



# FACULTY SENATE

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

## AGENDA OF THE FACULTY SENATE – NORMAN CAMPUS

March 3, 2025 | 3:30 p.m. in the Thurman J White Forum Building | Conference Room A

**1. Determination of a quorum**

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

*Long before the University of Oklahoma was established, the land on which the University now resides was the traditional home of the “Hasinai” Caddo Nation and “Kiriikiꞑi:s” Wichita & Affiliated Tribes.*

*We acknowledge this territory once also served as a hunting ground, trade exchange point, and migration route for the Apache, Comanche, Kiowa and Osage nations.*

*Today, 39 tribal nations dwell in the state of Oklahoma as a result of settler and colonial policies that were designed to assimilate Native people.*

*The University of Oklahoma recognizes the historical connection our university has with its Indigenous community. We acknowledge, honor and respect the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land. We fully recognize, support and advocate for the sovereign rights of all of Oklahoma’s 39 tribal nations. This acknowledgement is aligned with our university’s core value of creating a diverse and inclusive community. It is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the people, culture and history that make up our entire OU Community”*

**3. Call to order**

**4. Approval of the Senate Journal for the regular session of February 10, 2025.**

**5. Announcements:**

a. Sympathies are extended to the families and colleagues of the following:

- i. OU Musical Theatre founder and retired director, Dr. Gregory Kunes, who died February 10, 2025
  - ii. Former OU Law Professor Fred H. Miller passed away on February 13, 2025, in Edina, Minnesota.
  - iii. Former OU President, Senator, and Governor David L. Boren who died on February 20, 2025,
  - iv. Retired Professor & Associate Dean of Engineering John Francies who passed away on February 22, 2025
- Their commitment to the OU community will be deeply missed.

**6. Questions regarding the Chair’s Report**

**7. Vote on revision to bylaws - Committee on Faculty Recruitment, Retention, and Development**

**8. Speakers**

- a. Shrey Kathuria – Student Government Association
- b. Kathy Agnew, Deputy Chief HR Officer, Human Resources - Engagement Survey
- c. Jessica Davila, Associate Dean for Digital Strategies & Innovation – Open Access
- d. Jeffrey Hart, Ombudsperson - Updates

**9. Nominations for Chair-Elect and Secretary of the Faculty Senate for 2025 to 2026 term (voting to take place at the April Faculty Senate Meeting)**

**10. Old Business**

- a. Charter revision updates

**11. New Business** (any matter not known about or that could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time the agenda was prepared).

**12. Adjournment**

**JOURNAL OF THE FACULTY SENATE**  
The University of Oklahoma (Norman Campus)  
Regular session – February 10, 2025 – 3:30 p.m.  
Thurman J White Forum Building – Conference Room A  
Office: Chemistry Building, Room 207 | Phone: 405-325-6789  
Email: [FacSen@ou.edu](mailto:FacSen@ou.edu) | Website <https://www.ou.edu/facultysenate>  
*Note: The remarks of the Senators and others are summarized and not verbatim*

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The meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm by Chair Jervis. Senators were asked to read the [Land Acknowledgement](#).

PRESENT:

Almasri, Beaulieu, Brice, Busselle, Cuccia, Deacon, Demir, Edgerton, Fithian, Grigo, Grinnell-Davis, Hill  
Hougen, Jones, Kang, Kibbey, Lamothe, Lamothe, Larson, Litov Leseney, Lungmus, Mansky, McLeod,  
Muraleetharan, Pixley, Schmeltzer, Scrivener, Sharma, Tracy, Warnken, Weaver

FS Chair: Lori Jervis  
FS Chair-elect: Sarah Robbins  
FS Secretary: Stephanie Burge  
FS Executive Committee Members (Non-senators):  
FS Administrative Manager: Ann Seely  
FS Student Worker: Taylor Fleming

Guests: Jim Morrison, Chief Strategy Officer  
Jeff Miller, CISO

*Note: During the period from June 2024 to May 2025, the Senate holds eight regular sessions. The figures in parentheses above indicate the number of absences.*

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**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM.**

Quorum was achieved.

## **APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

The Faculty Senate Journal for the regular meeting of December 9, 2024 was approved without revisions. Senator Tracy moved to approve and the motion was seconded by Senator Rusty Jones. The vote passed and the journal was approved.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Faculty Senate extends its deepest sympathy to the family and colleagues of Dean Berrien Moore III. His passing on December 17, 2024, was a loss to those who knew him and the university community. The Senate also extends sympathy to the friends and colleagues of Dr. KT Thulasiraman, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science.

