

**Faculty/Staff Council
Minutes
February 16, 2010**

Quorum was met. November, December and January minutes were approved.

Present: Trudy Book, Bob Avakian, B.J. O'Brien, Steven Murphey, Ken Milliman, Kevin Hulett, Sharon Smith, Bruce Roberts, Curtis Miller, Leah Torbett, Dr. Klabenes, Bruce Force, Jenny Duncan, Michelle Kreps, Steven Rubert, Aaron Gaddy, Bob Seebeck.

Absent: Allen York (E), Mark Rodriguez (E), Christy McCall, Todd Anderson, Steve Bryant, Brian Caldwell, David Martin, Charlotte McCall, John Pemberton, Louise Ballenger, Art Visconti.

HR Report – No report.

Physical Plant Update – Bob Seebeck reported:

- The new Daycare facility will be open April 15.
- We are finishing the solariums on the north end of the Student Union, and then there are some skylights, which have arrived already, and are sitting out on the dock behind the building, and will go on top of this building.
- We just completed the project at the automotive center.
- We are working on some drainage and some increased parking in the area just south of the allied health building, and that will help alleviate some of the parking problems at allied health.
- We are looking at doing some renovations in the Lackey Hall lobby area, which will start March 6.

OSU Faculty Representative Report – Bob Avakian reported:

- A new dean has been hired for the business school -- Dr. Larry Crosby will be taking over July 1.

OSU Staff Representative Report - No report - Allen York was absent.

OSUIT Faculty Committee Report – No report.

OSUIT Staff Committee Report – No report.

Policies and Benefits Report – Position vacant – No report.

Public Relations Report – No Report.

Rules and Procedures Report – Position vacant - No report.

Health and Wellness Report – Bruce Force reported:

- OSUIT was nominated as a one of the Oklahoma Healthy Businesses for 2009.

President's Report – Dr. Klabenos reported:

- I am handing out a chart that shows the hottest careers in 2006 through 2016 -- there will be a need for over one million registered nurses, and associate degree programs, like the degree program this institution has.
- Other career fields expecting growth are automotive service technician, and those that are related to computers.
- There are significant job opportunities in manufacturing.
- On the other side of the graph is the unemployment rate for 2008 and the earnings for 2007 -- I particularly like this chart because it shows that there is a direct correlation between education, and your ability to be employed.
- Our student enrollment shows significant growth -- but with the significant downturn in State appropriations, and the cuts we're taking, enrollment growth produces more tuition income, and that helps us be able to close that budget gap.
- There are a lot of things that go in to enrollment growth, one is retention, being student-centered, and faculty and staff paying attention to students. The other is being more organized, and our approach to student recruitment, and probably the recession had some impact on our enrollment growth. If you look at what has happened to us between the fall term of 2008 to 2009, we had an enrollment growth of 6.7%. Then if you look at spring of 2009 to 2010, we generated an additional 4,000 semester credit hours -- we are going to be up about 9,000 semester credit hours, the majority of which have paid tuition.
- I commend faculty and staff in terms of recruitment, and retention, and providing the right kind of learning environment and support for students. We need to continue to have enrollment growth, but there are two things that we have to work around. One is, there are some programs that we can't take any more students because of our number of faculty and facilities available, and because of job opportunities available. We can't take any more students in Culinary Arts, photography or nursing right now.
- As we look towards recruitment and retention, we need to find those areas where there are seats available, and recruit students into those programs of study.
- Then the other thing that we need to do going forward is find programs of study that we can add that are very little overhead cost. For example, we are looking at an Allied Health Sciences degree, that would be primarily taught by the General Education faculty and feed into existing classes. We don't have money, unless we generate a lot of tuition income, to add additional faculty, so we need those kinds of programs that we can add and take advantage of the existing academic infrastructure we have where we can generate more tuition income and more full-time equivalent students without additional overhead.
- Our state appropriation since the fiscal year 2000, was a little more than 13 million. The highest state appropriation that this institution had occurred in fiscal 2009, at 15.6 million, then in 2004 and 2005, when we had the economic downturn in Oklahoma, we dropped off, then in fiscal 2007 and 2008 we were recovering from that. So when you look at fiscal year 2010, you can see that our state appropriation is going to be somewhat less. On FY 2011, 2012, 2013, I projected worse case scenario in terms of state appropriation, if we don't get the cuts restored, and then we have one more year of stimulus funding, and that is 1.2

million for this institution, so when that stimulus money goes away, we have to figure out a way to replace that stimulus money.

