
Not signed in but present: A. Karjala, D. Reigh, L. Oxenford

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 11:08 pm by D. Reigh.

II. Minutes of previous meeting October 7th, approved (Johnson/S. Brown). Motion carries.

III. Treasurer’s Report – S. Weber reports no change from last report. Remember to pay your dues.

IV. Regents Meeting Report – D. Reigh reports that the next meeting is November 11th. Please get any information you would like presented at the meeting to him ASAP.

V. Committee Reports

HLC

- S. Weber reports that we need evidence of appreciation for the university’s service to the community. If you happen to have any cards, letters, or notes of appreciation, please forward to the community. Committee is in the evidence collection stage.
Resource/Distinctiveness

- D. Reigh reports that the committee has focused on three factors – beefing up foreign language, increasing cultural engagement, and undergraduate research. K. Crow questions the focus on non-romance languages present in the committee’s notes. D. Reigh says the idea is to create a “boutique” language that perhaps USAO could specialize in. K. Lamar suggests that we beef up the programs that we already have before we consider new ones. He says that our Fine Arts program used to be nationally recognized and the infusion of more money in this already existing program could bring USAO up to that status once again. Discussion on this point remains ongoing.

- Undergraduate research is also talked about a bit. Question is should undergrad research be included in IDS. T. Winn mentions that what USAO students would be doing would most likely be discipline specific and so it might be good to keep any research requirements outside of IDS. K. Crow says that the event that is held at the State Capital is looking for hard science research. J. Long suggests that USAO have its own undergraduate research event as what we do here is so diverse.

Handbook

- L. Hester reports that he sent draft of Hiring Procedures to D. Reigh. The committee has completed that section of the handbook and intends to go section by section in its revisions.

Curriculum

- S. MacDonald reports that the committee approved two recent curriculum changes.

  - The first deals with service learning. This does not represent a program change, only adds elective courses available to students interested in service learning. Service learning will not be a graduation requirement. K. Lamar questions where these courses would fit into the catalog. This is not made clear. J. Loutsch moves to approve, MacDonald seconds. Motion carries – 28 for, 2 against, 1 abstention.

  - The second change deals with early childhood education. The change is to require a minimum “C” grade point average for graduation. Students can repeat a course in which they receive a “D”, but not a “C”. Mather moves to approve, Osborn seconds. Motion carries – 30 for, 1 abstention.

Tenure/Promotion

- No report
VI. Old Business

1. D. Reigh and N. Osborn attended the Fall Conference of Faculty Organizations meeting on October 25th, where N. Osborn was chosen as a Faculty Representative. We discuss the variety of concerns presented at the meeting.

- There are concerns about textbooks and the use of e-books.
- Conceal and carry legislation for students will be on the political agenda again. It will need to be kept from reaching the full floor of the legislature.
- Future funding of the Oklahoma’s Promise bill will be problematic.
- Regents are unhappy about the funding process from the state legislature. Lots of money is put into “special projects” before the money is even distributed.
- Health insurance continues to be a concern around the state.
- One-half to two-thirds of institutions are not doing evaluations of their administrators. USAO also does not do this.

VII. New Business

1. Full slate of concerts coming up.

2. K. Bohannon asks about the extent of musical festivals at the university. Are there too many, not enough? Discussion ensues.

3. J. Loutsch announces that nominations by students are currently being held for the Regents Award for Superior Teaching. Balloting will take place now and in the spring as well. Faculty may also nominate themselves for the Regents Award for Research.

4. S. Kandeh announces that he is offering a workshop on Africa class in the spring.

VIII. Announcements

1. K. Bohannon announces that Homecoming weekend there will be a special concert in the Chapel
2. K. Lamar says that there is a professional, two person art show opening on November 5th. Beginning Saturday, November 8th, there will be a BFA show as well.

IX. Adjournment, though not official, takes place at give or take 11:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Karjala