## **SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT**, by Chair Jervis

The report was distributed via email. Chair Jervis opened the floor to questions. There were no questions.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION, FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS:**

Chair Jervis asked if there was a motion to move to executive session to discuss changes to the bylaws. Senator Wood motioned that we move into executive session and Senator Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chair Jervis provided background on the DEI committee of the Faculty Senate and recommended renaming the DEI committee in line with the Governor's executive order. A Senator asked if the chair of the committee would speak on this issue. The committee chair noted that the committee had been asked to address these issues without specific reference to DEI. The committee chair noted that the focus of the committee's work (recruitment, retention, campus climate, belonging, etc.) will remain the same, but not be under the name of DEI. Another Senator asked whether the work could be done with a different name. The committee chair noted that the work related to belonging, recruitment, and retention, and climate, and felt that the newly named committee (Recruitment, retention, and development) could continue to perform its charge. A senator asked whether recruitment could focus on diversity. Chair Jervis noted that those are university policies, not Faculty Senate. Another senator noted that we should consider not renaming the committee. A senator noted that we could refocus our committee around outputs (recruitment, retention, and developments) rather than outcomes (diversity, equity, and inclusion). This strategy might provide a clearer and more concrete mission to the committee. A senator asked whether renaming the committee might not be a long-term solution. Chair Jervis noted that while the terms might change in their politicization, it would be hard to see how recruitment, retention, and development would raise the same ire. A senator noted that a practical solution would be use the listening sessions which the committee is currently conducting to inform the charge of the committee. Chair Jervis noted that the committee decides its work within the contours of its charge and noted that in the past, the committee has had some difficulty defining its agenda perhaps due to the apprehension about the politicization of its name.

There was a motion to return to open session and it was seconded. The motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS, CHARTER REVISIONS – PRESENTATION BY STEPHANIE BURGE**

Secretary Burge made a brief presentation related to possible involvement of non-regular faculty in shared governance. A senator indicated that ranked renewable are already considered regular faculty which is very similar to the non-ranked renewable in terms of duties and qualifications. Another senator expressed appreciation for giving senators more time and more data as well as an opportunity to discuss in the town halls and at today's meeting. The senator notes that the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences is the biggest change because there are so many research faculty and provided numbers regarding apportionment. He indicated that extending the Senate size by 10 senators makes sense to him. Another senator argued against the option to add ten non-regular faculty senators representing non-regular faculty; he believed we can do the same work without additional senators. Another senator noted that increasing the

Senate size gives more people an opportunity for service and believes it will be easier to sell with an increase in size beyond the Senate. There was a question about research faculty and a note that their concerns are different than regular faculty. There was another question about the retention rate of research faculty; we do not have that information.

#### **VOTE – INVOLVING NON-REGULAR FACULTY IN SHARED GOVERNANCE**

There was a motion to vote on including non-regular faculty in shared governance and it was seconded. The motion passed.

There was a motion to vote on increasing the Senate size by 10 to accommodate non-regular faculty and it was seconded. The motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Jervis asked if there was any new business and no new business was introduced.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm. The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting of this academic year will be held on March 10, 2025 at pm.

Stephanie Burge, Faculty Senate Secretary, 2024-25

## Chair's Report, 3-7-25

Confusion, uncertainty, and fear related to federal level disruptions to higher education continue. To that end, Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with Steward Berkinshaw, VP and Chief Financial Officer, about potential impacts of cuts to federal grant funding that are impacting all universities at this time. While nothing is certain yet, his office is preparing for different funding scenarios and trying to ascertain how they might affect OU's overall budget and how the university should respond. FSEC plans continued conversations on this topic.

FSEC also met with Carol Silva, Interim VP for Research and Partnerships, about federal grant funding disruptions. Currently the greatest impacts at OU are to new grants with contracts that have not yet been negotiated. Few grants to date have been frozen.

Dean searches and interviews continue this spring semester at a rapid pace (e.g, PACS, Price College, CAS, Honors College, CAGS), as well as the VPR search. FSEC members continue to participate in the interview process and provide feedback to search committees.

Work on the revision of the FS charter continues. FS officers are collaborating with MarCom to develop materials to educate regular faculty on the changes and to promote voting. Townhalls are planned for March 25, April 11, April 16, and April 22. We ask for senators' help getting the word out about the revisions and providing encouragement to vote, as we need 20% of faculty to vote.

