

AOF Board Minutes, April 26, 2014

LaSells Conference Center, OSU Campus.

Present: Kemble Yates, Jacqueline Arante, Alan Bakalinsky, DeAnna Timmermann, Gina Psaki, and Christian Vukasovich. Chris Parta called in via Skype from C&E Systems was also present.

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 by Acting President Alan Bakalinski.

Minutes from our March 15 meeting were approved as amended.

Kemble summarized our financial position for both our regular AOF account and for the OFPAC account.

Campus Reports

PSU (JA): The AAUP union settled just before the strike date was reached. Relative to management's last offer, some good gains for increases and minimums for salaries were reached. Also, some additional security was gained for Instructors. The union did have to give in on summer pay.

UO (GS): Gina announced that she will be passing the UO rep seat to Joe Lowndes, who will join us at our next meeting. The United Academics of UO (faculty union) will be holding their first general membership meeting in May, and actually preparing for negotiations for their next contract.

We briefly discussed the potential for collaboration between AOF and AAUP-Oregon. [NOTE: AAUP-Oregon is the branch of AAUP that's NOT associated with collective bargaining.]

Lobbyist Report (CP)

TRU Governance. On March 31 the OUS Board did approve the TRU's request for individual boards, to be active July 1, 2015. WOU and OIT were approved unconditionally, while EOU and SOU were approved with "conditions". We are now in a 45 day period (ends around May 19) where these institutions, OUS, and the Governor will negotiate these conditions.

Shared Services. Transition is in full swing. Agreement has been reached on how 7 services will be allocated (Benefits, Risk Management, Accounting & Reporting, Collective Bargaining, Payroll, Treasury Management, and Fifth Site Technology). Chris sent us an update with more detail.

HECC Transition. DAS will move to a quarterly (rather than the annual) distribution of funds to HECC. HECC will use the RAM model as its basis for planning for the 2014-15 year, but will largely let OUS control this.

So far there has been no change to the faculty tuition benefit which is currently implemented via OUS policy. But we have ongoing concern that this not be reduced or lost in the transition.

OFPAC

C&E System recommendations for primary contributions. The Board unanimously approved contributions to 1. Rep. Barbara Smith Warner (HD-45) \$500, 2. John Turner (HD-58) \$500, and 3. Ken Helm (HD-34) \$500.

Campus Reports (Cont.)

OIT (CV) Diane Saunders from OUS will be joining OIT in a Public Relations/Marketing position, effective July 1, 2015. OIT celebrated the OUS decision allowing it to name its own governing board. The search for a

suitable faculty member for this board is underway. There is also a transition going on for the internal academic administration. In the new format, Deans will have more budgetary authority.

EOU (DT) Jay Kenton, currently Vice-Chancellor for Administration for OUS, has been named Interim President, and Sarah Witte has been named Interim Provost. Technically his term starts July, 2015, but he's already working on their "Sustainability Plan" (euphemism for budget cuts). The plan will be announced Wednesday & will likely have \$3-4 M in cuts. EOU faculty has a very high percentage of overload. Release time will also be cut. Bargaining continues. An MOU has extended current contract until June 30.

OSU (AB) A 3% merit increase goes into effect for all faculty on July 1. This is distributed by department heads. Alan has been serving on the Senate Grievance Committee and learning some interesting stories. Alan is hopeful he can recruit his replacement from his contacts with this group.

SOU (KY) The SOU faculty held a 'No confidence vote' on its top three administrators – President Mary Cullinan, Provost Jim Klein, and Vice President of Finance and Administration Craig Morris. All received more than 2/3 vote of no confidence of those eligible faculty who voted. Over 90% of eligible faculty voted. By the more strict criterion of 2/3 of all eligible faculty, President Cullinan "only" received a 62% no confidence vote while the other two still exceeded the 2/3 criterion. Both the President and Provost are actively looking for new jobs. Provost Klein interviewed for the Presidency of SUNY Potsdam while President Cullinan interviewed for the Presidency of Youngstown State University. During February and March, the retrenchment process played out at SOU. The Chancellor visited twice and pressured the SOU administration to cut even deeper than the original \$5 Million target. The faculty union negotiated an MOU which kept the target at \$5M. but allowed a "trigger" to more quickly reenter retrenchment should financial conditions not sufficiently improve by the fall. The MOU also specifies that no more than 13 FTE of permanent faculty will receive notice of non-renewal, and that any future retrenchment this biennium will require at least as much financial cut from outside faculty lines as from within. The union is filing several grievances and contemplating others as part of the fallout of retrenchment. The union also named Kemble Yates as its new chief negotiator because as part of an allegedly cost savings academic administrative reorganization, its prior chief, Sherry Ettlich, became a director of a division and left the bargaining unit. The new academic reorganization rolled out on April 1. Instead of one College (Arts and Sciences) and two Schools (Business and Education), we now have 7 Centers/Divisions. Each is managed by a director; all directors came from the faculty, earn about 11/9 of a full professor salary, and manage approximately 30-50 faculty. Most worrisome are emerging workload issues because release time to department chairs was significantly cut, as was secretarial support to instruction.

Web Site

The new web site is nearly ready. Kemble will send all of the board members a link so they can give him final feedback, and get it "live" asap. He'll also send the latest membership list to the Board Members.

Kemble will post our annual financial report after our meeting, and will also report the fraction of our expenses that goes to lobbying and doesn't go to lobbying. He'll also send the members copies of our antiquated constitution and bylaws.

Next Meeting

Scheduled for May 31, 2014. This will also be our annual meeting.