

Faculty/Staff Council
Minutes
August 18, 2009

Quorum was met. Minutes were approved.

Present: Bruce Roberts, Dr. Klabenes, Sharon Smith, Curtis Miller, Laura Roets, Mark Rodriguez, Bob Avakian, Allen York, Bob Seebeck, Steve Rubert, Bruce Force, Kevin Hulett, David Martin, Christy McCall, Trudy Book.

Absent: Charlotte McCall, Louise Lee Ballenger, John Pemberton, Brian Caldwell, Todd Anderson, Thomas Kipkurgat, Art Visconti.

Guests: Linda Roe.

HR Report –

- Christy McCall said she has a date for TIAA-CREF – the representative will be here September 24. She asked that if anyone is interested in meeting with him for a one-on-one session to email her.
- On September 16th during the Welcome Back lunch, we will have a job fair from 11 to 1. If you have some work study or institutional positions out there for students, let us know. Our primary goal is to help these students who are looking for employment and help them out with their financial needs.
- It is time for health insurance enrollment -- open enrollment is going to be during the month of October. We will have more information coming soon.

Physical Plant Update – Bob Seebeck

- The Rural Health building is basically done, but there's a little finish work that the contractor has to do, but the faculty is moving in and they will have classes there at the beginning of September.
- The landscape area is still being worked. Our staff is working on Building 600 on some classrooms and offices.

OSU Faculty Representative Report – Bob Avakian

- No report.

OSU Staff Representative Report - Allen York

- No report.

OSUIT Faculty Committee Report – Mark Rodriguez

- The Green Committee is focusing on green issues -- we're still waiting on the signage promoting paper recycling. We need to determine quantity and cost.
- One other thing we went over was ways to dispose of 200 gallons of vegetable oil on average a month. There wasn't the approval of a grant to get this started, so we're still exploring ways to get it done; we have to figure out how we wish to go

about implementing it. There are a couple of agreements, such as safety issues, storage, and so forth. We will be exploring this further because there are ways to get this done without huge investments of money.

- The recycling program for individuals to give away their belongings to other students who could use them – others have tried it in the past and it didn't go very well because the stuff that was left was either broken or of no use. If it's going to be done in a successful manner, somebody's got to give it a lot of oversight to make sure that people understand that this is not a place to take their junk and drop it off.

OSUIT Staff Committee Report – Curtis Miller

- The birthday luncheons continue.

Policies and Benefits Report – Position vacant – No report.

Public Relations Report – Steven Rubert

- The luncheon post cards went out.
- The next PR we'll do is to send out communications about the picnic in October.

Rules and Procedures Report – Charlotte McCall – no report.

Health and Wellness Report – Bruce Force

- We were waiting on the Stillwater Wellness Center to come over for dinner and have a meeting, but it didn't happen. We are just trying to schedule that.
- We are also working with Blue Cross and Blue Shield to see what initiatives we can come up with.

President's Report – Dr. Bob Klabenes

- Enrollment – as of today, we're ahead 22.8% in terms of new students as compared to the same time last year. The overall percentage increase of all students – we're ahead 16.7%. I don't think that there's any question that we're going to be up in enrollment this fall and considerably over last fall. I don't know whether to think that these percentages will hold up because these are really very huge percentages of increases because last year -- we didn't have a push on enrollment until the last month so we had a lot of people enroll very late. Then Ina came in to enrollment management and she started pushing enrollment very, very early – Jan. and Feb. of this year. Yesterday, there were 200 students in the waiting area that we were trying to get processed so there is still a lot of activity and we have 9 days left for students to enroll. I think that enrollment for fall will be up; the real emphasis has to be on retention -- we need to get the students here paying their tuition and fees and keep them here until they graduate.
- On the other side, most of you have seen on the news that the State has declared a revenue shortfall for this fiscal year which began July 1. We have been planning for this shortfall. We get our state appropriation every month, and our August allocation will be about \$88,000 short. If you take \$88,000 times 12, that's \$1,056,000 dollars short for the year. My concern is that it could be more than that

as we go through the next two, three, four months. Devin DeBock said housing is full and even overbooked by maybe 20 or 30 students, and they're putting 3 students in some rooms to accommodate that. What I have been hearing is that 2-year colleges across the country are seeing an upturn in enrollment and sometimes it's 8-9% and sometimes it's a double digit increase. Last time I talked to the Stillwater people, their enrollment was down, so I think the name brand institutions and the more expensive institutions are the ones that are going to take the bigger hit with respect to the recession.

- A couple of faculty are switching areas this year, such as Aaron McLain, who is going from automotive services to high voltage. There are some shifts being made because automotive service, unfortunately, is going to take a hit -- the biggest hit is going to be in General Motors.
- We participated in the energy education program. I am skeptical in terms of the bottom line dollar impact. They phrase that as cost avoidance and our cost avoidance, they say, is 18% compared to if we didn't have an energy education program. I have some concerns whether or not that really reflects actual dollars or not.
- We are working on posting some information on the web about H1N1 or the swine flu; the CDC is keeping us updated on that. OSU-Stillwater has quite a few cases on its campus. We all need to be careful and again we are going to hand out hand wipes and hand sanitizer. And if anyone gets a fever, they should take 24 hours and stay away from others. I don't know when vaccine will be available; the regular flu vaccine will be available sometime in September or October.
- On the employee picnic, the OSU Foundation was committed to funding Pistol Pete to come that day but that's homecoming, so he can't come that day.
- I would like to complement Bob Seebeck and Allen York and all the physical plant people for the new landscaping project, which looks really good.

Old Business -- Bruce Roberts

- Family Fund Drive -- I know there are been some employees that have contributed but have never seen the benefits, so we are working on a way to inspire people not to just think of themselves but the benefits that they will leave our community.
- The employee picnic is coming along -- we lost the emcee who did it last year, so we need to find someone to fulfill that duty. Please give me recommendations. It will be held October 16th at 11:30.

New Business -- Bruce Roberts

- Elections -- I need at least one more faculty member for the ballot. If you could send me an email with suggestions and I will talk to them.

Next Meeting – September 15, 2009