Faculty Senate will vote on proposed revisions to the bylaws at our meeting on Monday. Please see the recent statement below from OU Legal on this issue.

*"Although the Office of Legal Counsel cannot provide legal advice to the faculty in their individual capacities, we do see significant legal risk in retaining the name of the DEI Committee and suggest a revision to more accurately reflect its actual and legal mission and objectives. Based on a reading of the broad nature of current federal agency policies and guidance, it appears that the Faculty Senate's DEI Committee runs afoul of the recent Executive Orders and could draw attention to its members from federal enforcement agencies. That being said, the executive order prohibits "illegal DEI activities," not just the name "DEI." The federal enforcement agencies have articulated a very broad interpretation of what they view is an "illegal DEI activity." To learn more, we would encourage a reading of their FAQs found here: <https://www.ed.gov/media/document/frequently-asked-questions-about-racial-preferences-and-stereotypes-under-title-vi-of-civil-rights-act-109530.pdf>"*

*"Therefore, if the Committee is DEI in name only and isn't actually engaging in prohibited activities, then the Committee's activities themselves might not violate the Order; however, its name would attract significant local or national attention that could lead to an audit of the Committee's members and activities and ultimately jeopardize the mission of the Committee itself. Additionally, the existence of the Committee as currently documented in the bylaws could trigger a federal investigation of the University and the faculty members that could risk hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funds and other federal enforcement consequences. Ultimately,*

*that kind of audit or investigation would hinder the Committee's stated goals to aid in faculty recruitment, retention, and development."*

## **CHAIR-ELECT**

**Rebecca Loraamm**

**Associate Professor, Geography and Environmental Sustainability**

**Ph.D. University of South Florida, at OU since 2015**

**rloraamm@ou.edu**

First, I extend my thanks to the members of the OU Faculty Senate and the Faculty at-large for their consideration of my candidacy to serve as Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate in 2025. Should I be selected for this, I offer my undivided attention as demanded by the role. I would seek to meet the position with a freshness of perspective and a willingness to listen. I would endeavor to bring forward the measured consideration in judgement the position deserves.

I have grown as a faculty member at OU for 10 rewarding years. My research program thus far has centered on Geographic Information Science (GIS). GIS often materializes as a nexus in interdisciplinary work. Its core tenets have a propensity to align researchers from varied backgrounds, as maps provide a common space to arrange our thoughts and to represent the phenomena we examine. Through my work in GIS at OU, I have actively engaged with faculty across campus from the humanities, social sciences, business, and STEM fields. I believe this spirit for collaboration is both contagious, and key to solving complex challenges in research and administrative questions alike. I submit here that my positioning and research identity allows me to serve as a bridge in connecting ideas and people across the campus.

Outside of research the experience of a faculty member requires administrative service locally through department, college, and at the professional scale. I have actively chaired and served on several department-level curriculum and faculty search committees, university-level program reviews and discipline-level committees outside of OU (for example, I serve as chair of the Applied Geography Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers). 2025 marks the beginning of my 6<sup>th</sup> year in the OU Faculty Senate. For the past two years I have served on both the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC), and as chair of the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee. I am working with the current FSEC officers and staff on strategies for the documentation of policy and for the streamlining of our internal procedures as well. With this effort we are ensuring we have an historical record tracking policy decisions regarding faculty pay and benefits. I believe such records are essential to faculty interests at OU and note the effort integrates readily with the shared governance model and transparency concerns at the OU Administration. If elected, I will continue in this work by scaling up this documentation effort for essential policies and procedures while simultaneously advocating for the protection of academic freedoms at OU.

Embarking as the Chair-Elect would undoubtedly demand the scope of these skills be expanded, and that I engage with both the easy and the hard questions in these uncertain times. If I should prevail in this Char-Elect selection process for the OU Faculty Senate, then I look forward to hearing from you as your representative.

## **CHAIR-ELECT**

**Matthew S. Wood**

**Professor of Entrepreneurship**

**Ph.D. Southern Illinois University, at OU since 2022**

**[Ms\\_wood@ou.edu](mailto:Ms_wood@ou.edu)**

I am honored to be considered for Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate. As a Professor of Entrepreneurship and the Michael F. Price Chair in Entrepreneurship, I bring a wealth of experience to this role. I joined OU in 2022 after a decade at Baylor University, where I served in various leadership roles, including Department Chair. Prior to becoming an academic, I spent fifteen years as an entrepreneur in the commercial printing industry. I currently serve as Associate Director of the Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Division in the Price College of Business and as a member of the Price College Faculty Standards Committee.

