

## OSU Emeriti Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023

1:30 Emeriti Suite

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Gary Sherrer, Mike Woods, Kent Sampson, Priscilla Gerfen, Kay Keys, Ron Miller

**Council Members Present:** Judy Hoberock, Barbara Miller, Gerald Stangl, Carolyn Gang, Ray Huhnke, Carol Schmitz, Mike Lorenz

**Committee Chairs Present:** None

**Emeriti Support Present:** Sofia Gustafson

**Guests Present:** Robbin Davis

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Gary.

**Minutes:** It was moved (Barbara) and seconded (Carolyn) that the minutes of the March 27 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Following Ron's presentation, it was moved (Judy) and seconded (Kent) that the treasurer's report be received.

**Past President's Report:** Kent asked the group to bring copies of the Constitution & By-Laws and the Policies and Procedures Document to the May 22 meeting and be prepared to discuss possible changes. In particular, he is considering doing away with the Facilities Committee. He reminded the group that a change requires only a simple majority of Council members.

Kent reminded the group that the Special Olympics would be held May 17-19 and asked for assistance with registration from 7:30 a.m. until no later than 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17. Carol agreed to help.

**Vice-president for Activities:** Priscilla stated that she was trying to confirm Lou Anella as the speaker for the June meeting.

**Administrative Assistant Report:** To date, 108 reservations have been received for next Monday's dinner with OLLI. There are currently six people on a wait list. As suggested by Ron last week, OLLI has agreed to collect from its members.

**Membership Report:** Mike announced two new life-time members, Tom and Joleen Royer. For the benefit of new councilors, he explained the process of soliciting new members twice a year. He then added that the most recent new members had come from personal recommendations or invitations from current members rather than from the solicitation letters.

Barbara indicated that David Peters, a recent retiree, had expressed interest in joining. Mike will email him.

There was a brief discussion regarding adding links to the Emeriti Association and OLLI in the Benefits of Retirement section on the OSU web site. Kent asked Robbin to provide information about OLLI that could be included in the 2024 Emeriti Directory.

**President-Elect:** Mike announced that the agreement between the Stillwater Medical Center and Blue Cross Blue Shield had been extended through December. This action is a temporary fix; however, the issue has not been resolved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Faculty Council:** Barbara's complete report appears following these minutes.

**Other Business:** Robbin stated that the speaker for the upcoming joint meeting would be Dr. Alyce Webb. Since her speech will focus on the Wild West, western attire is encouraged.

**Adjournment:** It was moved (Carol) and seconded (Carolyn) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:33.

**Announcements:**

- The next dinner will be held at 6:00 on May 1.
- The next council meeting will be held at 1:30 on May 22 in the Emeriti Suite.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kay W. Keys, Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

**April 11, 2023, Faculty Council Report**

Submitted by Barbara Miller

**Ken Wagner, Hamm Institute** This Institute was founded with a \$2.5 million endowment for OSU Energy Research, to ensure responsibly sourced energy and ensure future energy leaders. The idea is to encourage discussion between business and researchers, and to go after grants requiring a combination of business and research ideas. Multiple colleges are often combining on these grants, including Spears Business, CEAT, and a Geology Masters program. An Agriculture-led study is using satellite technology to find methane gas. There is also a 1.2 Billion dollar grant with Oklahoma , Arkansas and Louisiana combining a study on hydrogen fuels.

**Chris Ormsby** – CHAT GPT ( an Artificial Intelligence product) was released free to the public last November. This is AI software is trained to mimic human behavior, and can explain concepts to users and or mimic conversations. It can help you brainstorm, create ideas and study guides and find resources, but it doesn't understand content. Microsoft 365 will have it on Outlook.

**Mark Pranger – OSU IT** – IT has been working on Cyber incident response, Digital forensics, and there is now a Masters of Information Technology at OSU. Our students are getting many internships after graduation. There is also a degree in Technology Leadership on Campus. Several Auto companies, including Ford, Toyota, General Motors, Chrysler, Subaru, Jeep, and FIAT, are recruiting our graduates. Engineering has several programs such as Civil Engineering Technology, Engineering Graphics, and Construction Technology. IT also opened an e-sports arena, expanded Pete's Pantry, and created the largest ever plated dinner with St. Francis staff, serving up 16,000 plates at 500 tables.

**Veterans Faculty and Staff Assn.** Several staffers reported on successes here, with trained professionals hired to understand problems specific to veterans retention and graduation rates, and there has been a big improvement here.

**Kyle Wray for Pres. Shrumm** – A large Energy Institute was held on Campus. These Institutes are being created to foster cross pollination of ideas between businesses and researchers.

OSU will now have a BS in Nursing beginning this fall. Over 600 applied to this program, and we could only take 50-60 at first. Oklahoma is 46<sup>th</sup> of the states in number of nurses per capita. There will also be a \$70 million Psychiatric Care Center established on campus, and a Dept. of Mental Health.

Garth Brooks will be giving (gave) two concerts on campus, one for donors and one for students. All are sold out and over \$2 million was raised for scholarships.

There should be budget news in May, but there appears to be support for higher ed in the legislature this year.

**Provost** – The Land Acknowledgement Statement should be back to the Deans for final approval by Regents by May. They are working with the State Regents on definitions for IT and what they can offer.

**Dr Sewell** – Research at OSU will lean toward priority areas chosen because of good for society, Aerospace for example. The Army is offering to work with us on Energy. There will be an Industrial Energy Center, which goes out to businesses and advises on how to save energy, The US Sec. of Energy stopped by OSU to visit the Industrial Assessment Center. The undergrad Research Symposium was just held, with 80 campus departments participating.

**Update on Blue Cross vs. Stillwater Medical Center** – The groups have agreed to keep things as they are through December at least. The future should not affect retirees however,

**Campus Safety and Security Committee update:** The group met with Stillwater reps to discuss safety. They are working on classroom safety. They also are conducting an online survey asking “What do you want to know about OSU measures for classroom safety”

**Non Tenure Track Special Committee:** Presented a proposal to create a standing committee for NTT faculty, consisting of 9 career track NTT general faculty members, and 3 Faculty Council members. The chair and members would be appointed annually by Fac. Council Exec Committee. To be eligible for the Committee the NTT faculty member will have served three consecutive years full time as NTT faculty. The Committee will be charged with providing a clear definition of NTT faculty, revising the Charter and Bylaws of Faculty Council to include NTT Faculty as members of the General faculty (i.e. Voting members). They will also provide recommendations to the Administration providing consistency related to policies and procedures governing titles, appointments and promotion of Career-track NTT faculty. Motion passed unanimously.