OSU Emeriti Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 29, 2022

1:30 Emeriti Suite

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

Council Members Present: Bob LeValley, Francis Epplin, Barbara Miller, Gerald Stangl, Carolyn Gang

Committee Chairs Present: None

Emeriti Support Present: Sofia Gustafson

Guests Present: Cathy Shuffield

Minutes: It was moved (Gary) and seconded (Ron) that the minutes of the May 23 meeting be approved. The motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Following its presentation by Ron, the treasurer’s report was received.

Past President’s Report: Mike has requested and is waiting for the list of those who retired between January 1 and July 1 of this year.

President Elect: No report.

Vice-president for Activities: Priscilla announced that Dr. John Peterson would speak at the upcoming meeting. She is checking with Kendria Cost (Pete’s Pet Posse) regarding the October program. In November, the director of the Stillwater Public Library will be the speaker.

Administrative Report: At this time, 30 people have reserved for the September dinner.

Other reports:

Faculty Council: Barbara’s complete report appears below.

Faculty Council Committees: Since there is some question regarding the end dates of current appointees’ terms, Kent will contact all and clarify at the next meeting.

Emeriti Travel: Cathy Shuffield announced that she had completed a training session with Village Travel in Wichita on August 19. The next and final step in her training process will be her participation in a “training tour.”

Cathy then presented plans for upcoming travel opportunities for Council members, the first since the COVID- mandated shutdown. It was moved (Gary) and seconded (Carolyn) that the October 19 one-day trip to the Pioneer Woman Mercantile (Pawhuska) and the Pioneer Woman Museum (Ponca City) be approved. The motion passed. It was then moved (Barbara) and seconded (Ron) that Cathy continue to work on a
December day-trip to Plano, Texas, for the Gift of Christmas presentation. The motion passed.

Cathy explained that in the future, rather than paying the steep fee for the bus to make special trips to pick up Stillwater travelers on those trips beginning in Oklahoma City, she will be renting a 15-passenger van at a cost of $90.00. The Council agreed to absorb this fee.

**Unfinished Business:** Kent stated that he was working with Josh Taylor regarding an orientation session for those who have volunteered to mentor students in the Undergraduate Mentor Program. He will follow up with Cara Beer regarding a celebration of the organization’s 35th anniversary in 2023.

**New Business:** None

**Announcements:**

- The next dinner meeting will be held in the Alumni Center at 6:00 on September 12. Meet and Greet will begin at 5:30 as usual, with the Sherrers serving as hosts.
- The next Council meeting will be held in the Alumni Center at 1:30 on September 26.

**Adjournment:** It was moved (Ron) and seconded (Gary) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45.

Submitted by Kay W. Keys, Secretary

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**Report: August 16, 2022 Faculty Council Meeting**

Submitted by Barbara Miller

**Special Report on Covid Equity Working Group** - Karen Flaherty (Prof Marketing)

Assessing all pandemic noted problems and input by faculty and staff. Not all faculty will be impacted the same, with such variables as stage of research, amount of covid in home, possible family hospitalizations and deaths, stage in RPT process, plus impact on length of time to achieve publications. The number of resigning faculty has grown, including non tenure track. Figures are being brought to attention of Deans and Dept Heads. They will update again later as more information comes in.

**President Shrumm:** Data reported a new record freshman class of 4,634, plus student retention up one percent. Total enrolment at 24,438, up 1,026 from last year.
President’s Strategic Plan (Power point available on Faculty Council website).

Jerome Loughridge reporting: The group is deciding where to put their money in next five years. There are several stakeholders sending input, including donors, companies, tribal groups, faculty and staff, plus 2200 Alumni responses. Their plan will be based on Land Grant Culture, Oklahoma Culture, Cowboy culture, etc. The goal is to be the best Land Grant University in the US. Four priorities include Access, Society Impact, Workforce development, Discovery of new knowledge. Goals include:

1. Increase undergraduate enrolment by 5000 by 2027. (No indication here on possible increase of faculty or facilities to handle this).
2. Retention directed scholarships, Increasing the percent of students graduating debt free to 60 percent, Reduce percent of students graduating with more than $3000/year debt to 40 percent.
3. Compete with Integrity and excellence: example, increase national and international scholarships (Truman, etc.), towards being in the Director’s Cup top 30 universities.
4. Creating competitiveness: graduates with professional preparedness, engaged citizenship, ethical leadership, and personal responsibility, including financial responsibility
   To do this the University will create platforms for students to complete and a portfolio for activities to be completed
5. Align curriculum and programming. Reform gen ed, new academic programming,
6. Leverage status to advanced research that impacts society, innovators to work cross disciplines, institutes to trans-discipline discovery, fulfill Land Grant mission to broaden reach of research.
7. Elevate and amplify extension, reimagining extension leadership.
8. Increase efficiency of OSU system, providing seamless support across campus, coordinate career prep.

Dr. Stevens, reporting on Covid across campus. COVID incidence has flattened. They will still have the dashboard, and are also following Monkeypox. They are still testing for covid on campus.

Provost – All proposals are still in process, including employee travel and the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

There is a new A and S Dean, interim.

Chair report There are 111 new faculty this semester (did not indicate if tenure track or not)
Wellness Center – There will now be charges to take classes at the Colvin Center. $40 per semester for Faculty, $50 for staff, and $60 for community members non USU. One charge to take as many classes as you want. They are considering free use of facilities during dead week and/or finals.

Rules and Procedures Committee: There is a statement available (on website?) on using non-published materials online for class instead of course books. Courses not requiring textbooks will be annotated in the class lists.

Announcements – Faculty convocation will be Tuesday Sept 29th 3 pm. At this meeting there will be more information on the Strategic Plan.

Note: several questions were asked of the Strategic Plan report, and the presenter indicated there is more detail on the complete report.

Barbara Miller