

Meeting Summary
University Senate Meeting
February 28, 2019, 3:30 PM
Saxbe Auditorium, located in Drinko Hall.

1. Secretary's Report #370

Ben Givens, University Senate Secretary

The motion for approval carries.

2. Proposal to Approve Changes to the University Faculty Rules

Terry Reese, Chair, Rules Committee

a. 3335-5-48.14 University Research Committee

URC has spent a year looking at their membership Rules. The Rules Committee and the Steering Committee have approved their recommendations. Additional members are added including a postdoc, a professional student, and a research scientist. Three additional faculty members are added at least two of whom are non-tenure track (clinical, research faculty). The University Research Committee works to encourage and stimulate scholarly research and creative activity to foster close relationships between education and scholarly research. Work of this Committee continues to become more interdisciplinary as the University encourages continued research engagement. The Committee recognizes a need to include more members from different areas of the University, raising its membership to 21 voting and 4 non-voting members.

The motion passes.

3. Proposal for Senate Action from the Council on Academic Affairs

Eric Bielefeld, Chair, Council on Academic Affairs

a. Proposal to Change the Name of the Spectroscopy Institute

The proposal is to change the name of the Spectroscopy Institute to the Institute for Optical Sciences. The motivation is that the name is too narrow and potentially excludes or fails to attract people on campus who would be interested in the institute. CAA got concurrence from the department of optometry. The Institute, reflecting shifts and advancements in the frontiers of interdisciplinary optical science, is casting a broader net than in the past and will maintain the ability to react to emerging areas; and accordingly has developed a new broader mission statement.

The motion passes.

4. Vision for the Ohio Department of Higher Education

Randy Gardner, Chancellor

Mike Duffey, Senior Vice Chancellor

Randy Gardner, Chancellor, and Mike Duffey, Senior Vice Chancellor, join the Senate for a discussion about the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Ohio State University has an impact on every county in the State. This administration is willing to go out and listen to the people they work for. We need to make higher education a higher priority. Two issues they are currently working on are the state share of support and tuition flexibility. Over the past ten years, Ohio has done a better job of tuition restraint than any other state in the country. We are also working on workforce preparation. They want to know what faculty in Ohio would like to see in policy changes to support teaching and research. They want Ohio State to support and keep the best talent.

Questions:

What plan does the department have for addressing mental health?

They are adding language to the budget for funding mental health support services at the higher education level.

Will the Board of Regents meet again soon?

The Ohio revised code speaks to a board of regents as an advisory role. This is an ongoing discussion. They have a close relationship with the Ohio Faculty Council. Their goal is to travel the state going to Ohio Faculty Council meetings to seek input.

How do they plan to address issues surrounding free speech on college campuses?

Mike Duffey does not feel that there should be free speech zones in Ohio. They encourage the university community to foster a free speech discussion with a balanced approach.

How do you view the university as balancing teaching knowledge and having a practical impact?

All types of degrees matter, including associate and bachelor's degrees.

Will the textbook sales tax exemption return?

Things are moving toward textbook affordability. Universities can also avoid textbook tax by purchasing textbooks directly and building their cost into tuition and fees.

What is their perspective on the coming Title IX changes?

There is a discussion going on in that space, but changes might still be too far away at the federal level. As a university, we want to make sure we do everything in our power to show that this is a safe environment conducive to learning.

What do they believe is the role of the Department of Higher Education in bringing in voices that are more diverse?

Much of what we do is to access, including need-based aid. It is also important to attract people from other states and other countries to come here. In general, there is great value in attracting diverse populations to Ohio.

A graduate student asks if research around medical marijuana could be utilized for funding.

Hocking College has a very robust program, and it would be up to the institution.

Do they have any opinion about medical amnesty laws passing in Ohio?

They will look into this issue.

5. **Old Business**
6. **New Business**
7. **Announcements**
8. **Adjourn**