2nd for a meeting in the first few weeks of school. Hargis’s office contacted the group the first day of classes and the group asked to meet on August 31st which is when the meeting occurred. Hargis said per his statement – we are going to create a task force. Hargis feels that OSU has done well in the area of diversity and inclusion but can always do better. The task force will take up a number of the items/concerns that were raised by this group as well as other initiatives. The goal is to develop a plan by the end of the spring semester. We will be working on this and if anyone would like to be part of the task force please let Gina Peek know.

Hargis stated that Athletics has been affected dramatically financially as a result of all of this. They will have to start making some difficult decisions. Some of these decisions will be announced tomorrow. Hargis believes that salary cuts that will occur among the coaching staff and other athletic staff members range from 2.5% to as high as 25%. Hargis stated that there will also be some furloughs and sadly some layoffs as well. Hargis stressed that this is happening in athletics and was not happening on campus.

**Report of Status of Council Recommendations:**

**Provost Sandefur and Vice Presidents**

Dr. Sandefur gave the Council members an update on the only recommendation still pending:

18-05-02-Faculty: Proposed changes to the Preface and Body of the “Policy Statement to

Govern Appointments, Tenure, Promotions, and Related Matters of the Faculty of OSU”

We are waiting on legal for final approval. Sandefur believes a few more recommendations will be passed today and added to the list.

Sandefur mentioned that the COVID dashboard will come out later today. Modifications and changes have been made in response to suggestions and ideas submitted by others. We are learning as we go along and trying to do the best job we can with the dashboard so you will see some changes to it when it comes out later today.

Dr. Hallenbeck addressed the council. Hallenbeck stated that Chris Barlow and Monica Roberts have done an outstanding job being responsive and as transparent as possible while trying to put out information that is manageable and digestible. In terms of our overall efforts in testing, University Health Services has topped 6,000 tests so far this semester. Hallenbeck stated if you know someone in Health Services to give them a pat on the back and thank them for all that they do.

**Other Vice Presidents:**

**Doug Hallenbeck – VP Student Affairs**

Hallenbeck stated that we are trying to get back to “normal functioning”. We are in pre-Career Fair week. Suits have been put up in the Union if anyone is interested in looking at career type clothing. A “mock” career fair will be done Thursday using the virtual platform so students can get used to using it prior to next week. There are three career fairs next week: CEAT, Business and Ag all on the virtual platform. It’s not the same as in-person but there may be some things we can utilize in the future.

Hallenbeck stated in terms of food insecurity efforts with COVID, Our Daily Bread’s operation schedule is different. We are not busing students to the facility. We do have two times this month that Our Daily Bread is coming to campus with pre-packaged bags that they will provide to those in need (students, faculty and staff). Those dates are September 18th 9-11 in the Student Union parking garage and September 30th 3-5. We are still looking for a location for the second date. Hallenbeck stated that student food insecurity efforts are continuing especially during these times with employment on and off campus being somewhat limited. Hallenbeck stated it is important to help students in anyway with basic needs.

Hallenbeck stated that the Wellness Department is working on a mental health collaboration with the student government. We will be putting out a mental health series to students and use social media platforms to help normalize and provide resources to our students for free. Hallenbeck is proud and excited about the efforts of our Wellness Department and Student Government.

Hallenbeck mentioned that he had an opportunity to meet today with a first semester freshman student. He is so thankful to be here and have roommates that have become great friends. He goes to the Colvin Center to work out, enjoys his classes and faculty. Hallenbeck stated that this is a really good reminder to him of how important being here at OSU in our living and learning community is to our students.

Peek opened the floor to questions. DeSilva asked if they have started the random screening of people? Hallenbeck stated that this started last week. They are still working on the response rate since those contacted were given a week to set up appointments. It will continue this week as well. Hallenbeck stated that we have seen an uptick in our testing last week. He believes it’s around 1,000 last week. Peek asked for clarification on the random screening people; is it students or faculty/staff? Hallenbeck stated this is specifically talking about students. We have started testing 500 students per week that are randomly selected to have a COVID test done as part of the program. No one is required to have the test done but we strongly encourage them to be tested. Hallenbeck will update the council when he has more information on the response rate. Hallenbeck said overall the student reactions have been fairly positive while some of the parent reactions have been less so but generally we’ve seen positive responses.

