Pam Lovern called the meeting to order with the following members present: Bach, Cole, Conway, Curry, Dimotakis, Dunn, Fathepure, Finchum, Gardner, Hall, Hiney, Jaroni, Khojasteh, Krishnan, M. Lovern, Liu, Ma, Melancon, Nelson, Neurohr, Noden, Parveen, Peek, Perkins, Pranger, Shan, Smith and Stansberry.

Also present: Bayles, M., Beard, K., Cheves, T., Clarke, S., Eastman, G., Francisco, C., Grover, A., Habiger, J., Johnson, C., Kluver, R., Krutz, G., Knapp, J., McCann, M., Mendez, J., Miller, B., Ormsbee, C., Peaster, R., Rigsby, S., Sheehan, R, Shrum, K., Spradling, S., Stephens, J., Tucker, S., Vasquez, Y., and Wray, K.

Absent: Reichard and Slevitch.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Special Reports:

Dean Kluver – OSU’s partnership with CCEOK for the Stillwater Afghan Families project…………………………………………………………………………………

Rita Peaster – Registrar – Spring 2022 Class Schedule Update………………………

Remarks and Comments – President Shrum………………………..……………………..…..

Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations and other Vice Presidents…….…….

Reports of Liaison Representatives …………………………………………………….……..

Wellness……………………………………………………………………………….

GPSGA ………………………………………………………………………………..

SGA……………………………………………………………………………………

Emeriti…………………………………………………………………………………

WFC …………………………………………………………………………………..

Graduate Council………………………………………………………………………

SAC……………………………………………………………………………………

Reports of Standing Committees ………………………………………………….…………..

Academic Standards and Policies ……………………………………….…………….

Athletics ………………………………………………………………….……………

Budget …………………………………………………………………….…………...

Campus Facilities, Safety and Security ………………………………….……………

Diversity………………………………………………………………….……………

Faculty ………………………………………………………………….……………..

Long-Range Planning and Information Technology ………………….………………

Research ……………………………………………………………….………………

Retirement and Fringe Benefits ……………………………………….………………

Rules and Procedures ………………………………………………….………………

Student Affairs and Learning Resources …………………………….………………..

P. Lovern announced it was 3:00 and the chair has determined that a quorum is present so the meeting will now come to order. P. Lovern sent the roll call around and asked everyone to sign it. P. Lovern asked those attending via Zoom to make sure your name is displayed correctly on the screen and put their name in the chat so their attendance will be recorded. If you are a proxy for a Faculty Council member P. Lovern asked for them to put their name and the person they are attending for on the roll sheet. P. Lovern asked those attending via zoom to stay muted to help with the audio. P. Lovern stated that the first item of business on the agenda is the approval of the minutes from October 12, 2021. The minutes were distributed electronically and are available on the Faculty Council website. P. Lovern asked if there were any corrections. Seeing none, the minutes were approved. According to Roberts Rule of Order the minutes can be approved by unanimous consent. P. Lovern stated the second item of business on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda which was also electronically distributed and is also available on the Faculty Council website. P. Lovern asked for corrections to the agenda. If there are no corrections, P. Lovern asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Gardner moved and Stansberry seconded that we adopt the agenda. P. Lovern called for a vote and asked the Faculty members on zoom to note their vote in the chat. Motion passed and the agenda is adopted.

P. Lovern introduced our first special report, Dean Randy Kluver.

**Special Reports:**

1. **Dean Randy Kluver – OSU’s partnership with CCEOK for the Stillwater Afghan Families project**

Kluver presented the below PowerPoint presentation to the council members.



Kluver stated that about 50% of the evacuees are under 18. Most of them are very young families. Kluver had heard that no one over 46 yrs. old was evacuated. We are anticipating a very young population.

Kluver stated that many community and campus groups, organizations and departments are contributing and helping with the relocation effort. Kluver stated that we will be providing intensive ESL training for the adults to help with long term viability and employability.

Kluver stated that student groups have been invaluable and really stepped up to help. Students have volunteered to help with translations. Most of the refugees speak either Dari or Pashto. Kluver stated they have identified a number of students who speak either Farsi or Pashto who have offered to help with translation. They have already been working to translate housing documents and other items.

Kluver stated that the student housing contract will run out at the end of June. At that time, some of the families may decide to stay in student housing or find other accommodations in town.

