



Southwestern Oklahoma State University
SWOSU Digital Commons

Faculty Senate Minutes


Faculty Senate

10-27-2023

October 27, 2023 Minutes

SWOSU Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/fsminutes>

 Part of the [Adult and Continuing Education Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

SWOSU Faculty Senate Official Minutes

Friday, October 27 @ 2:30 PM in STF 108

- ❖ **Call to Order:** Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by President Trevor Ellis at 2:33 PM
- ❖ **Establishment of a Quorum:** Jimena Aracena, Landry Brewer, Jared Edwards, Swarup Ghosh, Jon Henrikson, Jeremy Johnson, Daniel Kavish, Geo Kelly, Eunice Lonebear, Holly Mace, Shelley Martinson, Nolan Meditz, Andy North, Kathy O'Neal, Bo Pagliasotti, Brian Rickel, Jessica Salmans Meditz, Horrick Sharma, Debra Stevens, Muatasem Ubeidat
- ❖ **Certification of Substitutes:** Evette Meliza for Dana Oliver, Wael Eldahshan for Hardeep Saluja, Zach Jones for Brandy Chase, Angela Fleming for Vanessa Nix, and John Woltz for Phillip Fitzsimmons
- ❖ **Reports from Representatives**
 - **Faculty Athletic Representative** Bo Pagliasotti
 - All athletic teams are active during this week, as some seasons begin to wrap up for the fall and other seasons are beginning.
 - **Student Government Representative:** Jessica Findley
 - Nothing to report.
 - **Library Representative:** John Woltz
 - Provided update on the current budget cuts and the affects on the library, with an emphasis on journal subscriptions
 - **Invited Staff Council Member – Kasey Delk**
 - Provided update on Staff Recognition and Service Plaques
 - Informed Faculty Senate that Staff Meeting with the President will be in the spring semester and faculty are welcome to attend.
- ❖ Non-voting members and guests free to leave or may be asked to leave at this point depending on other items of discussion for the meeting*
- ❖ **Presentation of Visitors:**
- ❖ **Approval of Minutes:** from the September 29, 2023 Meeting
- ❖ **Announcements**
 - **Administrative Council Meeting October 2, 2023**
 - OK-EPSCOR Meeting
 - 1) Research at the Capitol
 - a. Slots 4 OU, 4 OSU, 4 Tulsa, 1 each for RUSO Schools
 - b. SWOSU Student has one the Grand Prize 2023, 2022, 2021
 - c. SWOSU has requested more representation
 - Concurrent Faculty
 - 1) Push to make sure Certified Instructors feel included in the SWOSU Community
 - 2) Chairs are encouraged to invite these instructors to campus
 - Retention
 - 1) COP: Mentoring
 - 2) CBT: Rice Krispy Day/Enrollapalooza (Personal Touch)
 - 3) CEBS: Encouraged to collection of student information and turn it into data to drive retention
 - Marketing
 - 1) Day in the life videos
 - a. More Authentic
 - b. Camera Available
 - c. 30 min training then carry camera the next day

- Legislature
 - 1) 2008 Allocation: More than \$1 Billion
 - 2) 2023 Allocation: \$990 Million
 - a. Approximately 40% Deflation in funding through allocations from 2008 to 2023 based on overall inflation
 - Concurrent Enrollment
 - 1) Approximately 14% Oklahoma High School Juniors and Seniors taking concurrent classes
 - 2) Approximately 35% Kansas High School Juniors and Seniors taking concurrent classes
 - a. State is covering tuition up to 18 hours for Seniors and 9 hours for Juniors
 - Dean of Students
 - 1) Students that are reported as students of concern are being addressed even if the DOS is not following up with the person reporting
 - Human Resources
 - 1) Before a student begins working, they need to complete the process through HR
 - 2) They need to interact with the office in person
 - 3) Student hourly wage increased \$1/hour starting August 30
 - a. Does not effect
 - i. Grants
 - ii. Housing
 - iii. RA/GA
 - RA/GA positions being reviewed currently.
 - Senators voiced concern that the students would be paid an extra \$1/hour, but ultimately hours worked would be reduced due to Departmental budgets not being adjusted for this cost.
 - Response from Provost and Chief Financial Officer during the meeting was that Departmental budgets would be adjusted for this additional cost.
- o **Meeting With Provost:**
- Fall Break discussion
 - 1) Traditional interpretation of OSHRE rules
 - a. $16 \text{ weeks} \times 5 \text{ days/week} = 80 \text{ days}$, but currently OSHRE is taking a step back and being less hands-on.
 - i. Traditional Fall semester 17 weeks with 2 days off for fall break and 3 days for thanksgiving
 - 2) OSHRE is now allowing a more generous interpretation of this rule
 - a. Do we want a full week off for Thanksgiving and skip Fall Break
 - i. WPS has a full week for Thanksgiving
 - b. All week for Thanksgiving and Friday off for Fall Break
 - i. SEOSU 2023-2024
 - c. Keep Fall Break and have full week for Thanksgiving
 - d. Keep the status quo
 - Senators discussed topics related to 1) lab issues, 2) changing start date, 3) going back to starting semester on a Wednesday, 4) added days at end of the semester, 5) how does it affect the calendar, 6) concern about image issues to public and legislators if days are cut, 7) Concern of enrollment by starting early may mean missing out on some late enrollees, 8) Childcare concerns, 9) moving finals to run Thursday and Friday, then a weekend break before finishing finals the start of the next week.

