VI Staff Senate of the University of Central Oklahoma
Minutes from Tuesday, August 6, 2019
Forensic Science Lecture Hall, Room 106

I. **Call to Order**
President DeBoard called the meeting to order at 2:05PM.

II. **Roll Call**
37 Active Senators

Senators Absent (4): Senator Kaiser, Senator Liskey, Senator Clavin (excused absence), Senator Kuschel

III. **Recognition of Visitors**
President Patti Neuhold – Ravikumar, Tracey Romano, Steph Rogers, Jerry Legere, KT King, Stan Gravichkov, Kristi Archuleta.

IV. **Approval of the Minutes**
The minutes for July were approved.

IV. **Special Order of the Day**
President Patti Neuhold-Ravikumar

- Recent legislation, etc.
- $183 million budget for FY20– $3 million less than what we started last year
- University had a $12 million dollar hole to fill for FY20 – reduced operating cost, let go of reserve, adjusting other budgets, increase tuition,
- Short term issues – $7 million gap for the current year – address structural deficit for FY 21 – what can we reduce, what can we grow, what can we invest – growing online programs, provide full support online for online students,
Online programs are growing each semester even as other enrollment is declining. We will need to put more online and consider adjusting the time frame for the class. Is a 16-week class the best option? Is an 8 week course a better accommodation? Not every faculty member will have to do that but more of them will -- as long as the course make sense to shift to an 8 week course.

- Long term
  - Alignment and allocation process starts this fall and runs through spring
    - Ask campus and community stakeholders to help brainstorm solutions to solve the problem of the budget shortfall each year.
    - We are going to make sure everything that we do aligns with our mission.
    - How do we make sure that we are allocating funding to the things that matter, grow the university, and align with our mission?
    - Will be led by Provost and VP for Finance & Operations but the wider University community, including faculty, admin, staff, adjuncts will be consulted.

The President is working to develop internal and external contacts at the capital so that they understand the impact that bills have on higher education.

V. Senate Executive Committee Reports

President DeBoard:

The elected members of the Executive Committee communicated via email and phone in early July to discuss the appointed positions of the Executive Committee. Parliamentarian Baird and Webmaster/Historian Kaiser were reappointed to their positions for 2019-2020. The Senate had three open seats. The vacant Finance & Operations seat was filled via special election. David Herd was elected in that special election. Welcome Senator Herd. The division of Student Affairs had two vacant seats. One of the seats will be filled by appointment later in today’s meeting and the remaining Student Affairs vacancy is being filled via Special Election. The Staff Senate Secretary/Treasurer, Kimberly Campbell, vacated one of the Student Affairs seats. In accordance with the Staff Senate Bylaws, the Executive Committee filled the office by appointment. Carlie Wellington will serve as Secretary/Treasurer for the year.

The Executive Committee met with President Neuhold-Ravikumar and Vice-President Freeman on July 12. The FY20 budget is $183 million compared to $186 million for FY19. The total deficit was $12 million. $5 million filled using one-time funds; the remainder was filled with the tuition increase and a reduction in operating budgets. Looking ahead to FY21, a gap of $7.5 million is projected. This could grow depending on enrollment trends. The President noted that our enrollment peaked five years ago during an economic recession. She noted that our current enrollment is more in-line with our historical enrollment prior to the increase early this decade. A key part of the Alignment and
Allocation process that will be finding ways to accommodate fluctuating enrollment in a responsible manner.

The Vice-President for Student Affairs position vacated by Dr. Pope will be filled via a National Search. Students will be part of the screening group. This search is expected to take several months and an interim VP, Drew Duke, has been appointed.

Vice-President Freeman gave an update on the increased parking permit fee. The fee increased from $125 to $195. This is the first increase since 2014 and the second increase in fifteen years. Permit fee revenue is primarily used for lot maintenance and construction. As construction costs have increased and fee revenue has remained stagnant it became challenging to maintain our existing lots and to continue construction of new lots. The new permit revenue will give the University the ability to better maintain current lots and plan for future parking areas, including a parking garage.

2019-2020 committee assignments were distributed earlier this week. Committees should plan to meet today at the conclusion of the regular meeting. The goals should be schedule your first regular committee meeting and begin conversations about potential legislative issues relevant to your committee. The bulk of Senate business is conducted by our Standing Committees. The earlier a committee begins to meet and identify potential issues the more success they will have in advancing legislation that addresses those issues.

Vice-President Bieri:

Vice-President Bieri re-organized the Staff Senate shared drive. Nothing has been deleted except for content that was mistakenly placed there. Everything that is not current for 19-20 can be found in the archive folder for each topic.

Secretary/Treasurer Wellington:

Secretary Wellington gave an update on Staff Senate nameplates.

Webmaster/Historian Kaiser:

President DeBoard gave a brief update on behalf of Webmaster Kaiser on the early progress of moving the current Staff Senate website to the new blog format.

Parliamentarian Baird:

Vacancies in the Senate: President may appoint, subject to Senate vote. Otherwise, special election within the affected Division

VI. University-Wide Committee/Representation Reports

1. University Planning Council

President DeBoard
UPC did not meet in August.

2. **Committee on Diversity**

   Senator Renteria-Mendoza

   The committee met on July 10. The committee reviewed the end-of-year report to be presented to the President’s Cabinet as well as the recommendations from the diversity planning process. Additional discussion ensued on how we can support international students, and it was announced the International House is now in West Hall. UCO is now a member of International House Worldwide. The faculty and staff associations reported on start of year activities. The committee will meet again on August 14.

**VII. Senate Standing Committee Reports and Membership**

1. Constitution, Parliamentary Procedure, and Elections Committee
   Chair: Parliamentarian Baird
   Vice Chair:
   Members: Senators, Gamagedara, Harrel, and Lafave

   No Report

2. Compensation Committee
   Chair: Senator Liskey
   Vice Chair: Senator Platt
   Members: Senators Beezley, Griffith, Hendricks, Morgan, Pruett, Rogers, Scism, and Seigman

   No Report

3. Policy and Staff Welfare Committee
   Chair: Senator Vaughn
   Vice Chair:
   Members: Senators Andrews, Delaney, Martucci, Ratterman, Schmidt, C. Smith, K. Smith, and Stephens

   No Report

4. Stakeholder Relations and Involvement Committee
   Chair: Senator Hunter
   Vice Chair:
   Members: Senators Anderson, Botello, Daro, Herd, Huff, Keever, Kuschel

   No Report

**VII. Unfinished Business**
VIII. New Business
President DeBoard nominated Joy Morgan to fill the vacant Student Affairs seat. Ms. Morgan introduced herself to the Senate. The Senate voted to confirm the nomination.

IX. Announcements for the Good of the Order
The Faculty Staff Convocation is Tuesday, August 13 from 9:00-11:00. The Staff Senate will have table in the lobby. I encourage everyone to attend.

X. Adjournment
President DeBoard adjourned the meeting at 3:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary-Treasurer Wellington