**Kyle Wray VP Enrollment and Brand Management.**

Wray updated the council on current numbers. Our Freshman class is at 4,150. This is about 50 short of where it was last year. Our transfer numbers are up compared to last year and our retention numbers are at 85% which is an all-time high for Oklahoma State. Our overall enrollment is up 1.5% which is good news. Wray told the President’s cabinet this morning that the bad news is that all those high school students that were juniors last year because of COVID have not been able to take the ACT. COVID hit last March and our predictive analysis shows us that the majority of students who enroll at OSU as freshman apply for admission between July 1st and January 1st. Most of the hay was in the barn last year when we recruited those students. It’s the converse of that this year. An overwhelming majority of students in our database have not been able to take the ACT. This means that our database is short: our application/admit numbers compared to this time last year are short. Wray stated that we will be fighting this battle all year long, but our admissions and financial aid offices are committed to solving this problem. We will continue to work on it. As of right now, Wray feels that this will be a challenge for the rest of the year. Hargis asked if the State Regents approved a five-year waiver of ACT and SAT requirements? Wray stated yes and for admission purposes we do not have to have an ACT score to admit students. But a large way we obtain students in our database is because they took the ACT. If they made a 24 or higher, OSU purchased their names for the database. Since they were not able to take the ACT we cannot buy their names. This is what’s caused the resource shortage in our marketing funnel. DeSilva asked if the state has done anything about GRE, MCAT and other requirements for Professional Graduate School as well? Wray stated that is a great question, but he does not know the answer. Tucker stated that at OSU the GRE score is not a requirement at the institution level it is at the program level. Tucker stated that most of our programs have been great about working with students. They always have the opportunity look at an admission application that’s incomplete and make admissions decisions. All of our advisors, graduate and undergraduate level, have been helping with students MCAT, etc. The medical school is reporting that most students have those scores at this time.

DeSilva commented that Dr. Ormsbee is at the meeting and DeSilva wanted to thank ITLE for the great job they have done with auxiliary classrooms. These classrooms were not designed to be auxiliary classrooms and ITLE has done a great job getting them up and going. Every day that he has been teaching, someone from ITLE has been walking around helping things run smoothly. Ormsbee stated that she is glad they could help. These rooms were challenging. When you take a basketball court and turn it into a classroom you have some unique challenges. In particular, sound was a big issue. Ormsbee is glad ITLE has been able to get around and help everyone. Ormsbee believes we’ve settled down. Faculty have gotten used to the new technology and things have quieted down over the last week or so. Slevitch added that she has been very impressed with the level of customer service the ITLE people have shown. They have worked hard to make sure everything works very well and have checked on things again and again. Without them, teaching would be very stressful this semester.

**Randy Kluver – Global Studies and Partnerships**

Kluver wanted to give the council members a “big picture” overview of where his office is at with some of the international programing.

Kluver met with the council last spring just after the cancellations of all the spring Study Abroad Programs. This impacted a huge number of students. Approximately 408 students had their spring break trips interrupted, and 860 students had their summer programs interrupted. Approximately 30-40 students who would normally be on a fall program are here. Kluver stated that they have delayed the decision regarding winter break and spring break until the end of October. Earlier they had put in place a policy to decide by the end of August but there is too much uncertainty, so this has been moved to the end of October. Kluver hopes to know something soon but right now it is not looking great. A number of nations will not allow Americans into the country at this point because of forced quarantine. Kluver stated that they normally have around 60 exchange students on campus but currently we have about 5 who have come from other nations. In the meantime, because we have had a significant slow down in the study abroad we are looking at enhancing our capacity. For a number of years, we have plateaued on our study abroad program. It’s been very hard to grow because of the way we do our study abroad. We are looking at building out some organizational infrastructure so we can better create opportunities for more students to go abroad as well as students who are more financially challenged. We have a number of initiatives to move this forward. We are also looking at how to do this better. We’ve been plateaued out at about 6% of our students for a number of years.

Kluver addressed the council on international students. OSU had about a 25% drop in international students in terms of the numbers of international students this fall as opposed to last fall. Kluver stated that most of this is due to the fact the no one can get in, get a visa and so on. Kluver does believe a number of the students will show up in the spring but we did take a 25% hit. Kluver stated that currently we are sitting at almost 1,300 international students. Kluver stated that every year since 2015 we’ve taken a hit of about 100 international students. Our trend has been down for a long time. This is a lot of large systemic issues that we can’t control including international competition from Australia and Canada. We are looking at what we can do to turn this around. Kluver mentioned a few international students have tested positive for COVID-19 but it has been at a lower rate of infection than domestic students.