- If things stay like they are, and there isn't significant revenue growth from the State of Oklahoma, and if the stimulus funds aren't replaced, our FY 2013 state appropriation could be just slightly more than it was in FY 1991. You know I am a little bit encouraged because they said natural gas and oil revenue for this year, they said we are going to have another 60 million, they said in the newspaper today.
- The other thing is full-time equivalent students, so you can see the trend line for FTES is going up and up, and the trend line for state appropriations is going down. But I left the FY 2011, 2012, 2013 FTES line flat. I said if state appropriations continues to go down, and we don't get some of that restored, then I don't know we can take too many more students, it's going to be a real challenge to figure out how to do that.
- We presented this to our legislative delegation this past Friday -- we need to keep informing them that these are challenging times financially, and they need to be understanding and sympathetic to help us. And I might just mention, I showed them our tuition and fees from 2005 to today. We only increased fees one time, we went from \$29.50 to \$31.50 fees in 2005, and we have not increased fees one time in the last four fiscal years. Our tuition has gone up, but our combined tuition and fees has gone up by 6%...so I think we have done a good job of keeping education for our students as affordable as possible at this institution.
- If you look at strictly what our budget was starting July 1, and if you look to what we project for tuition income this year, both resident and non-resident, the students will pay 29% of the total cost. Now Deborah calculates it, and says, let's take out the cuts, and that lowers our state appropriation, and then add in the enrollment growth, and fees -- the question from the legislature...if you put tuition and fees together, and reduce the state appropriation, and increase the enrollment, then it gets up to about 38% that students could pay this year. So it all depends on who you are talking to and how you want to present that.
- The bottom line, I showed the delegation and the state regents this, in 2004, we were asked to identify our peer institutions, the institutions that you would like to be most like. And in 2004, we were nearly \$4,000 below per FTE, the average of those institutions, which put us 40% below what they, those institutions had FTES, and in this situation, it is going to be somewhat worse.
- The front page article of the Higher Education Chronicle says that, public higher education doesn't believe that for-profit institutions like the University of Phoenix or DeVry Institute are for real, and that they are just a passing fancy, but they're not. They are here to stay, and they are getting the students and they are charging a lot -- and why is that? It is because they are responsive, short term, students go for three or four weeks and get a 3 credit hour course. Phoenix takes their classes to where the individuals are, they have all that flexibility, and they are saying they are going to continue to grow -- their stock is just through the top on the stock exchange, and will probably continue to go through. We really ought to pay attention to flexibility, responsiveness, student centeredness, and those kinds of things. And I am not saying that we don't, I am saying the academy of public

higher education can't continue to say those public institutions are a passing fancy, and they are going to go away, but they are real competitors, who charge more, and they are getting more students, and they spend a lot of money to advertise. They charge 10 or 30 thousand dollars a semester, so they have more money to do these things.

- I think we do a good job at this institution of operating much differently than the traditional college or university. When we need to make a curriculum change, we just talk to faculty, and faculty makes the change. At Stillwater it goes through the faculty committee, you might be two years getting one course changed.
- One other thing, the Ambassador from Kenya to the United States came and spent the day with us yesterday.

Old Business -- None.

New Business –

- Allen York was elected Faculty Staff Council Chair-Elect.
- Bob Avakian asked if we could set up a scholarship in honor of Phillip Porter, instructor who passed away recently. Dr. Klabenes said we would have to submit the request to Ben Leslie with the OSU Foundation.

Next Meeting – March 23, 2010