P. Lovern opened the floor to questions. Miller asked if there could be some type of presentation given by the refugees at the end of their stay here? Miller is particularly interested in experiences prior to arriving in the U.S. Miller believes that a lot of departments on campus would be very interested in this information. Kluver stated that they would work towards this. Peek asked what is the best way to get involved? Kluver stated that there has already been over 250 people sign-up on a volunteer portal. They are still working through the list. Kluver stated that at this point he believes the best way to get involved is through one of the community team leaders who are dealing with specific issues. Kluver stated he would be happy to get this information out to anyone who is interested. Catholic Charities is the lead organization and OSU is working very closely with them. Kluver said they will be looking for volunteers to help move and arrange furniture. Kluver stated the bigger, more critical issue is to keep the enthusiasm and help going once the initial wave has passed.

Chat question – Do we know what languages the refugees will be speaking? Kluver states they have heard that most of them speak either Pashto or Dari. He has heard that roughly 60% speak Dari and 40% Pashto. Kluver believes that Pashto is similar to Hindi but he is not sure. Kluver stated that Farsi is very close to Dari so we are relying very heavily on our Farsi speakers.

Kluver closed his presentation stating that the response from the university has been overwhelming and positive. He is very grateful for the students, faculty and staff as well as the university leadership for their support.

1. **Ms. Rita Peaster – Registrar – Spring 2022 Class Schedule Update**

Registrar Peaster presented the following PowerPoint to the council members:



P. Lovern opened the floor for questions. P. Lovern asked for the new sections that were created that were in-person, were these tending to be sections that were offered early in the morning or evenly distributed. Peaster did not look at the time-of-day distribution. She would be happy to look at those numbers and report back. P. Lovern stated that earlier class time was one of the ideas for in-person classes.

**Remarks and Comments – President Shrum**

Shrum stated that it’s been a busy few weeks. We enjoyed and survived their first homecoming week. She and Darren had a great time engaging in campus events. There was a great turnout from alumni.

Shrum stated they are working on the opportunity for ARPA funds. The state will be accepting proposals. The Federal dollars will be a one-time infrastructure. This means they will not select any projects that require ongoing support from the state. Administration is assessing these needs and really looking at the criteria and how can we bundle them in a way that will give us the best success to make it through the committee. The legislature has a committee structure set up and will pass things through to a smaller committee who will then forward to the governor. There is a scoring process. Administration is trying to strategize on the best way to bundle needs together in various proposals for the best success to deal with the needs that are spread across campus.

Shrum stated they hope to have Jerome Loughridge here soon to give updates about the Strategic Planning process. Shrum anticipates having the committee put together toward the end of December.

Shrum stated that they are evaluating how we get to a median salary level in the Big 12. They are looking at how to get everyone up to that level. This is a goal that she has. They are still assessing how to do this and what it would look like. Shrum stated that the Board of Regents did approve up to a 3% merit increase. This will be determined by the college and department. In addition to this, Shrum is committed to raise salaries to the median. She will keep the council updated as it moves along.

Shrum stated that STEM Education is important. We recently announced a DOD grant. Dr. Ki Cole was one of the investigators on this grant and Shrum feels that it was well received. This is an area we want to look. It’s important to focus on creating a center that can be centrally located from an infrastructure standpoint that all colleges can participate in these outreach programs in STEM Education. This is a coordinated effort because many colleges and units across campus are doing great things.

Shrum stated that yesterday the new Chancellor, Alison Garrett, started. Garrett has been on campus and we are engaging in conversations with her. One of the items Shrum has been meeting with the State Regents about is evaluating and looking at the funding formula for Higher Education and how we look at parity across the Research Universities. In her opinion this formula is antiquated. Many things have happened and changed since they froze this funding formula.

