Call to Order
President Terrell called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Senators Absent (4): Senator Baker, Senator Bhargava, Senator Killian, Senator Rogalsky

Recognition of Visitors
Dr. Mark Kinders, Vice-President Government Relations

Approval of the Minutes
The minutes were approved as distributed without correction.

Special Order of the Day
Guest Speaker Dr. Mark Kinders began his presentation talking about the State’s budget shortfall. Projections predict a shortfall anywhere from $900 million to $1.2 billion. Dr. Kinders pointed out that this is about more than just about the lower energy prices. He is hopeful that steps will be taken within the State to improve the budget. One example is the Oklahoma Academy, which will issue a statement at the end of January about the problems that Oklahoma is facing along with suggested solutions on how to address these problems. The governor will be giving the State of the State on February 1st. The new legislative session will begin on February 25th. UCO will be taking students down regularly to the legislature to ensure that the positive message about what UCO is providing is being heard.

Senate Executive Committee Reports
President’s Report:
Proposal Updates:
Current status of Proposals sent to President Betz:
The Modification to Employee Tuition Benefit Proposal response was sent to the Personnel Policies and Compensation Committee on November 23rd and the feedback from Dr. Chrusciel was sent to the Committee on December 18th. (not accepted, as written)

The Modification to HR Policies proposal and the IPP Recommendations Proposal responses with feedback were sent the Personnel Policies and Compensation Committee on December 17th. (accepted)

Next step will be for the committee to review the responses and feedback, disseminate the responses to all Staff Senators.

Resolution Updates:

- The Modification to Parking Resolution was sent to Josh Stone on December 18th. I received a response and will forward it to all Senators this week.
- The Communication with the UCO Community Resolution was filed with the Staff Senate Governing Documents folder in the Staff Senate shared network folder.
- Reminder: A response to resolutions is not required but appreciated.

Senator Tadlock has resigned from the Senate. His term is for two years, ending June 2016. As previously decided by the Executive Committee and to be fair and considerate of anyone that may be appointed, there will not be an appointment made when a seat is vacated with 6 months or less remaining of the term.

Vice-President’s Report:
VP Renteria reported that the Faculty Senate is looking at the following issues: tuition reimbursement plans, safety on campus, and the RFP for the new health clinic. During the fall semester in Staff Senate, the committees reviewed/created a total of 18 bills, resolutions, or proposals. These items of business represented a total of 16 issues. Three issues were resolved, 3 issues were dead in committee, 7 issues are still in committee review, and 3 issues are ready for voting during this meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer’s Report:
Senator Powers reported issues with calendar invitations and asked if anyone had not received the invitations through June 2016 to email him.

Reporter/Historian’s Report:
Senator Supon reported that the website is being updated. She thanked all who had their pictures taken.

Parliamentarian Report:
Senator Baird announced the voting on an Amendment would occur later in the meeting and that a 2/3 majority was needed for approval.

University-Wide Committee Reports:
1. University Planning Council

Senator Terrell

During the December 14th meeting, Cindy Boling provided a data review for IPEDS, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, which is the federal system used to collect information about colleges and universities. All data and reports are on the UCO Institutional Research website.

Drs. Adam Johnson and Myron Pope presented on the status advisors and enrollment, the correlation of advisors to student success and retention, and the possibility of adding an advising fee to improve the advisor to student ratio.

Dr. Mickey Hepner presented an updated plan with options for expanding the College of Business’ facilities.

2. Communicator’s Council

Andrea McCoy

Nothing to report at this time.

3. Professional Development Advisory Committee

Senator Castleberry

Nothing to report at this time.

4. Healthy Campus Leadership Team

Senator Curtis

Nothing to report at this time.

5. Committee for Univ IT Project Prioritization (CUIT)

Senator Cole

Two things were brought before the committee (Civitas and Closed Captioning). Both were scored and sent to the Cabinet.

6. National Alumni Board of UCO

Senator Dumas

Nothing to report at this time.

7. Committee on Diversity

Senator Arnold

Met right before break.

8. Health and Wellness RFP Committee

Senator Romano

One bid was put forth. It is now at Purchasing.

