

# **Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council 2020 Annual Report**

**Purpose.** The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) is to communicate to the Chancellor and the State Regents the views and interests of all Oklahoma college and university faculty on those issues that relate to the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the State Regents. In representing faculty, the Faculty Advisory Council shall attempt to accurately represent the positions of faculty and develop recommendations to the State Regents.

**Creation.** In 1990, seven representatives were nominated and held its first meeting. Bylaws were drafted by the first Faculty Advisory Committee and approved by the State Regents on December 17, 1990. In June 2002, the State Regents approved the Faculty Advisory Committee's name change to the Faculty Advisory Council. FAC members serve two-year terms. Until 2008, two members represented the research universities (one from OU and one from OSU); two represent the regional universities; two represent the community colleges; and one represents the independent institutions. In February 2008, the State Regents approved expanding membership to a total of fourteen with the same proportional representation.

## **2020 MEMBERS**

### **Research Universities**

Melinda McCann, Oklahoma State University  
Anne Weil, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences  
Joshua Nelson, University of Oklahoma  
Katherine O'Neal, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

### **Regional Universities**

Kristi Archuleta, University of Central Oklahoma  
Edward Manyibe, Langston University  
Pamela Louderback, Northeastern State University  
Amada Smith, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

### **Community Colleges**

Tracey Gregg-Boothby, Rose State College  
Dan Moore, Murray State College  
Brenda Witt, Redlands Community College  
LuAnne Kuelzer, Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City

### **Independent Colleges**

Will Blanchard, Oklahoma Christian University  
Scott McMurry, Mid-America Christian University

## CHAIRMEN

January – March 2020  
April, May & September 2020  
October – December 2020

Kathryn O’Neal  
Kristi Archuleta  
Brenda Witt

During the 2020 year, Chancellor Glen D. Johnson worked in partnership with the FAC to serve the interests of higher education faculty and institutions of Oklahoma. Dr. Rachel M. Bates, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Partnerships, served as advisor and liaison.

## 2020 WORK PLAN

In October 2019, the annual statewide survey of higher education faculty leaders was administered. Results were compiled and discussed during the Faculty Assembly held November 2, 2019. The 2019 FAC members used this information to design a work plan that focused on issues of most concern to higher education faculty in Oklahoma.

In 2020, the FAC addressed the following work plan items:

- 1. Course Equivalence Project (CEP)** was discussed by Angel Icenhour, Coordinator for Academic Affairs Student Success Initiatives, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Information about the CEP purpose and process was provided. Questions about course transfer were raised by several community college institutions. Although the CEP is in place, 2-year institutions noted challenges exist with 4-year institutions accepting courses;
- 2. Due to COVID-19, topics of Student retention efforts** were focused on institutional practices and policies. This topic was discussed regularly during the meetings.
- 3. Concurrent education** was addressed by learning more about concurrent education opportunities. Lisa Nelson, Director of Student Preparation, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education provided several resources to share with their colleagues (OSRHE’s Guidance for Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships, Quick Glance for Concurrent Enrollment and Parent/Guardian Quick Glance for Concurrent College Enrollment).
- 4. Online education** continued to be a central topic. Prior to COVID-19 and the system pivot to virtual teaching and learning, FAC members discussed online testing practices and products currently in use. Justin Zumwalt, Educational Development Director, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences provided information about the assessment technology currently utilized by OSU. Online Consortium of

Oklahoma presentation by Brad Griffith, Director of Online Learning Initiatives, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Members were provided with current information regarding the increase use of online education in Oklahoma and training opportunities sponsored by OCO. Additional topics concerning virtual teaching included OER, professional development for faculty, ADA compliance, proctoring practices

5. **Education innovation** was discussed by Dr. Pamela Louderback, Northeastern State University. Institutions were encouraged to complete the NSF STEM OER survey.
6. Due to COVID-19, topics of **Global education** were tabled.
7. **Equity of state allocation** was discussed by LeeAnna McNally, Vice Chancellor for Government Relation, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. FAC members were updated on the status of the bills that are tracked in the Chancellor's weekly legislative update: gun bills, Oklahoma's Promise, and concurrent enrollment.

Additionally, in 2020, the FAC addressed the following topics:

- Mental health of faculty members. A lot of focus on the stress that students are under during the current situation, but there has been a lack of attention to that of faculty.
- What happens after COVID? - There has been a lot of discussion on how changes made to teaching modality may become permanent. What are other schools thinking about hybrid models long-term? What will be the ramifications for this in the larger scheme of transferability?
- Professional Development during the pandemic - How institutions are approaching this?

## 2020 ACTIVITIES

The FAC holds monthly meetings to discuss the work plan items and matters affecting all higher education institutions in Oklahoma. Copies of the minutes are on the FAC web site at <http://www.okhighered.org/fac>.

Delivered annual report and introduced incoming and outgoing members at December 2020 State Regents' meeting.

Conducted Faculty Opinion Survey of faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities in October 2020.

Hosted annual Faculty Assembly on November 13, 2020 for discussion with faculty leaders at all Oklahoma public and independent colleges and universities. Chancellor Glen Johnson, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education provided an overview of the state system.