

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
Minutes
February 23, 2015

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order by Senate President Carlos Chale' at 11:00 a.m. in GC 4112 and offered a prayer for Beverly Garrison who had an accident earlier in the day.

The minutes of the January 26, 2015, Senate meeting were accepted without change by consent of the Senate.

Results of two matters of old business were reported. Senate President Chale reported the results of the electronic vote by the full faculty on the Senate bylaw changes.

Amendments to Section IV	81 yea, 7 no, 9 abstained, and 72 faculty did not vote
Amendments to Section VI	88 yea, 3 no, 6 abstained, and 72 faculty did not vote
Amendments to Section VII	80 yea, 10 no, 7 abstained, and 72 faculty did not vote
Amendments to Section IX	91 yea, 6 no, none abstained, and 72 faculty did not vote

Discussion ensued concerning the low number of faculty who voted on something as important as Senate by-laws. Concern was expressed about the anonymity of such votes. The Provost assured the faculty that the administration has never considered the possibility and does not have the technical knowledge to override the system to determine such information. These surveys are similar to the Student Opinion Surveys – the only result which is accessible is a list of participants who actually voted, but no report of any individual response. President Chale mentioned that there was a similar low initial response from the Senators when they were asked to vote on the amendments. Enrique Valderrama indicated that he did not receive the first e-mail message sent to the Senators asking for them to vote, but he did receive the reminder e-mail.

Senate President Chale also reported on his proposal concerning free locker fees in the Aerobics Center for the faculty. After last month's Senate meeting, he discussed this issue with the Provost. He then took his concern to President Wilson. It was reported that the fees will be waived beginning in fall 2015.

In matters of new business, proposals for awarding faculty emeritus status were presented.

1. Dr. Ken Weed discussed the qualifications and brief biography for Mr. Gary Rizhaupt. Carlos Chale moved for acceptance, Winston Frost seconded the motion. After brief discussion, Kenda Jezek called for the questions, Terry Unruh seconded the call.
2. Dr. Mark Hall discussed the qualifications and brief biography for Dr. George Stevenson. Marshal Wright moved for acceptance, Terry Unruh seconded the motion. After brief discussion, Winston Frost called for the questions, Kenda Jezek seconded the call.
3. Dr. Kim Boyd discussed the qualifications and brief biography for Dr. Jean Mosley. Carlos Chale moved for acceptance, Marshal Wright seconded the motion. After brief discussion, Robert Kiel called for the questions, Edward Watson seconded the call.

Because the approval for faculty emeritus is not an action which requires full faculty approval, the 30 day waiting period for a vote was suspended. A paper ballot was distributed to all voting members of the Senate. Ballots were counted by Terry Unruh and Ken Weed in the presence of the Senate. Results of the voting for awarding Faculty Emeritus status were:

Mr. Gary Ritzhaupt	22 yes, 1 no
Dr. George Stevenson	23 yes, zero no
Dr. Jean Mosley	20 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, 1 member did not vote

Provost, Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez reported on University operations. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) will be visiting ORU on April 13 and 14. Their visit will be focused primarily on faculty credentials and ORU finances.

HLC wants the number of faculty with terminal degrees to exceed 60%. ORU has traditionally been in the 61%-65% range with a goal adopted by the University Planning Council to get to 70% in the next five years. The budget process has been going well so far this spring. An approved budget will be presented to the board at their meetings in late March. The goal is to increase revenues over the next five years and to become independent of the large donations from a single donor.

Goals for enrollment are 5,000 total students in the next few years with a longer term goal of 7,500 total students including residential, on-line, and certificate type students. ORU has been spending more on marketing for the University. Enrollment is up 213 students (including 75 new online students) in January 2015 compared with January 2014. Online enrollment continues to grow at every entry point in the program. The Provost then answered questions related to (1) future changes in tuition, room, and board rates, (2) additional resourcing needed for the career services area, and (3) focus on internships for students to “go into every person’s world.”

The Provost shared that the Task Group on the Role of Faculty in Shared Governance had met several times since being formed in the fall of 2014 at the request of the board of trustees. Their work toward a recommendation of a model is ongoing at this point. The goal is to have a progress report to send to the President by March 16, 2015.

Agena Farmer, chair of the Faculty Activities Committee, announced the upcoming performance of South Pacific, including free tickets for the faculty and a free reception preceding the performance on March 5. Agena encouraged Senators to spread the word and please RSVP as soon as possible. John Jenkins announced a jazz ensemble on February 24, 2015.

Senate President Chale reminded all members of the Senate that it is time to begin selecting their Senators for the 2015 – 16 academic year. A motion to adjourn was accepted at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Unruh
Senate Vice President