RESOLUTION
SSR 2015/2016-008

I. Resolution Name:
Campus Childcare

II. Committee Assigned/Sponsoring Committee/Senator:
Senator Hogan

III. Stated Resolution
Be it resolved that the University of Central Oklahoma Staff Senate wish to make it known our support for research into best practices for childcare services for dependents of UCO students, as well as for ways that the best-fit childcare services may be financed and provided to the UCO campus community. Services for faculty and staff are also encouraged, especially if that would help support efforts to provide care needed by students. Serving our student population is primary.

IV. Justification:
Anecdotal evidence exists of the need for childcare services for our students from professors and students who tell of students who either miss classes or bring children with them to class because they could not find childcare.

Two student forums held in 2015, co-sponsored by the UCO NOW and the American Democracy Project, both had students expressing a need for childcare solutions to help them as parents continue their college educations. The forum held in December focused on just childcare and had more than 100 in attendance, many with their children.

Sandra Thompson, D.M.A., UCO professor of Music, as a UCO Academic Fellow, presented research to the President’s Cabinet in 2014 regarding childcare need, services being provided by peer institutions, as well as by our feeder school, Oklahoma City Community College. (see attachments)\(^1\)

Research has been done showing the importance of childcare services to helping student parents complete their college degree, thereby improving institutional retention rates.

\(^1\) Attachments available upon request.
Because of the need by many students for after-hours daycare, short-term and/or drop-in daycare, research shows students have difficulty finding suitable daycare to meet their study needs. A licensed facility meeting these needs would allow qualifying students to use state financial assistance to help pay for their childcare.

V. Office(s) Affected:

The entire University of Central Oklahoma campus.

Passed by consent of the UCO Staff Senate on this 5th day of April, 2016.

Dawna K. Terrell, Staff Senate President

1. Attachments available upon request.