P. Lovern opened the floor to questions. Vasquez asked what the timeframe is for the initiatives. Shrum stated as far as salaries we need to understand what it would take then identify the processes around funding and how in a stepwise manner we get to this level. There is no timeframe on the salary issue or the ARPA proposals. The portal is open. We are having conversations right now; they have been having conversations for a while at the capitol. Shrum doesn’t imagine that there will be proposals prepared and ready to submit until after the first of the year. Shrum does not know the timing on when these will be submitted. Shrum stated that the state will be granting some of the proposals between now and the end of the year. But the majority of the funding will occur after the first of the year. We are not pressed to get them done quickly. From the STEM Education perspective, Shrum stated we are looking at various funding mechanisms for this. One of these could be ARPA funding for infrastructure costs. Depending on whether or not this is the avenue we proceed down to get some funding. Shrum has spoken with some foundations as well. Shrum stated as we put together some of these proposals if we can have private or community support, and some industry partnerships, those will make them stronger. As opposed to rushing to get something done, we want to have the proposal in good condition to be successful. We are thinking through what has the most traction and capitalize on to get it through the committees and on to the governor. No specific timeframes or deadlines at this point but that we are working on them. Vasquez asked when the funding formula was updated last? Shrum believes it was frozen in the late 90’s. Shrum is not sure of the actual year. But it has been quite some time and there are opportunities with the transition to a new chancellor. Shrum will be asking them to take a look at this issue in the next year. Shrum would like them to address how they have OSU’s funding in comparison to OU’s funding, lumping our extension dollars in with the total funding as well as funding per student. Shrum has had conversations with a few legislators and they are receptive so we need to capitalize on it this next year.

Shrum turned it over Johnny Stephens to address the vaccine mandate.

P. Lovern introduced Dr. Stephens. Stephens stated that he does not have a lot to add to the vaccine mandate issue. Stephens stated that the Covid numbers continue to improve. The dashboard continues to look good. Our percent of positive cases on campus remains below 5%. The latest number was 4.88%. Over the past 7 days, over 400 people have been tested on campus.

Stephens stated an email went out a few weeks ago regarding the Federal Mandate. The deadline was December 8th which was changed shortly after to a January 4th deadline. Stephens stated that there will always be confusion. This will be a confusing time around the mandate because it’s not just the federal contractor mandate (which is what OSU falls under) there is also the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) mandate and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) mandate. These all have different dates and different meanings within them. Stephens stated that OSU is under the federal contractor mandate. Stephens stated that we will stay as consistent as possible from a timing standpoint around the federal mandate. We have moved our deadline to January 4th. Stephens stated he would not go over the FAQ’s because they are available on the dashboard. Stephens stated that the booster is not included in this mandate. It is the two-shot series for Pfizer and Moderna and the one shot for Johnson & Johnson. Stephens stated that the portal seems to be working well. Stephens stated this will be a long haul. He knows there will be people making decisions all the way up to January 4th. We will continue to work with all our co-workers, staff and employees moving forward after January 5th to make corrective actions.

Stephens opened the floor to questions. Sheehan asked how the vaccinations will be documented? Stephens stated there is the card as well as the state portal (OSSIS). Individuals upload to the system and it shows proof. Sheehan asked who will be monitoring that everyone gets vaccinated? Stephens stated this will be done through HR. It will go down to departments heads to come into compliance. This is a big undertaking for the entire system. White asked how the federal and state lawsuits affect this? Stephens stated he doesn’t know just yet but we will be watching this closely. He thinks this will take time. He had heard that Oklahoma has joined the lawsuit in the last few days and doesn’t know how is this going to affect the overall mandate. Stephens stated we need to watch and see if the lawsuit affects the federal contractors or is it OSHA with employers over 100. Simple answer is, he doesn’t know yet but they will keep a watchful eye on how this plays out. Chat question – Vasquez asked if only student workers were affected, not the general student population? Stephens stated yes, that is correct. Grad students and student employees are the only ones affected by this mandate. Dimotakis stated that he received an email from a very upset faculty member in his college who felt that we need to fight the mandate. He asked if anyone else was getting pushback and if so is there a general statement which we can share with people who might be reluctant to get the vaccine. Stephens stated that we do not have a choice. This is a federal mandate and we have to do it. P. Lovern said that part of the question was regarding a statement to send out to faculty members. Stephens stated that we have not worked on one but he can bring it to the Covid task force. He doesn’t have much more of a comment other than what he just said, we do not have a choice. He said we need to move forward with it because it is a federal mandate around our contracts. White asked if there was an injunction just put out. Stephens said there is a lawsuit out but not an injunction yet that has stopped all this to his knowledge. If there was an injunction it could have been around OSHA or one of the other mandates but it has not one on the federal contractor mandate. He will go back and take a look at this. Stephens stated that things are changing fast. Neurohr asked if it would be helpful for the faculty member to add his comment to the FAQ. Stephens stated that the Covid email system is a great place to put this. He sees the majority of the emails and gives feedback. Sheehan stated that January 4th is the deadline for getting vaccinated so what happens January 5th for those who are not vaccinated? Stephens stated there were not decent guidelines from the White House a week ago that stated this is “not a cliff”, this is a point where we need to work on additional communication with those employees and work on corrective actions. We are not eliminating employment on January 5th but we will move into an HR corrective action plan. White stated there are still the two exemption options available if someone does not want to get vaccinated. Stephens said yes there is. There is a medical and religious exemption available through the website. Sheehan asked if ultimately someone refuses to get vaccinated and the mandate stays in place, what is the next step? Stephens stated he cannot answer this question. Sheehan asked what the administration is considering after the deadline? Stephens stated that administration is looking at everything but he does not know the ultimate end at this time. Stephens stated that there could be terminations that come from this and he believes that is the way the federal mandate is set up. To force termination. Stephens does not know the timeframe. It will not be January 5th. Stephens stated that there is a lot of corrective action and education that can take place before this would happen.

