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

Roll Call

Senators Absent (4): Senator Bryant, Senator Caldwell, Senator Castleberry, Senator Shortt

Recognition of Visitors
Jerry Legere – Emeritus Faculty Association
David Seigman – UCO Office of Information Technology

Approval of the Minutes
The minutes were approved as distributed.

Special Order of the Day
Presentation on DACA efforts – Guillermo Martinez-Sotelo

Dr. Martinez reported that UCO DACA task force has 24 members from across campus. Efforts are focused on assisting students. The UCO DACA website is now live. It has resources for both UCO students and staff and faculty. The DACA task force is working to develop training for students, faculty, and staff on how to support DACA students. A “Dreamer Fund” has been established for DACA students. The task force has communicated with students about the resources available to them from UCO and other organizations.

The task force has worked with the Office of Legal Counsel to develop the memo that is posted on the website. Staff are encouraged to review the memo.
Senate Executive Committee Reports

President Renteria:

The executive committee met with President Betz and VP Neuhold on February 21. During the meeting, we discussed the passage of the No Weapons on Campus resolution. We also provided an update on the tuition waiver joint proposal and discussed the feedback from the Staff Senate Information Resources and Technology Committee on the OIT policies. President Betz updated the executive committee on construction projects timelines for the STEM building and sports performance. These are set to open in September. President Betz discussed the Freedom of Expression events, scheduled for March 5 and 6.

VP Neuhold shared that we expect a rescission for FY18. The FY19 budget is anticipated to be flat, which means we will start the year with a deficit. Credit hours projections for FY19 will be determined soon by a committee that includes individuals from Academic Affairs, Finance, Registrar, and Office of Global Affairs. VP Neuhold mentioned this year, there will be a new form for ORGs that have carryover funds. This form will provide transparency of funds and will help tackle any adjustments to the budget that might need to be made throughout the year. There was no meeting of the joint councils (Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, and UCOSA). The Executive Committee met to discuss the election process, bills up for a vote, and speakers for the remainder of the year. The committee has also begun planning events for incoming senators.

Vice-President Butler:

The faculty Senate passed a No Weapons on Campus Resolution during their last meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer DeBoard:

The July 3 meeting will be moved to July 10 due to the July 4 holiday.

Webmaster/Historian Duke:

Senator Duke reminded Senators to utilize the email template on the shared drive. Based on research by the communications committee, the list serve will not be a possibility, but there are lists of employees by area for obtaining their email addresses.

If Senators notice outdated or incorrect information on the staff senate website, please let her know and she will correct or update as soon as possible.

Parliamentarian Powers:

No Report

University-Wide Committee/Representation Reports

1. University Planning Council

UPC did not meet in February; no report.
2. Communicator’s Council  
Senator Curtis  
No Meeting; No Report

3. Healthy Campus Leadership Team  
Senator Wellington  
No Meeting; No Report

4. Committee for University IT Project Prioritization  
Senator Button  
No meeting; No report.

5. National Alumni Board of UCO  
Senator Ramsdell  
No Meeting; No Report

6. Committee on Diversity  
Senator Braun  
The Diversity Committee met on Wednesday, February 14.

The draft of the AGHE’s 10 commitments added an eleventh commitment that states “To ensure that our campus community will be a place where the ideas and contributions of people of all ages are welcomed and valued”. The Committee on Diversity has already endorsed these principles and commitments and this will now be considered by both the Staff and Faculty Senate.

Dr. Cia Verschelden updated the committee on the plans to administer the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to first-year and senior students from March 6 to April 18. Strategies for promoting student participation was discussed. The survey will include new modules on inclusiveness and engagement with cultural diversity and on sustainability.

Liliana Renteria-Mendoza reported that the DACA website is now live. This website includes a link through which to contribute to the Dreamer Fund and to provide financial support for DACA and undocumented students. Dr. Lopez reported the Latino Faculty and Staff Association will be participating in the second annual Hispanic Day at the Capitol on May first.

A subcommittee is developing a set of recommendations for the Connect to Diversity website.

The committee concluded its meeting by discussing the series of events surrounding the invitation of Ken Ham to campus, the revocation of that invitation, and the subsequent controversy about these decisions. Members of the committee discussed the importance of formulating focused learning objectives for proposed presentations by guest speakers and of accessing the success of such presentations.”