My research draws insights from a range of social science disciplines to examine how entrepreneurs ideate and evaluate new venture concepts. My research record underpins my professional service. Nationally, I serve as Representative-at-Large for our professional organization, the Academy of Management, and I served as Co-Director of the leading conference in our field, the 2022 Babson College Entrepreneurship Conference.

In terms of Faculty Senate involvement, I was elected to the FSEC for the 2024-2026 cycle. Although I am relatively new to OU and FSEC, I view this as an advantage, complemented by my extensive prior experience. I am enthusiastic about serving, committed to applying an entrepreneurial approach to problem-solving, and dedicated to upholding the principles of shared governance. I believe that shared governance is a vital university asset, though it can be easily undervalued. I will advocate for its strengthening, striving to ensure that faculty are recognized as essential contributors to shaping and achieving university objectives.



## **CHAIR-ELECT**

Matthew S. Wood  
Professor of Entrepreneurship  
Ph.D. Southern Illinois University, at OU since 2022  
[Ms\\_wood@ou.edu](mailto:Ms_wood@ou.edu)

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**Stephanie Burge**  
**Associate Professor, of Sociology**  
**Ph.D. Florida State University, at OU since 2006**  
**Sburge@ou.edu**

I would be happy to serve as Secretary for the Faculty Senate if my faculty colleagues elect me to this position. I have been a faculty member at OU since 2006. During my time at OU, I have served in a variety of university and departmental service roles including Faculty Senate Secretary, Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Faculty Welfare Committee, Faculty Senate, Coordinator for FYE Gateway to Social Sciences, various university scholarship and awards committees, Committee A, Graduate Recruitment, and Graduate Committee. Most recently, I have been involved in Faculty Senate Executive Committee as Faculty Senate Secretary and past Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee. During my tenure in these roles, we focused on increasing representation of non-regular faculty members and offered recommendations to the Provost's office for better integration of these faculty into shared governance. We also sought policy changes to the Board of Regents Handbook to facilitate non-regular faculty members' ability to run for Faculty Senate. Lastly, we advocated for faculty extended sick leave for FMLA qualifying events through partnership with OU Human Resources and Benefits, and that policy change took place in January 2024. During my service on the Faculty Executive Committee, I have participated in discussions concerning faculty recruitment and retention, university resources for faculty and students, evaluations and merit-pay proposals, university budget, and faculty shared governance. Through my involvement in university service roles, I have witnessed the importance of listening to a wide array of faculty voices, balancing sometimes competing interests and priorities, and working together to build consensus. I have also seen the value of having a solid working relationship between faculty and administration, as I believe faculty interests are best served when the lines of communication are open. If elected, this mindset will be beneficial as I continue to serve the faculty at large.

## **At Large - Arts and Humanities**

**Julia L. Abramson**

**Associate Professor, French**

**Ph.D. Princeton University, at OU since 1999**

**jabramson@ou.edu**

Thank you for considering my candidacy for the at-large position representing the Arts and Humanities on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. As a faculty member in French studies based in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, I research and teach about eighteenth-century France and contemporary society and culture. Professional service in my field has included a four-year term on the executive committee for 18th-century French studies within the Modern Language Association, terms on journal editorial boards, and consultancies such as for the NEH and PBS. At OU, my varied service assignments have resulted in a broad understanding of the university's architecture and complexity, and its ability to support faculty and, by extension, students. Roles within my home department have included leadership of the French programs for nearly a decade and committee A service. In the College of Arts and Sciences, I have chaired the Tenure and Promotion Committee, and peer reviewed for multiple fellowship and award committees. During two years' service as the faculty fellow for the arts and humanities in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Partnerships, I worked to support faculty research across the disciplines and advocated for expanded infrastructure specifically to support arts and humanities research and creative activity, resulting in the university's largest seed grant program to date targeting arts and humanities PIs. At the university level, I have served on the Research Council, as a faculty senator, and as chair of the Budget Council. If elected to the at-large position, it would be my honor to draw upon these and other service experiences to continue -- from the new vantage -- the collaborative work of institution-building and advocacy for faculty.

## At Large - Arts and Humanities

**David McLeod**

**Professor & Interim Director, Social Work**

**PhD, Virginia Commonwealth University, at OU since 2011**

**Damcleod@ou.edu**

I am honored to be considered for the position of Social Sciences Member at Large on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. As a faculty member at OU for over a decade and currently serving as the Interim Director of the Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, my career has been centered on the power of data-driven decision-making, interdisciplinary collaboration, and collective faculty advocacy.