**Report of Status of Council Recommendations:**

**Interim Provost Mendez and Vice Presidents**

Mendez gave the Council members an update on current recommendations:

21-09-01-DIV: New University Holiday – Juneteenth (June 19th). **Accepted**.

21-02-01-RES: Modify P&P 1-0505, The Care and Use of Animals in Research, Testing and Teaching. Pending. Legal Counsel has provided feedback, which is currently under review. Once Legal Counsel approves the updates, the document will go to Executive Team for final approval.

18-05-02-FAC: Proposed changes to the Preface and Body of the “Policy Statement to

Govern Appointments, Tenure, Promotions, and Related Matters of the Faculty of OSU”. Pending. Proposed policy modifications are under review by the OSU Board of Regents Legal Counsel, along with potential modifications to existing P&P documents affected by the proposed changes. If needed, a working group of Faculty Council and Council of Deans representatives will be formed before the final draft is reviewed by the Council of Deans and the OSU/A&M Board of Regents.

Mendez thanked Faculty Council for all the involvement this semester putting together the survey to get a sense of where we were. Things were rapidly changing in the first few weeks of the semester. Mendez thanked all the faculty for putting together a very comprehensive report for administration to read and for being honest with their evaluation of the situation. We learned a lot through the semester. One of the things that was done was to create a Pandemic/Endemic Planning group in response to the survey. The co-chairs, Dr. Mindy McCann and Dr. Stephen Clarke will speak today about what the group is doing and recommendations for the spring.

Mendez introduced Drs. Mindy McCann and Stephen Clarke. Clarke thanked the President and Provost for supporting the creation of this task force. More importantly, engaging faculty and identifying solutions to some of the problems we all saw earlier in the semester. This was a really quick turnaround for the task force. To look at some of the problems that everybody knew existed and what could we do in the short term so we did not repeat some of these same mistakes or have some of the same issues in the spring semester. McCann stated that in order to engage faculty with a lot of different perspectives, we made sure the task force has representatives from all the colleges. We included various titles and ranks and we included a graduate student. We also included Amy Martindale, Rita Peaster, Christie Hawkins and Chris Ormsbee to help with implementation details. McCann stated that as you can imagine they were very very useful. Clarke stated they took a triage approach that said, what do we need to do now? What are these priorities. The Phase I of the recommendations focused on we will try to work with faculty to figure out how we can adjust classes. This addressed a lot of the faculty and student concerns. This had major implications on the schedule. Changing the schedule had implications on advising and enrollment. So had a very compressed timeline to be able to work together to formulate solutions then implement them in time enough to advise students so they can enroll close to on time. McCann stated they are working on what they call Phase II. This is issues that arose but did not directly impact the schedule. These did not have to be done before enrollment. Some examples of the things they are still considering are:

1. Messaging to both students and faculty about expectations.
2. Instructional technology improvements and support. As we consider the endemic nature of the virus and we adapt to our changing instructional landscape, we want to make sure that we are looking ahead and not just being reactive but a little bit proactive with regards to where we want to be in terms of these issues.

