

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

4140 University Square South

December 11, 2024

3:30-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Ann Allen (Department of Educational Studies)
- ✓ Dr. Carlos Castro (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Ann Christy (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Samantha Herrmann (Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Mike Hogan (OSU Extension)
- ✓ Dr. Neal Hooker (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
- ✓ Dr. Nicole Kwiek (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Russell Marzette (Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Thomas Nelson (Department of Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. Sue Sutherland (Department of Human Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Valarie Williams (Department of Dance)

Staff:

- ✓ Ms. Margo Coates (College of Dentistry)

Students:

- ✓ Mr. Charlie Mace (CGS, Physics)
- ✓ Mr. Andrew Miles (CGS, Plant Pathology)
 - Ms. Angilmarie Rivera Sanchez (IPC, Law)
 - Ms. Mykenna Roy (USG, Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Nathan Snizik (USG, International Studies)

Administrator:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith (Office of Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

- Dr. Anika Anthony (Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning)
- Dr. Leigh Bonds (University Libraries)
- Dr. John Buford (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)
- Ms. Lisa Duffy (Office of the University Registrar)
- Dr. Rob Greenbaum (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)

Dr. Rob Griffiths (Ohio State Online)
Mr. Brad Harris (Office of Academic Affairs)
L. Camille Hebert (Moritz College of Law)
Dr. Helen Malone (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Andrew Martin (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Maria Miriti (Graduate School)
Mr. Lee Strang (Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society)
Dr. Bernadette Vankeerbergen (College of Arts and Sciences)

The meeting came to order at 3:30 PM

CHASE CENTER: BUDGET AND APT DISCUSSION – VICE PRESIDENT BRAD HARRIS AND VICE PROVOST HELEN MALONE

The first 30-minutes of the Council meeting was a discussion between the Council and Brad Harris, Vice President for Budget and Resource Management, and Helen Malone, Vice Provost for Academic Policy and Faculty Resources from the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA). Harris was there to answer questions related to the Chase Center’s budget and Malone was there to answer questions about the Appointments, Tenure and Promotion (APT) development process.

Malone reported that she has had regular meetings with Strang about many topics, including development of the Chase Center’s APT document. The Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) will appoint a faculty advisory council to help draft the APT. She anticipates that a draft APT document will be available before the hiring of any faculty. Malone added that it is a best practice to have an APT before assistant professors are hired. Since there is a robust search when hiring tenured faculty, it is less critical to have an APT finalized at the time of their hiring.

Malone confirmed that the Center’s Director will have the same powers as a College Dean with no tenure initiating units (TIU). The University Senate will need to decide how the Center is represented in the Senate.

OAA does not have a formal mandate to review APT documents on a specific timeframe—updates to the APT are done at the unit’s discretion.

The Council encouraged Malone to discuss peer mentoring with Strang.

Harris reported that the University anticipates that State funding will last 4-5 years. He noted that there is always guesswork in budgeting due to several factors, including faculty compensation. The Chase Center will have budget guidance from OAA as it gets established as well as it will have annual budget meetings with OAA as part of the normal annual reporting process.

Harris informed the Council that the Office of Business and Finance developed the enrollment revenue projections that were in the Center proposal. The projections may be ambitious, but they are reasonable. He added that it is unlikely that tuition dollars will be available right away, but it is acceptable to have expenses before enrollment revenue.

The Council asked what happens to people (faculty and staff) if the budget cannot be sustained. Harris noted that most Centers/Institutes do not have long-term, sustainable funding at the time of their creation. If funding from the State ends, there will be other ways to secure funding such as advancement, college contributions, grants, etc. He added that Ohio State has a \$10 billion budget, so it is also completely reasonable to expect support from central funding if needed. Harris noted that the Center is starting with a \$10 million budget with few expenses to date. The Center has strong backing—more so than other centers when established.

Harris stated that it is critical for any unit to monitor its budget and update it as needed.

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE A – PROFESSORS CARLOS CASTRO, ANN ALLEN, LEIGH BONDS, JOHN BUFORF, AND VALERIE WILLIAMS; MS. MYKENNA ROY AND MR. NATHAN SNIZIK

- **Proposal to establish the Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society – Office of Academic Affairs**

Guest: Lee Strang, Executive Director, Salmon P. Chase Center for Civics, Culture, and Society

Sutherland reminded the Council that this is a continuation of last week's discussion with Strang. Discussion topics included the following:

- Strang plans to involve students in future planning, including the creation of a student advisory council.
- An initial APT will be created and revised at the appropriate time.
- Strang acknowledged that his hiring plan is aggressive, but the plan is supported by the State and the Board of Trustees. While aggressive, he plans to operate within the Center's budget. Strang added that the Chase Center is not the University's only center with State funding.
- Strang stated that there are no plans to discriminate based on political ideology.
- The Council noted that part of the Center's mission is to expand intellectual diversity. How will the Center measure its success in expanding intellectual diversity?
- The Council asked how the Center plans to distinguish itself from similar centers in Ohio and across the nation. Strang replied that the Chase Center will have a scholarship focus and it plans to have a distinguished faculty. There are also opportunities to hold conferences and the possibility of creating a journal.

Sutherland thanked Strang for the discussion and dismissed him from the meeting.

Sutherland invited the Council to discuss the proposal. Discussion topics included the following:

- The Office of Academic Affairs, the Office of Government Affairs, and the Office of Legal Affairs all feel that this proposal is ready for approval. There are no concerns over budget and/or hiring.
- Curricular oversight will be addressed in the POA. It will not be one person defining the curriculum.

- University Faculty Rule 3335-3-34 defines Schools, Departments, Divisions, and Sections at Ohio State. While this proposal is for the establishment of a university-level center, this center is an exception as it is a TIU. The whereas statement should reference University Faculty Rule 3335-3-34, and note that—despite its center status—the proposal meets the standards needed to establish an academic unit.
- The Council suggested that the University Senate review the University Faculty Rules if/when this Center is approved.
- The Board of Trustees has asked for an update on this proposal at its next meeting. To be on that agenda, this proposal must be on the agenda of the University Senate meeting on January 23, 2025.

A motion was moved to approve the proposal and the whereas statement. The motion was approved. The Council noted that the Senate will approve the resolution—not the whereas.

A motion was moved to delay the vote until the whereas is revised. The motion failed.

A motion was moved to amend the draft whereas statements to include a reference to University Faculty Rule 3335-3-34. The motion was approved.

Sutherland moved approved of the recommendation with two amendments; it was approved 13 to 3 with no abstentions.

The Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed