

OSU Emeriti Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 30, 2023

1:30 Emeriti Suite

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

Council Members Present: Gerald Stangl, Carolyn Gang, Ray Huhnke, Gary Clark, Mike Lorenz

Committee Chairs Present: None

Emeriti Support Present: Sofia Gustafson

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

Minutes: It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Gary Clark) that the minutes of the September 25 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: It was moved (Carolyn) and seconded (Mike Woods) that the report be received. The motion passed.

Past President's Report: Kent provided a form and asked council members to use it to update their job descriptions. Updates should be sent to Kent no later than December 1.

Vice-President for Activities: Priscilla reported that she had arranged programs through March. The Stillwater High School choral group will perform in December, and Jim Rutledge will appear as Abraham Lincoln in February. (Note: There is no dinner in January.) An Irish journalist, Declan Breden will be the March speaker. Mike Woods suggested the new vice-president for Agriculture as a potential speaker for April or May. Priscilla will follow up.

Administrative Assistant Report: Sofia reported that, to date, 45 reservations had been received for the November dinner.

Membership Report: Mike Lorenz reported that Carolyn Sanders was a new annual member. He has requested the names of those retiring in the last half of 2023 in order to prepare recruitment materials.

Faculty Council: Although Barbara was unable to attend the meeting, she sent a written report, which appears following these minutes.

Other Business:

Slate of Officers for 2024: Kent distributed the Nomination Committee Report, which outlined the following recommendations:

Executive Committee:

- Mike Woods, president
- Carolyn Gang, president-elect
- Priscilla Gerfen, vice-president for activities (Term ends in December, 2024.)
- Becky Schlais, secretary
- Ron Miller, treasurer (Term ends in December, 2024.)

Councilors-at-large:

- Gerald Stangl has agreed to a second term.
- Kent Sampson will serve in the position vacated by Barbara Miller, who has served two terms.
- Judy Hoberock has agreed to serve a second term.
- Sue Williams will replace Carolyn Gang, who has been nominated for the position of president-elect.

The slate will be announced at the November 10 dinner, where additional nominations can be received from the floor. Council members will vote at the November 27 meeting, and results will be announced at the December dinner.

AROHE: Mike Woods presented a thorough report on membership in the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. It was moved (Ray) and seconded (Kent) that all councilors join in order to access the members-only pages of the AROHE and receive the organization’s newsletter, *AROHE Matters*. Mike’s complete report appears below after the Faculty Council Report.

November Dinner Program: Priscilla and Gary Sherrer outlined plans for the November dinner. The OSU ROTC Honor Guard will participate. Representatives of the local Cimarron Chapter of DAR will present certificates and pins to honor Emeriti Association members who served in Vietnam. Gary will present each honoree with a Vietnam Vet cap as well.

Priscilla plans to decorate each table with an individual quilt square and, via a drawing, award one of the lucky honorees with the quilt once it is completed.

Adjournment: It was moved (Gary Clark) and seconded (Mike Woods) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay W. Keys, secretary

October 10, 2023, Faculty Council Report

Submitted by Barbara Miller

Special Report – Jennifer Jones Director, Center for Intellectual and Developmental

Disabilities - OSU is one of 328 Programs in the U.S. fostering education for students with intellectual disabilities. These potential students are often undervalued at the college level. For the past 20 years there has been a movement for inclusive secondary education for these students in the U.S.

The program had 40 applicants last year, brought 16 to campus, and this year brought 8 to campus. Three of these were the second year for those who began last year. O State magazine currently has a good article on this program. They want to expand the two year program, and talk about career goals with these students. The Stillwater Chamber has reached out to the business community and has seven businesses in town providing job shadowing for the students, including Westwood Elementary, OSU Athletics, and Eskimo Joe's clothing. Graduate and undergraduate Scholars are involved in this shadowing, working with the students and attending the shadowing with them.

Special Report – VP Jason Kirksey of Institutional Diversity spoke about his program, and also about his health. Six months ago he was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer and is working through treatments. October 26 there was a Diversity Hall of Fame event on campus. Stats in the booklet they published show increasing diversity each year, although they still have a way to go. OSU has won national awards for diversity, And Dr. Kirksey is the most decorated Head of Diversity in the country. Dr. Kirksey writes 20-4- letters each year on university diversity for Faculty to accompany grant proposals, since this is required of many major granting agencies at this point. There are still problems nationwide. Many schools across the country are shutting LGBTQ centers on their campuses, and of 40 pieces of legislation proposed across states, only 12 proposals passed. Also, this year will be the 29th OKSL symposium on minority students in STEM programs.

President's Report

The State Legislature was not in session now so Pres. Shrumm invited many of them to campus to visit many programs underway. Next session she will ask for money for Extension Services.

She also attended an Energy Security Summit sponsored by the Hamm Institute on Energy. There for four Governors, 4 Cabinet Secretaries, and many CEO's and a few Ambassadors in attendance, and several speakers indicated they would love to come to our Campus and speak with students.

Dr Elizabeth Pollard , President of the Innovation Foundation at OSU reported that OSU received a special award at national meetings , for their Special Olympics program. The president reported that one student she met had finished an Iron Man competition!

She also mentioned that we have a Statement on university ownership of creative enterprises as required by law for applicants for Students and faculty She builds and

commercializes technology, and wants to add technology ...We have four institutes now on campus, Hamm Energy, Oklahoma Aerospace Institute, Human Performance and Nutrition Institute, and the National Center for Wellness and Recovery. How might Private Partners use our inventions? We are designing an Innovation Park, creating space to allow collaboration between science, technology, and the Arts. A super computer will be housed here. They are working with the VP for Research's team to provide Gap Funding between Concept and Production.

Provost. Dr. Mendez reported they are working through over 100 recommendations, and she is meeting with the executive council to look at the RPT documents and how they apply to NTT faculty. The Faculty Committee will be working on this.

VP Student Affairs – They are kicking off a Cowboys United for Mental Health, with 11 interns providing counselling service when students need this.

VP Joe Weaver's office. Reported that there will be a 21.8 percent increase in fees for insurance, and they are working on ideas to offset this increase. One problem is Spousal insurance increase, which is 22 percent higher than before. Now if you choose to insure your spouse they need to verify that they are not working for a firm that also provides insurance. Price of insuring children has not been impacted.

The Fall general Faculty Meeting will be November 10 at 3 pm on the Starlite Terrace.

Membership in Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE)

Submitted by Mike Woods

- Trial Membership Remainder of 2023 and First Half of 2024 (no cost).
- Cost to renew quoted at \$120. (Note, some of our members feel this is lower than we have paid in the past)
- We were a member in the past but have not been a paid member for several years. (Note, some of our current Council feel we were paid members more recently. Regardless, we are not a paid member now)
- Organizational members are "bundle" or group memberships.
- We may add additional contacts from our organization to receive AROHE communications and have access to the members only web pages.

- A recent visit with former OSU Emeriti Council President Dennis Bertholf was enlightening. Dennis attended an in-person conference hosted by AROHE. He found the conference to be well done and he learned a lot. Dennis recalls we (Emeriti Council) utilized AROHE as we helped to found and launch OLLIE.

We may add whomever we want to receive the AROHE newsletter, AROHE Matters and to access the member pages on AROHE's website. Most organizations add members of their advisory committees or boards as well as applicable campus administrators. **Suggested Action Below**

- **Suggest we (OSU Council) determine who would like to receive this access and we will send one list (names and addresses) to AROHE administration, and they will add these people and send them a welcome email with instructions for accessing member resources.**

On October 17, 2023, Mike Woods attended an on-line conference organized by AROHE. This was labeled a "Member Meet-Up" and the topic was "Outreach to New Retirees". Here are the speakers: Barry McNeill, Arizona State University; E Eastman, UCSF; Ann Rogers, Emory; Ayesha Dixon, UCLA. Some very good ideas were shared as well as some best practices. Topics mentioned included interest groups, new retiree welcome events, speaker series, travel programs, and social media outreach.

It is clear some of the universities on the webinar have access via their university HR to complete address and contact information for recent retirees. It is also clear many have the challenge we have with this step in recruitment. Here are two take-aways:

1. We (OSU Emeriti Association) are really pretty solid and have a diversity of programs and operating procedures that is healthy.
2. There is always something to learn from peers to improve our already excellent programming and operations.