7. Oklahoma Legislative Update  
Senator Butler  
The legislative session started on February 5, 2018 while Governor Fallin’s Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2019, recommended a flat budget from the FY18 appropriation for our state system of higher education, an increase for common education for $5,000 teacher pay raises ($298.5 million) and to pay for annual flexible health benefit allowance increases ($22.6 million) amongst other budget increases shared in January’s report; this did not pass.
One of the proposed state budget plans referred to as Step Up, was introduced. President Betz had an [opinion piece](#) shared about this bill in Wednesday, February 7 edition of the Oklahoman discussing why the Step Up compromise was so important to UCO. This bill did not pass. A budget, HB 1020, was passed last week cutting all state agencies for the 2018 budget cycle. Higher Education was cut an additional ~2 percent.

Higher Education Day was hosted by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at the Capitol on Tuesday, February 13. This annual event is an opportunity for students and the higher education community to connect with legislators discussing the importance of higher education in Oklahoma. UCO, along with multiple Oklahoma colleges, has students, administrators and staff in attendance sharing higher education. UCO student Kalen Russell was a featured speaker.

8. **Continuity Oversight Council**  
   Senator Button

   No Meeting; No Report

9. **Employee Wellness Committee**  
   Senator Wellington

   No Meeting; No Report

10. **Transportation and Parking Committee**  
    Senator Castleberry

   Senator DeBoard gave this report: This month’s discussion was how to encourage people, mainly students, to move from parking close to the campus to the lesser used lots. In the fall semester they are going to offer reduced parking tags at $50 each to park in lots 1-3 on the north side of campus. At the next meeting we have been tasked with bringing ideas to help encourage people to park in the further lots. The next meeting is scheduled for March 15th.

### Senate Standing Committee Reports and Membership

1. **Constitution, Parliamentary Procedure, and Elections Committee**
   Chair: Senator Powers  
   Vice Chair:  
   Members: Senators Daro, Powers, Wimmer

   Met on Feb 25th. Discussed the changes to the Wellness Center. Operations gained 1 seat. Student Affairs lost 1 seat. Nominations started February 26th. To date had 61 nominations. Elections to start March 5th. Result calculations to start March 26th.

2. **Communications Committee**
   Chair: Senator Duke  
   Vice-Chair: Senator Weathers  
   Members: Senators Curtis, Duke, Provine, Weathers

   Committee did not meet due to university closing for inclement weather; No Report
3. **Personnel Policies and Compensation Committee**  
   Chair: Senator Shortt  
   Vice Chair: Senator LaFave  
   Members: Senators Bieri, Caldwell, Crouch, Hocking, LaFave, Martucci, Shortt, Vaughn  
   
   No Meeting; No Report

4. **Staff Development and Wellness Committee**  
   Chair: Senator Castleberry  
   Vice Chair: Senator Wellington  
   Members: Senators Campbell, Castleberry, Hagy, Jones, Wellington  
   
   No Meeting; No Report

5. **Information Resources and Technology Committee**  
   Chair: Senator Button  
   Vice Chair: Senator Moore  
   Members: Senators Button, Gamagedara, Moore  
   
   No Meeting; No Report

6. **Alumni and Community Service Committee**  
   Chair: Senator Haggerty  
   Vice Chair: Senator Jackson-Hardwick  
   Members: Senators Haggerty, Jackson-Hardwick, Liskey, Braun, Ramsdell  
   
   No Meeting; No Report

**Unfinished Business**

SSP 2017/2018-002 Gender Inclusive Restroom Guidelines  
Senator Haggerty gave an overview of the proposal. Debate ensued. Motion passed.

SSA 2017/2018-001 Officer Elections  
Senator Powers gave an overview of the proposed amendment. Debate ensued. Motion passed.

**New Business**

No New Business

**Announcements for the Good of the Order**

1. Senator Crouch announced he is leaving UCO. He thanked the Senate for the opportunity to serve.
2. President Renteria announced that there will be a Staff Senate gathering the week of April 23rd as an opportunity for Senators to interact in a less formal environment.
3. President Renteria polled the Senate on their availability for the April 3 meeting. As of now the meeting will take place as scheduled.

**Adjournment**
President Renteria adjourned the meeting at 2:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Secretary-Treasurer DeBoard