Clarke stated that one of the issues that has come up is how has Covid impacted the tenure process? Clearly there is a relationship to instruction. How are student surveys of instruction being utilized in the tenure process. Clarke stated they are continuing to have discussions about the implications of Covid and what can we/should we do. Clarke stated that committee member Jim Smay said, “we are in a new normal”. Thinking about going back to how we did things before is probably not a good long-term solution. As an example, we’ve learned to utilize a lot of technology. Some not so good, some really good. Thinking about how we can leverage our increase awareness of technology to actually continue to fulfill our instructional mission. McCann stated there were also disparities in the effect of the virus on different faculty groups. As you can imagine, the task force had lots of discussions about this. These issues are very complex because how to address them equitably is quite an issue. The task force is not supposed to be on going, McCann and Clarke envisioned the task force lasting this semester while we are making recommendations for further out. The task force work would be completed this semester. McCann stated they are collecting their discussions and documents to summarize them. This will be sent to the Provost’s new Equity Working Group. Clarke thanked the task force members. They invested a lot of time. There were a lot of meetings. We tried to develop and propose solutions so we can move forward. Clarke stated he would be remiss if he did not thank Dr. Francisco for all of his willingness to meet with the group, discuss the P&P side of things so the group could have a better understanding. From the committee standpoint, we called this a task force for a reason and that is task forces do not last forever. We really do hope to complete all our work on or before December 1st. McCann stated in closing they very much appreciate the opportunity to lead this group. It’s been quite fulfilling and rewarding. We feel like we’ve made some progress. We want to thank Faculty Council for inviting us to provide an update.

P. Lovern asked if there were any questions for Dr. McCann or Dr. Clarke. P. Lovern asked about the RPT process. It has been recommended that faculty add some type of statement to their A&D documents explaining how Covid might have affected their workload. The Faculty Council officers have worked on a draft of this statement. P. Lovern stated that other groups are also working on this issue. She was wondering if they had any thoughts on this. Clarke stated they would support such a statement for sure. Clarke stated they really want to step out of this issue and really focus on the instruction side.

**Other Vice Presidents: None**

**Report of Liaison Representatives:**

1. Wellness Center – Kim Beard



1. GPSGA – Megan Ruby

**Important Deadlines:** The Fall Travel Award, Co-sponsorship Fund, and the Research Materials Grant applications have been turned in and the number of applications that the Finance Committee and Treasure are reviewing is as follows: 36 travel award applications, 6 co-sponsorship applications, and 9 research materials grant applications.

**General Assembly Meeting Information**

The fourth General Assembly Meeting of Fall 2021 will be held at 5:30 PM CDT in an online format (Zoom) and in AGH Room 101. The link to participate in the meeting remotely is always provided in the Monday Memo and sent out via email the day before the meeting.

**November Meeting Focus: Food Insecurity and Resources**

Due to the upcoming university breaks, we would like to highlight the resources that OSU provides in fighting food insecurity for students, faculty, and staff.

OSU Night at Our Daily Bread: November 18th and December 16th, 5- 6:30 pm at Our Daily Bread Food and Resource Center 701 E 12th Ave, Stillwater, OK 74074. Open to OSU students, faculty, and staff. Must bring your OSU ID. For more information, please contact [campuslife@okstate.edu](mailto:campuslife@okstate.edu) | 405-744-5488.

For Tulsa resources please contact [aaron.t.christensen@okstate.edu](mailto:aaron.t.christensen@okstate.edu).

1. SGA – Georgia Eastham

The SGA Food Insecurity Committee is collaborating with UCO,OBU, and OU for No Hunger November, to be held November 15-19th. Our encouraged donations are listed below. We will keep track of which school is winning daily on SGA's social media. There will also be a venmo portion of the drive. The school that gets the most donations in proportion to their undergrad student population will get to determine the charity the monetary donations go towards. We are excited for this week and to see the competitive spirit of OSU come together to create holiday meal baskets to go back to students.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Instant mashed potatoes | Boxed mac n cheese | Boxed/instant stuffing – regular & gluten-free |
| Cake/brownie mix – regular and gluten-free | Can of frosting | Canned cranberry sauce |
| Canned green beans | Canned whipped cream | Canned yams |
| Cherry or apple pie filling | Cornbread mix | Foil baking pans |
| Pie crust – regular & gluten-free | Instant coffee | Paper towels |
| Pudding mix | Sugar |  |

1. Emeriti Association – Barbara Miller

The Emeriti Board held a short meeting via zoom on November first.  Our October dinner was a success and well attended so we will continue with the monthly dinners. The November dinner was Monday November 8 at 6, with pre-dinner meet and greet at 5:30. The speaker will be Chad Weiberg, Director of OSU Athletics.  The Board is still looking for next year’s slate of officers and is beginning to fill Committee positions for the coming year. As yet many of our interest groups have not yet met due to Covid.