Kluver stated that looking at the administrative side of what his office does, the Global Partnerships, we are continuing to work on our MOU’s and MOA’s. In 2020 his office signed thirteen new agreements. However, this year we are hoping to implement a policy of backing out of a number of open-ended agreements that we have had for years and years. On the books we have something like 700 partnerships, which is crazy because for decades we would sign an agreement with no sunset clause, no end date. Kluver stated that if there has been an agreement for 10 years and no one has done anything with it and there has been no benefit or no activity on it then we shouldn’t have it. It just creates a sense of obligation and liability. This year his office is hoping to implement a process to where we shut down a number of those inactive partnerships. His office is also tracking the increased governmental scrutiny over particularly research relationships as well as student exchanges with countries like China and Iran. Kluver stated that the government has gotten very concerned about issues related to intellectual property and export control particularly in relationship to China. Kluver personally thinks the government has gone a little bit overboard on this deal but his office will do everything they can to stay within compliance of all appropriate government regulations. They have had a team that has been meeting last year to work on travel policies and export control policies. There is a set of recommendations that they will forward on in the next week or so. These recommendations are being finalized now.

Peek opened the floor for questions.

Peek asked for other reports from administrators. Seeing none, moved on to the liaison representative reports.

**Report of Liaison Representatives:**

1. Wellness Center – Kim Beard



1. Emeriti Association – Barbara Miller

All Fall OLLI classes will be online this year. Since the classes have gone so well this summer and the attendance is high for fall, even if we are allowed to do in-person classes in the spring we will keep some zoom class. We can reach seniors that cannot get out through the zoom classes. Everyone is also excited because when we do zoom classes that means that someone in Stillwater can take a Bartlesville or Oklahoma City class. The zoom classes have been very successful.

1. SAC – Tashia Cheves

* 10 Full-Time Staff Members were awarded $1000 scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year. Those scholarships are being disbursed this week.
* Council Executives are working on ideas for a Staff Appreciation option in lieu of our Staff Celebration Day that was canceled in May.
* Staff Distinguished Service Awards will still be awarded this fall, and the Awards and Recognition Committee is working on alternative options to our traditional event.

1. GPSGA – Maegan Berg



1. First GA meeting minutes (attached)
2. LinkedIn Network Group sign up form – Please sign up to join our LinkedIn Networking Group at [https://tinyurl.com/y3x9knz7](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftinyurl.com%2Fy3x9knz7&data=02%7C01%7Ctricia.white%40okstate.edu%7C0676a90d30374f01531208d8501dbc88%7C2a69c91de8494e34a230cdf8b27e1964%7C0%7C0%7C637347435985958636&sdata=%2BE9qfYJ4dipYHVq%2BDQ%2F%2BuP6AwQNUavWWS9sK8FWkjXo%3D&reserved=0)
3. Next GPSGA board meeting - Sep 23rd, 2020 at 5:30 PM   
       - Meeting link - [https://zoom.us/j/99572757789?pwd=OGdYSDFLbWxrbjdFbUJwdXg4V1hxZz09](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fzoom.us%2Fj%2F99572757789%3Fpwd%3DOGdYSDFLbWxrbjdFbUJwdXg4V1hxZz09&data=02%7C01%7Ctricia.white%40okstate.edu%7C0676a90d30374f01531208d8501dbc88%7C2a69c91de8494e34a230cdf8b27e1964%7C0%7C0%7C637347435985958636&sdata=E0IYsLYdcOLJTs5jGNVe3XqKlIf8EzXejvNk2oRfXuk%3D&reserved=0) (Meeting ID: 995 7275 7789, Passcode: 225593)     
       - Guest speaker: Jacob Mahaffrey, Assistant Director, Cowboy Technologies
4. WFC – Liz McCullagh



September 2020 Faculty Council Report: Women’s Faculty Council

During the first Zoom meeting of the WFC on August 31st, 2020 the executive team gave updates on our support for the set of best practices for supervisors to support students, staff, and faculty who are caregivers during the COVID-19 pandemic ([click here to view](https://womensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu/site-files/images/best-practices-covid19.pdf)).

Additionally, the executive team announced our statement on “Addressing Inclusion and Accessibility in Higher Education” ([click here to view](https://womensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu/site-files/images/wfc_inclusion-diversity_2020.pdf)).