With nearly 30 years of experience in behavioral measurement, program evaluation, and organizational strategy, I have worked across multiple sectors—including criminal justice, mental health, education, and community development—helping organizations and institutions leverage data to drive meaningful change. My leadership in large-scale, outcome-based research has been associated with over \$75 million in external funding from federal agencies, philanthropic organizations, and private partnerships. Through this work, I have witnessed firsthand how data can be a unifying force, guiding institutions toward more effective policies, transparent decision-making, and sustainable impact. At OU, I have consistently advocated for faculty governance, research support, and institutional transparency. As President of the National Organization of Forensic Social Work, Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Forensic Social Work*, and Chair of the Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Parents Legislative Advisory Committee, I have championed evidence-based policies that balance innovation with accountability. My commitment to shared governance is rooted in the belief that when faculty stand together—armed with data, strategic vision, and a collective voice—we can shape an institution that prioritizes academic freedom, equity, and long-term sustainability. As a university, we are at our best when we move beyond isolated efforts and embrace collaborative, interdisciplinary solutions. If elected, I will work to strengthen faculty representation, ensure transparency in university decision-making, and advocate for policies that enhance research, teaching, and service across the social sciences. I look forward to bringing a data-informed, faculty-centered perspective to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

# **THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA CHARTER OF THE FACULTY AND THE FACULTY SENATE, NORMAN CAMPUS**

## **MISSION**

The University of Oklahoma faculty are committed to advancing the University's mission through shared governance, fostering a vibrant academic community, and promoting excellence in teaching, research, and service.

## **THE FACULTY**

### **COMPOSITION**

Collectively, regular and non-regular shall be termed "Faculty."

*Regular Faculty.* The Regular Faculty of the University is composed of all faculty members with tenure track, tenured, and renewable term appointments at the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor as defined in the relevant Regents policies.

*Non-regular Faculty.* The non-regular faculty is composed of non-tenure track faculty members as defined in the relevant Regents policies at the rank of instructor, lecturer, senior lecturer, research assistant professor, research associate, research associate professor, research professor, research scientist, senior research associate, and senior research scientist.

### **POWERS**

All legislative powers of the faculty of the University relative to the University as a whole are vested in the Faculty. These legislative powers shall be exercised either directly by the Faculty or by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate shall remain responsible to the Faculty for all action taken in its behalf.

### **OFFICERS**

The officers of the Faculty shall be the officers of the Faculty Senate: Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary. These three officers shall constitute the leadership of the Executive Committee of the Faculty and shall develop the agenda for meetings and otherwise fulfill the duties described in the bylaws.

### **MEETINGS**

The Faculty shall meet at least once each year and at other times upon call by the Executive Committee. Such a call may originate from the President of the University or from a petition submitted to the Chair by 30 faculty members representing two or more degree-recommending divisions. A minimum of 20 percent of the Faculty on the Norman campus shall constitute a quorum. Meetings may be held either in person or virtually.

## **THE FACULTY SENATE**

### **PREAMBLE**

The faculty of the University of Oklahoma, to advance the mission of the university and promote academic excellence, affirm the Faculty Senate as a vital instrument of shared governance. Recognizing that the faculty's expertise and dedication are essential to the university's success, the faculty are committed to working collaboratively with the administration, staff, and students to shape the policies and direction of the institution. Through open communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to the principles of higher education, the faculty seek to create a vibrant and inclusive

academic community that fosters intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and the pursuit of knowledge.

## **COMPOSITION**

The Faculty Senate shall consist of - 60 members of the Faculty. The senators shall be elected to three-year terms in the degree recommending divisions of the University. The electors shall consist of members of the Faculty as allowed by their distribution of effort and terms of appointment. Administrative personnel above the department level shall be excluded from elections of the Faculty Senate. Assistant Deans, Associate Deans, and Deans are not eligible for Faculty Senate positions or Faculty Senate Committees.

In the Faculty Senate, seats shall be allocated as follows: one seat to each degree- recommending division with at least one percent of the total faculty. Members of the Faculty who are not members of a degree-recommending division of the University, or who are in a degree-recommending division with less than one percent of the total faculty, shall be treated as a separate division. The balance of the seats will be allocated among faculty members placed in this separate division according to a triennial apportionment proposed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the Faculty. Degree-recommending divisions with no faculty members will be allowed to appoint a faculty member as an ex-officio member with all the rights and privileges of senate membership excluding the right to vote in official Faculty Senate actions.