1. Woman’s Faculty Council – Aditi Grover

**Announcements:**

* We received several nominations for the 2021 Women's Faculty Council Outstanding Achievement and Mentorship of Women Faculty Awards. We want to thank co-chairs Kay Bjornen and Megan Macken, and the WFC Faculty Awards Committee, Tonya Hammer, Marianna Patrauchan, and LaRicka Wingate for their tireless work!
* We are currently fundraising for our 2022 Student Research Awards.
* WFC has published to our website [a revised version](https://womensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu/site-files/images/bestpracticescovid19_2021.pdf) of our “Best Practices for Supervisors Supporting OSU Faculty, Staff, and Student Caregivers During COVID-19”.
* We are continuing to work on exciting speakers through the next semester.

**Past Meeting:**

Our November WFC meeting of the semester was held on Monday, November 8th, 2021 from 2-3 PM via [Zoom](https://educationokstate.zoom.us/j/98485747016). Meeting ID: 984 8574 7016

“Understanding CDC’s vaccine communication during the COVID-19 pandemic and its effectiveness in promoting positive attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccine”

Dr. Juwon Hwang, Assistant Professor of Media and Strategic Communications shared findings from her study of the CDC's information sharing and public perceptions, with implications for how communications can be more successful in promoting positive attitudes toward the COVID-19 vaccine.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Fall 2021 Monthly Meetings**

Our WFC all-membership meeting will be on the second Monday of every month from 2-3 PM via Zoom.

We are holding a WFC Social at The State Room (on the outdoor patio with heaters) on Monday, December 6th from 4-6pm. We hope you’ll join us for some much-needed end-of-semester celebrating and socializing!

Anyone interested in the WFC can visit our website at [http://womensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2Furl%3Fq%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2Furl%3Fq%253Dhttp%3A%2F%2Fwomensfacultycouncil.okstate.edu%2526amp%3Bsa%253DD%2526amp%3Bsource%253Deditors%2526amp%3Bust%253D1628813758358000%2526amp%3Busg%253DAOvVaw2qprLSPr4hvMFx1e3NkD_r%26sa%3DD%26source%3Deditors%26ust%3D1628813758367661%26usg%3DAOvVaw3JRdo5Rt3fHMuGPtqlHKXZ&data=04%7C01%7Caditi.grover%40okstate.edu%7C706189d28b1e4a324efc08d974e18c64%7C2a69c91de8494e34a230cdf8b27e1964%7C0%7C0%7C637669334331320294%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Xgnm3%2FhMrx%2Bs1eIbSZDgWaku7eXjp4%2FYos0z6Hvv7EM%3D&reserved=0) and email [wfc@okstate.edu](mailto:wfc@okstate.edu) to sign up to be put on our email list.

1. Graduate College – Rebecca Sheehan

***Virtual Recruiting Event.*** Dr. Smith reported that approximately 575 people registered for the event, most being International individuals. In the General session and breakout sessions, approximately 150 people participated.

***Candidacy Forms in Round-Up.*** Dr. Van Delinder explained that the Graduate College is actively working on issues regarding candidacy forms in Round-Up.

***ITA Presentation.*** Dr. Nathan Horton made a presentation on changes and updates to the ITA Program. Along with providing the ITA exam assessing language skills, the program is becoming more robust, offering workshops, graduate oral proficiency and language in the American classroom courses, individual support as well as working with the Directors of Student Academic Success to support students of multilingual instructors in improving students’ intercultural communication skills and their ability to succeed in courses with multilingual instructors.

***Three Minute Thesis Finals.*** Zoom Watch Party, Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 3 p.m.

***Fall 2021 Graduate Commencement Ceremony.*** Dean Tucker confirmed that the Graduate ceremony will take place at Gallagher-Iba Arena.

***General Graduate Faculty Meeting.*** The Fall 2021 General Graduate Faculty Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 27th at 2 p.m. via Zoom. Subject Group meetings occurred after this meeting. The Graduate College presented and facilitated discussion concerning: Customized Degrees: MS Interdisciplinary Studies Degree; Thirty-credit Hours Master's Degrees; (Potentially) Withdrawing as a Signatory from Council of Graduate Schools April 15 Resolution; and Removing Aged Coursework Grades from GPA calculations.