A guest panel, featuring Dr. Sarah J. Donovan, Assistant Professor of Secondary English Education, College of Education and Human Sciences and Dr. Sheri Vasinda, Associate Professor of Literacy Education, College of Education and Human Sciences, spoke on fostering inclusive, accessible and engaging virtual education spaces. Drs. Donovan and Vasinda highlighted some important elements in making engaging and importantly accessible virtual learning spaces, a particularly relevant topic with the current pandemic and increased virtual learning by students. The meeting was recorded and will be posted on the website.

Upcoming meetings and announcements:

**October meeting:**

Dr. Lex Smith Washington, Spears School of Business

Monday Oct. 5th 2:00-3:00 pm over Zoom

**November meeting:**

Dr. Hendratta Ali, Fort Hays State University

Monday Nov. 2nd 2:00-3:00 pm over Zoom

Outstanding Achievement and Mentorship of Women Awards **Due October 1st** (see attached flyer)

Seeking reviewers for the Student Research Awards please email [madison.chartier@okstate.edu](mailto:madison.chartier@okstate.edu) if interested in volunteering

Anyone interested in the WFC can visit our website at womensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu and sign up to be put on our email list.

1. Graduate Council – Rebecca Sheehan

*Graduate Enrollment*. Dean Tucker reported that enrollment is up for the first time since 2016, with a 1.6% increase for Stillwater and Tulsa campuses and an 18% increase for Center for Health Sciences. The total enrollment for graduate students is 4200, representing a 4% overall increase.

*Pandemic Tuition Waivers.* The Graduate College is offering tuition waivers for international graduate students not in country who had assistantship offers. Approximately 10 students have taken advantage of this waiver.

*Academic Program Review (APR)*. APR reports for graduate programs are available on Canvas by group number. Graduate faculty may provide feedback on the APR reports to their group chairs, who will consolidate the information, submitting feedback to Dr. Van Delinder. The Graduate College will then meet with the programs, Provost and other administrators to discuss graduate faculty feedback. The due date to submit comments to your group chair is October 1, 2020.

*Graduate Policies.* Dean Tucker stated that formal policy updates will be drafted for following theses and dissertations templates; changes to theses and dissertations after they have been approved by the Graduate College; Graduate Student Appeals Policy; dual master’s degree credit sharing; and transfer credit allowed into doctoral programs policy.

*Other Graduate College highlights*.

* The Graduate College is working on re-issuing I-20s for next semester for those international students who could not come to campus this fall.
* The 360o Critical Skills for Career Success professional development programming has been virtual since last spring.
* The Graduate College website will be launching on the new platform soon.
* The Graduate Faculty Database that was impacted by the previous data breach has now been rebuilt.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

1. Academic Standards and Policies: Cristina Gonzalez – No Report

b. Athletics: Justin Talley – No Report

c. Budget: Tyrrell Conway – Update

Conway stated that at the last Faculty Council meeting it was decided to table the Budget Committees’ section of the minutes that contained the year-end report which was submitted in May. The committee has since redacted some sections and it is in the minutes. Peek stated that since these modifications come from a committee it does not need a second. Conway moved to accept the modified section of the minutes. Peek asked for a vote. Motion passed.

d. Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Tieming Liu – No Report

e. Diversity: Ki Cole – Update

Cole stated that the committee would like to recommend that the OSU change parts of the syllabus attachment. There are three modifications specifically that they are recommending. Cole discussed each modification which was also included in the agenda. Peek asked for discussion/questions. Seeing none, Peek asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. DeSilva moved. Neurohr asked if the motion was for all three modifications. Peek stated yes. Peek moved to a vote. Motion passed.

f. Faculty: Matt Lovern – Update

Lovern stated the committee has a recommendation that was included in the agenda. This recommendation will add a section to the OSU Faculty Handbook specifically detailing how we will deal with dismissal procedures as they relate to Title IX cases. Lovern stated that this is the same language that was introduced at the August Faculty Council meeting so people would have heads up. This month we have it in the form of an official recommendation. Lovern stated that after working with OSU Legal, this language is necessary to bring us into compliance with new Title IX regulations that were issued in May 2020. Peek asked for discussion/questions. Seeing none asked for a second. DeSilva moved to accept the recommendation. Peek asked for a vote. Motion passed.

g. Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Christopher Crick – No Report

h. Research: Bruce Dunn – No Report

1. Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Bruce Dunn – No Report

j. Rules and Procedures: Karen Neurohr – No Report

k. Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Toby Nelson – No Report

Old Business – None

New Business – None

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom**.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Neurohr, Secretary