Up to five students, including both graduate and undergraduate, chosen by the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association, may serve as official student representatives to the Faculty Senate. Without voting privileges, these representatives will observe, participate in discussion, and maintain communication with the Student Government Association in regard to Senate actions. Up to six representatives of the Staff Senate of the University of Oklahoma and one representative of the Senior Vice President and Provost's Office also may attend meetings and participate, without voting privileges, in Senate discussion.

## **ELECTION PROCEDURE**

Before the end of March each year, the Faculty Senate officers shall notify the dean of each constituent faculty of the number of senators, which that faculty shall elect for the ensuing year. Those senators shall then be elected in April or May. They shall assume their duties in September and ordinarily will serve three-year terms.

The Faculty Senate shall maintain the roster of Faculty Senate membership. At any time that a vacancy occurs, the Faculty Senate shall notify the appropriate dean so that immediate steps may be taken to elect a replacement to serve the unexpired portion of the three-year term.

The Secretary of the Faculty Senate will continuously monitor absences. When in a given academic year, a senator has accumulated four absences, that senator is to be dropped automatically from the membership of the Senate. The Secretary will notify the appropriate dean to take immediate steps to provide a replacement for the remainder of that senator's term.

## **POWERS**

The Faculty Senate shall exercise the legislative powers of the faculty of the University as delegated by the Faculty. The Faculty Senate shall have the power to initiate any legislation requiring the Board of Regents' approval.

The Faculty Senate shall determine its own rules; procedures, including voting procedures; time, place and manner of meetings; and regulations governing its internal affairs. The Faculty Senate may also establish standing and special committees. The Faculty Senate shall establish and publish its own set of

operational procedures and bylaws.

The Faculty Senate shall elect a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Secretary, and such other positions as specified in the bylaws. Each standing committee of the Faculty Senate is authorized to select non-Senate members of the Faculty in compliance with specifications outlined in committee and council charters and governing documents. Students may be asked to serve and, in such cases, will be appointed by the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association.

The Faculty Senate may establish procedures to review the various functions of the University and any matter affecting the welfare of the University. Subjects for either review or legislation may be brought to the attention of the Senate by written communication either from any member of the University community or from any officially constituted agency.

The Faculty Senate shall liaise with the President, Provost, and OUHSC as described in the bylaws on issues pertaining to faculty.

### **AMENDMENT OF THIS CHARTER**

This charter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of faculty, provided that no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Board of Regents.

A proposal to amend the Charter may originate by vote of the Faculty Senate or by motion in a meeting of the Faculty. In those cases, in which the proposal originates through Senate action, the proposal must be submitted to the Faculty, and consideration for the adoption of the proposal by the Faculty shall not occur until the expiration of 30 days after the notification of the Faculty. If the proposal originates in the Faculty, it shall not be considered for adoption until the expiration of 30 days and not more than 90 days after the members of the Faculty have received copies of the proposal from the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate may update language within the charter to mirror changes to the names of campus entities and positions without a formal vote of the faculty.

**\*\*\* From current Charter, to be moved to the Bylaws \*\*\***

### **LIAISON WITH THE PRESIDENT**

The President of the University shall present to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate in each new academic year a general message on the state of the University in which he or she shall give recommendations for the furtherance of the progress of the University.

The President shall, within 30 calendar days after receipt of a Senate action, inform the Faculty Senate by written message of his or her disposition of a Senate measure. If disapproving the measure, the President shall, in writing, give the Senate reasons for the action.

Faculty/**student** councils named by Faculty Senate resolution shall be utilized by the President of the University in the development of policies on matters of vital interest to the University. These areas include teaching, research and creative/scholar activity, and professional and University service and public outreach, libraries, budgetary planning, faculty personnel, University relations, University community, athletics, University operations, and University projects. In order to give the faculty a voice in determining the faculty membership of major councils, which shall be named by the Faculty Senate resolution, the Faculty Senate shall each year provide a list of nominees each year from which the President will make his or her appointments for the ensuing year.

### **LIAISON WITH FACULTY SENATE, HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

The Faculty Senate (Norman) shall maintain a liaison with the Faculty Senate (Health Sciences Center) through an Inter-Senate Liaison Committee composed of the Chairs, Chairs-Elect, and the Secretaries of the two Senates.