- 3) Faculty Senators were asked to discuss with their colleagues across SWOSU, so that there is a better understanding. Continue discussion at next meeting to determine if this should go to the University Policies Committee.
- Report from OSHRE regarding bachelor's degrees granted.
 - 1) SWOSU
 - a. 2013-2022 609-834 an increase of 40.72%
 - 2) 5 other RUSO Schools combined.
 - a. Down 5.43%
 - HLC
 - 1) 4 Year Review
 - a. Criterion committees met this week
 - b. Initial report due Friday
 - c. Multilocation Visit
 - i. Yukon afternoon November 28
 - ii. Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center morning November 29
 - OSHRE Blue Print 2030 (10-year plan for higher education)
 - 1) Driving second 8-week courses
 - a. OSHRE is pushing for courses that fall outside of the normal 16 week fall/spring semesters
 - Senators asked about type of classes generally being offered. Online vs. in-person? Predominately GE course?
 - 2) It was mentioned that enrolling in these second 8 -week courses may effect a students ability to enroll in the following regular semester because they exceed the \$1K threshold for enrollment without time to pay it down
 - a. Provost mentioned that there have been a couple of instances of this and they were handled case by case with a waiver
 - 3) Winter Session, May intersession
 - a. Tracking if the students enrolling are SWOSU students or students from other schools
 - Bernhardt Award
 - 1) Nominations due January 16
 - 2) Credentials (Book) due February 13
 - 3) Reception/Banquet March 14
 - a. Committee was asked if they would like to continue with the reception format or return to a banquet.
 - i. First impression was that the reception was preferred but would discuss further
 - 4) It was mentioned to Dr. Kendall that the requirement for a professional headshot may prevent some applicants
 - a. Provost indicated that he would talk to the committee but he thought arrangements could be made with Kody to satisfy this requirement
 - Spring 2024 Enrollment
 - 1) This week down 8% vs same period last year
 - 2) Last week up 11% vs same period last year
 - 3) Provost's expectations are that it will look very similar to last fall
 - a. Up in headcount, down in credit hours
 - Adjunct Reviews
 - 1) Chairs of departments will have to start conducting a review of adjunct instructors
 - Continuance Forms
 - 1) Provost was asked about the updated forms

- University Standing Committee List
 - 1) List has been completed.
 - a. List has been forwarded to Phillip Fitzsimmons
 - b. It has been brought to my attention that the list of Faculty Senate Committees that is in the Library Archives is actually the University Standing Committee List
 - Zoom Rooms
 - 1) Locations have not been selected
 - 2) Technology (New Lines, limited Mic drops, and owl(s))
 - Course Catalogue
 - 1) It was brought to the attention of the Provost that it is not up to date
 1. Example Multi-disciplinary minor (no information)
 2. A number of courses in the catalogue are not being taught.
 - a. Adversely effects some minors
 - b. Concern that some minors rely on on-demand courses.
- Senators discussed issues with minors that have on-demand courses, preventing students from enrolling or being able to complete that minor program.
- Issues within the course catalog for students looking at the Multidisciplinary minor.
- Let's Talk about SWOSU has a tentative date of November 14, 2023
 - 1) Will be an open format, looking for topic suggestions.
 - Yukon update
 - 1) MOU submitted by Yukon that SWOSU is currently reviewing.
 - 2) SWOSU has been reimbursed the monetary investment, but without interest for those funds.

❖ **Secretary/Treasurer Jon Henrikson**

	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance
End of September Balance			\$2358.65
End of October Balance			\$2358.65

❖ **President-Elect Jared Edwards:**

- Spoke with Anita Fischer regarding Registrar's office policies and degree checks.
 - Registrar office will not run degree checks until after students are enrolled in 12 credit hours at SWOSU.
 - Have found issues with transfer students being enrolled in GE course that they did not need.

❖ **Past President Jessica Salmans Meditz:**

Reports from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:

❖ **Unfinished Business:**

- Discussion regarding support letter for Chair compensation
 - Discussed current compensation.
- **Motion 10-27-23-1:** Ask Faculty Senate Personnel Policies Committee to review compensation based on current demands and added Adjunct Review policy being implemented and provide response to the Faculty Senate. Motion passed.

❖ **New Business:**

- Faculty University Tenure/Promotion Committee (FUPTRC)
 - Discussion regarding future make-up
 - Discussion regarding qualification of members

- **Motion 10-27-23-2:** Send review of FUPTRC composition and qualifications to the Faculty Senate Personnel Policies Committee. After review, committee will come back with suggestions to the Faculty Senate. Motion passed.
- Question posed by Faculty Senator regarding opening Zoom as an option to attend Faculty Senate Meetings.
 - Discussion of in-person for those who are not Remote SWOSU employees stem out of concern for the need of a strong faculty voice in the current environment.
 - Currently have a substitute policy in place if unable to attend a meeting in-person.
 - 1) Reviewed the substitute policy
 - 2) Additional question came up regarding how long a Senator term lasted and how a Senator was selected. Selection comes through individual departments and the length of a term is three (3) years.
- Fall Semester SWOSU Faculty Senate Meetings
 - November 17, and December 8
- ❖ **Next Meeting:** November 17, 2023 @ 2:30 P.M. STF 108 and Zoom for Remote SWOSU employees.
- ❖ **Adjournment**