

March 2019 Faculty Affairs Agenda and Minutes

March 28, 2019, 12 p.m. (note: February meeting was cancelled due to snow day and no outstanding issues reported)

Items from Enid:

-No items were sent in for the March meeting.

Items from Stillwater:

Clarification on the decision making process for inclement weather closings/Alignment with OSU closing- I know it has been brought up before...but can we get clarification on why school gets closed when there is absolutely no need. Why we close so early before anything has even happened or why delay when no need. And if it is bad at one campus but not another why do all have to close. Can Stillwater follow OSU...just would make that a lot easier here. I mean we are cancelling and delaying when OSU and Stillwater public schools have school. How are the decisions made?

Response with feedback from President Evans:

Making weather calls is always difficult with many communications going on, often in very early morning hours, between the President and those in each campus location to determine what high schools and university partners are doing while trying not to delay the decision so long that employees or students are already on the road. With the ITV connections between classes, at times it is often necessary to make an institutional decision rather than a campus decision.

Communication regarding the status in the process of hiring the NOC Stillwater VP- Can we be provided with some information as to where the committee is at with the process? Has the committee narrowed the candidates down to a particular number to begin interviews? If not, is there a date set for that? In an institution where transparency is touted, we seem to be quite secretive. We would also appreciate some communication as to which VP is our stand in on which days and where they can be found. Some utilize the empty office near Paula, some utilize the office used by Sherry Alexander, and we never know where to find the stand in VP, and we don't even know who we are looking for. When we do our start of the semester advising, we have to provide a sign-up day/time/location. We would like the same in return.

Response with input from President Evans: The notification of this position being filled with Vice President Watkins was sent the same day as the email came in asking about it. Some personnel matters cannot be shared prior when other candidates may not yet have been notified about the final decision.

Student/graduation advisement- (This one had a few comments.) It was stated that advisors are not looking closely at degree sheets. Maybe we need a better system of student advisement. One possibility may be to remove fulltime faculty from advisement if they do not wish to properly advise students. For those who want to remain a student advisor, either add in a stipend or reduce their class load by one three-hour course. Instead of an ITV institution wide advisement meeting where division chairs and/or liaisons stand and rapid fire any and all changes pertaining to their division, perhaps we could be provided with some handout days prior to the meeting and go back to each campus having their own meeting?

Response from Pam: Advisor training is going to be a main focus in the 2019-2025 Strategic Plan to ensure better training. Eliminating faculty advisors would present a considerable cost unless non-advising instructors took on an additional course to offset the salary needed for hiring additional staff advisors. Any faculty member wishing to be involved in the discussion about the advising model should contact Diana Watkins or Sherryl Nelson and ask to be included in all Goal 2 meetings.

NOC Stillwater graduation- We have discussed having a separate NOC Stillwater graduation ceremony. Now that we have the new building, when do we foresee this coming to fruition?

Response with input from President Evans: The NOC Stillwater campus mission is focused on 24 hours and transfer rather than graduation due to the MOU with OSU. While students may complete a degree at NOC Stillwater, the mission focus and spirit of the MOU are considered in not adding a separate graduation ceremony in Stillwater.

NOC Wi-Fi- Every time I walk in the building, I have to manually log in to NOC wifi. Everybody else in the universe (example: OSU) logs me in automatically when I'm within range. How about we make that happen?

Response: Question was sent to Mike Machia. He responded with the following:
“Our security policy does not allow for wifi to be setup to just keep everyone logged in 24/7.”

Items from Tonkawa:

No items were sent in for the March meeting.

Other items for discussion:

The Online Committee made recommendations for a syllabus unique to the online format, including the addition of a standard statement about required proctored testing. Some of the wording is specific to a password-protected exam and could be changed to reflect all methods of testing (e.g. on p. 3, under item 3, on the attached recommendations, the syllabus would read “in order to give them your unique exam password or provide a copy of the exam.” Similarly, item 5 would read “I will send the testing site the necessary password or copy of exam prior to your testing date.” Please ask faculty if they would recommend approval of a distinct online syllabus, provided that these changes are made to reflect varied testing situations.