9. Transformative Learning for Employees Task Force

Senators Castleberry and Moore

Met in December. Put on hold until approval from Staff and Faculty Senates.

10. Employee Assistance Program Committee

Senator Baird

Deer Oaks EAP Services was accepted as the new EAP service provider for UCO.

Senate Standing Committee Reports and Membership

1. Constitution, Parliamentary Procedure, and Elections Committee
Chair: Senator Baird  
Members: Senator Brown, Senator Davis, Senator Rogalsky
Senator Baird presented a power point presentation outlining the reasons for moving to an Instant Runoff system of voting.

2. Communications Committee  
Chair: Senator Supon  
Members: Senator Stone, Senator Wullstein
Nothing to report at this time.

3. Personnel Policies and Compensation Committee  
Chair: Senator Gillmore  
Vice Chair: Senator Weathers  
Members: Senator Butler, Senator Moore, Senator Romano, Senator Shortt, Senator Wood, Senator Young
Met and reviewed 3 new bills.

Committee voted to Kill SSB 2015/2016-005 Payroll Timekeepers. Reasoning: First, we believe there is some confusion in the bill regarding “supervisors”. In the President’s cabinet notes’ language, the term “supervisor” is denoting the timekeeper’s direct supervisor, not the student worker’s (or bi-weekly employee’s) supervisor. Also, we felt that the language in the President’s cabinet notes was reasonable. The passage reads, “This should be weighted accordingly when performing job performance evaluations.” If a timekeeper has done their due diligence, e.g. standard practice with regard to others in their position, and student workers or bi-weekly employees are not getting their time in due to extraneous circumstances, e.g. supervisor or student failure, then they should not be written up in their job performance evaluations – which reflects the spirit of “weighted accordingly.”

Committee voted to Kill SSB 2015/2016-004 Workplace Construction. Reasoning: We felt this was a departmental issue. Any employee that feels they are being treated unfairly with inappropriate accommodations should take it up with their supervisor and, ultimately, the department head.

Committee voted to Kill SSB 2015/2016-002 Wellness Center Team Building Reasoning: This is already accepted practice within the operational limits of the institution. We believe mandating this practice would force departmental leaders to permit this practice where right now it is their choice. We feel that choice should stay in the hands of the departments.

4. Staff Development and Wellness Committee  
Chair: Senator Curtis  
Vice Chair: Senator Castleberry  
Members: Senator Arnold, Senator Baker, Senator Killian, Senator Waddle
Senator Curtis introduced a Resolution in regards to the Diversity Committee Website to be voted on in the February 2016 Meeting.

5. Information Resources and Technology Committee  
Chair: Senator Wheelbarger  
Vice Chair: Senator Cole  
Members: Senator Vorpahl
Nothing to report at this time.

6. Alumni and Community Service Committee
Chair: 
Vice Chair: Senator LaFave
Members: Senator Bhargava, Senator Dumas, Senator Hogan
Nothing to report at this time.

Senate Special Committee Reports and Membership
1. Ad Hoc Committee: Transportation and Security Fee
   Chair: Senator Rogalsky
   Members: Senator Bhargava, Senator Cole
   Nothing to report at this time.

Unfinished Business

New Business

   Motion to approve made by Senator Baird. Motion passed.


3. Resolution: SSR 2015/2016-003 Weapons on Campus. It was moved and seconded that the Resolution be amended to add the word “No” at the beginning and eliminate “(Revised)” at the end of the title. Motion to approve the Resolution name was made by Senator Baird. This motion passed. After debate regarding the content of the Resolution, a motion was made from the Staff Development and Wellness Committee by Senator Curtis to approve the Resolution. The motion passed.

4. Bill: Retired Staff Email Access was presented to the Senate. Senator Curtis made the motion to commit the bill to committee. Motion passed.

5. Bill: Transformative Learning for Employees was presented to the Senate. Senator Castleberry made the motion to commit the bill to committee. Motion passed.

Announcements for the Good of the Order

Adjournment
President Terrell adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary/Treasurer—James Powers