***APC Items***. The following were approved by Council:

Program requirement changes:

1. Ph.D. Curriculum Studies – changes in required courses

2. Ph.D. Agricultural Education Communications and Leadership – changes in admissions and courses

3. M.A.T. – Master of Athletic Training – change in required courses

4. Mechanical Engineering, PhD – course requirement changes

5. Mechanical Engineering, M.S. – course requirement changes

6. Engineering Technology, M.S. option in Fire Safety and Explosion Protection – course requirement changes

Remove GRE requirement for admission:

1. Ph.D. Education – option in Language Literacy and Culture

2. Ph.D. Counseling Psychology

3. M.S. Biomedical Sciences

4. M.S. Physician Assistant

5. Ph.D. Psychology

Option Deletions:

1. Educational Psychology, PhD – option in Counseling Psychology: A new PhD in Counseling Psychology degree program was approved for 2018-2019. There are no remaining students in the Educational Psychology PhD—Counseling Psychology option. All students wishing to pursue a Counseling Psychology PhD are only in the new program moving forward.

2. Master of Arts in Teaching, option deletion in Secondary English; option deletion in Secondary Social Studies

Option Suspensions (also require approval from Instruction Council):

1. Master of Arts in Teaching – temporary suspension of options in Art,

Secondary Education, Elementary Education, Mathematics

1. M.S. Nutrition – option in Dietetics
2. M.S. HDFS – option in Family and Community Services option. The MS in Family and Community Services is approved and in place

Sheehan was asked to explain the rationale behind the April 15th resolution deadline. Sheehan stated the idea to potentially withdraw from this is that there are other programs/schools that do not belong to the April 15th resolution. They are requiring people who are getting offers to answer sooner. There are also some issues going on around the April 15th resolution by a variety of players. This is putting OSU in a bad position. Students have to acknowledge and decide on offers from other programs sooner than the programs at OSU. This may mean we are missing out on great students. If there is a change to this, it is something that all of OSU has to work for. It’s a collective thing through the graduate college. Vasquez asked about the courses not counting toward the GPA anymore. Sheehan stated that if coursework has aged out (over 10 years old) it cannot be used in the final study for a graduate student. If it doesn’t count for credit in any way, the idea is to remove that grade from the GPA calculation. This applies to courses that are more than 10 years. This is what is being discussed. There has not been any decision made yet. If you have a particular opinion about this, please go the Graduate Faculty meeting or contact the chair of vice chair of your subject matter group.

1. Staff Advisory Council – Tashia Cheves

* Once again this year Staff Advisory Council will be spearheading OSU’s collection of food for Harvest II. Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you have any questions, please reach out to Michelle Chitwood [michelle.lea.chitwood@okstate.edu](mailto:michelle.lea.chitwood@okstate.edu) or 744-6539.
* Please save the date for the Staff Distinguished Service Award ceremony. It will be Monday, December 6 from 1:30-3:00 in the Student Union Starlight Terrace.

A picture containing letter

Description automatically generated

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

* 1. **Academic Standards and Policies: Brandt Gardner – Update**

Gardner explained the recommendation that was included with the agenda. P. Lovern asked for questions. P. Lovern stated that the recommendation comes from a committee a motion is not needed. P. Lovern asked for a second. Neurohr seconded the recommendation. P. Lovern stated the has been moved and second to approve the recommendation. P. Lovern asked for discussion. Seeing none, moved to a vote. Motion passed and the recommendation is approved.

* 1. **Athletics: Cindy Melancon – No Report**
  2. **Budget: Tyrrell Conway – No Report**
  3. **Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Tieming Liu – No Report**
  4. **Diversity: Divya Jaroni – No Report**
  5. **Faculty: Matt Lovern – No Report**
  6. **Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Kris Hiney – No Report**
  7. **Research: Bruce Dunn – No Report**
  8. **Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Sarah Hall – No Report**
  9. **Rules and Procedures: Karen Neurohr – No Report**
  10. **Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Toby Nelson – No Report**

Unfinished Business – None

New Business –

P. Lovern stated that Dr. Mendez mentioned the Faculty Council survey earlier. P. Lovern wanted to let everyone know that the Faculty Council officers have prepared a detailed report of the survey. A PowerPoint was presented at the October meeting. The report of the survey will be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

P. Lovern stated that the Awards Convocation will be December 7th at 3:00 in the Student Union Ballroom.

P. Lovern asked for additional new business. Seeing none asked for a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Faculty Council is Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Room, 412 Student Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Neurohr, Secretary