The purpose of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee is to exchange information between the Senates on either campus and concerns and actions of mutual interest and to recommend actions to the respective bodies on each campus. The respective Chairs of the two Faculty Senates should arrange for the meetings of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee.



## THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA CHARTER OF THE ~~REGULAR~~ FACULTY AND THE FACULTY SENATE, NORMAN CAMPUS

### MISSION

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## THE ~~REGULAR~~ FACULTY

### COMPOSITION

Collectively, regular and non-regular shall be termed "Faculty."

~~The Regular Faculty. The Regular Faculty~~ of the University is composed of all faculty members with tenure track, tenured, and renewable term appointments at the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor as defined in the relevant Regents handbook policies. ~~The Regular Faculty does not include faculty members with temporary appointments.~~

Non-regular Faculty. The non-regular faculty is composed ~~is~~ of non-tenure track faculty members as defined in the ~~Regents Handbook~~relevant Regents policies at the rank of instructor, lecturer, senior lecturer, research assistant ~~professor~~, research associate, research associate professor, research professor, research scientist, senior research associate, and senior research scientist.

### POWERS

All legislative powers of the faculty of the University relative to the University as a whole are vested in the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. These legislative powers shall be exercised either directly by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty or by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate shall remain responsible to the ~~Regular~~ Faculty for all action taken in its behalf.

### OFFICERS

The officers of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty shall be the officers of the Faculty Senate: Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary. ~~These~~ three officers shall constitute the leadership of the Executive Committee of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty and shall develop the agenda for meetings and otherwise fulfill the duties ~~which may be~~ described in the bylaws.

### MEETINGS

The ~~Regular~~ Faculty shall meet at least once each ~~semester-year (ordinarily on the third Thursday of October and the third Thursday of April)~~ and at other times upon call by the Executive Committee. Such a call may originate from the President of the University or from a petition submitted to the Chair ~~of the Regular Faculty~~ by 30 faculty members representing two or more degree-recommending divisions. A minimum of 20 percent of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty on the Norman campus shall constitute a quorum. Meetings may be held either in person or virtually.

## THE FACULTY SENATE

### PREAMBLE

The faculty of the University of Oklahoma, to advance the mission of the university and promote academic excellence, affirm the Faculty Senate as a vital instrument of shared governance. Recognizing that the faculty's expertise and dedication are essential to the university's success, the faculty are

committed to working collaboratively with the administration, staff, and students to shape the policies and direction of the institution. Through open communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to the principles of higher education, the faculty seek to create a vibrant and inclusive academic community that fosters intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and the pursuit of knowledge.

## COMPOSITION

The Faculty Senate shall consist of 50- 60 members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. The senators shall be elected to three-year terms in the degree recommending divisions of the University. The electors shall consist of members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty as allowed by their distribution of effort and terms of appointment. Administrative personnel above the department level shall be excluded from elections of the Faculty Senate. Assistant Deans, Associate Deans, and Deans are not eligible for Faculty Senate positions or Faculty Senate Committees.

In the Faculty Senate, seats shall be allocated as follows: one seat to each degree- recommending division with at least one percent of the total faculty. Members of the ~~Regular~~ Faculty who are not members of a degree-recommending division of the University, or who are in a degree-recommending division with less than one percent of the total faculty, shall be treated as a separate division. The balance of the seats will be allocated among faculty members placed in this separate division according to a triennial apportionment proposed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. Degree-recommending divisions with no faculty members will be allowed to appoint a faculty member as an ex-officio member with all the rights and privileges of senate membership excluding the right to vote in official Faculty Senate actions.

Up to Five-five students, including both graduate and undergraduate, chosen by the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association, ~~shall-may~~ serve as official student representatives to the Faculty Senate. Without voting privileges, these representatives will observe, participate in discussion, and maintain communication with the Student Government Association in regard to Senate actions. ~~Six~~ Up to six representatives of the ~~Informational-Staff Association-Senate~~ of the University of Oklahoma and one representative of the Senior Vice President and Provost's Office also may attend meetings and participate, without voting privileges, in Senate discussion.

## ELECTION PROCEDURE

Before the end of March each year, the ~~Secretary of the Faculty Senate~~ Faculty Senate officers shall notify the dean of each constituent faculty of the number of senators, which that faculty shall elect for the ensuing year. Those senators shall then be elected in April or May. They shall assume their duties in September and ordinarily will serve three-year terms.

The ~~Secretary—the of the~~ Faculty Senate shall maintain the roster of Faculty Senate membership. At any time that a vacancy occurs, the ~~Secretary-Faculty Senate~~ shall notify the appropriate dean so that immediate steps may be taken to elect a replacement to serve the unexpired portion of the three-year term.

The Secretary of the Faculty Senate will continuously monitor absences. When in a given academic year, a senator has accumulated four absences, that senator is to be dropped automatically from the membership of the Senate. The Secretary will notify the appropriate dean to take immediate steps to provide a replacement for the remainder of that senator's term.

## POWERS

The Faculty Senate shall exercise the legislative powers of the faculty of the University as delegated by the ~~Regular~~ Faculty. The Faculty Senate shall have the power to initiate any legislation requiring the Board of Regents' approval.

The Faculty Senate shall determine its own ~~time of meeting, its own~~ rules; ~~of~~ procedures, including voting procedures; time, place and manner of meetings; and promulgate rules and regulations governing its internal affairs. ~~and The Faculty Senate may also~~ establish standing and special committees. The Faculty Senate shall establish and publish its own set of operational procedures and bylaws.

The Faculty Senate shall elect a Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Secretary, and such other positions as specified in the bylaws. Each standing committee of the Faculty Senate is authorized to select non-Senate members of the ~~Regular~~-Faculty in compliance with specifications outlined in committee and council charters and governing documents. Students may be asked to serve and, in such cases, will be appointed by the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association.

The Faculty Senate may establish procedures to review the various functions of the University and any matter affecting the welfare of the University. Subjects for either review or legislation may be brought to the attention of the Senate by written communication either from any member of the University community or from any officially constituted agency.

The Faculty Senate shall ~~liaise~~ with the President, Provost, and OUHSC as described in the bylaws on issues pertaining to faculty.

#### AMENDMENT OF THIS CHARTER

This charter may be amended by a two-thirds vote of ~~those present in any regular or special session of the Regular Faculty~~ a quorum of faculty, provided that no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Board of Regents.

A proposal to amend the Charter may originate by ~~action vote~~ of the Faculty Senate or by motion in a meeting of the ~~Regular~~-Faculty. In those cases, in which the proposal originates through Senate action, the proposal must be submitted to the ~~Regular~~-Faculty, and consideration for the adoption of the proposal by the ~~Regular~~-Faculty shall not occur until the expiration of 30 days after the notification of the ~~Regular~~-Faculty through the Journal of the Faculty Senate.

If the proposal originates in the ~~Regular~~-Faculty, it shall not be considered for adoption until the expiration of 30 days and not more than ~~40-90~~ days after the members of the ~~Regular~~-Faculty have received copies of the proposal from the ~~Secretary of the Regular Faculty~~ (Secretary of the Faculty Senate).

The Faculty Senate may update language within the charter to mirror changes to the names of campus entities and positions ~~titles and association names does not require a~~ without a formal vote of the faculty.

**\*\*\* From current Charter, to be moved to the Bylaws \*\*\***

#### **LIAISON WITH THE PRESIDENT**

The President of the University shall present to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate in each new academic year a general message on the state of the University in which he or she shall give recommendations for the furtherance of the progress of the University.

The President shall, within 30 calendar days after receipt of a Senate action, inform the Faculty Senate by written message of his or her disposition of a Senate measure. If disapproving the measure, the President shall, in writing, give the Senate reasons for the action.

Faculty/student councils named by Faculty Senate resolution shall be utilized by the President of the University in the development of policies on matters of vital interest to the University. These areas include teaching, research and creative/scholar activity, and professional and University service and public outreach, libraries, budgetary planning, faculty personnel, University relations, University community, athletics, University operations, and University projects. In order to give the faculty a voice in determining the faculty membership of major councils, which shall be named by the Faculty Senate resolution, the Faculty Senate shall each year provide a list of nominees each year from which the President will make his or her appointments for the ensuing year.

#### **LIAISON WITH FACULTY SENATE, HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

The Faculty Senate (Norman) shall maintain a liaison with the Faculty Senate (Health Sciences Center) through an Inter-Senate Liaison Committee composed of the Chairs, Chairs-Elect, and the Secretaries of the two Senates.

The purpose of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee is to exchange information between the Senates on either campus and concerns and actions of mutual interest and to recommend actions to the respective bodies on each campus. The respective Chairs of the two Faculty Senates should arrange for the meetings of the Inter-Senate Liaison Committee.