

Faculty Association Minutes

September 23, 2025

Library 401 and Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 11:02 AM

1. Welcome from Faculty Association Chair, Professor Donald Ross (BIT)
2. Staff Award
 - a. Presented to the Marketing department
3. Approval of August 2025 meeting Minutes
 - a. Passed with the following votes:
 - i. Yay – 8 (in room) + 12 (Zoom)
 - ii. Nay – 0
 - iii. Abstain – 1 (Zoom)
4. Treasurer Report (Paul Buckelew)
 - a. Membership – 50 paid members currently
 - b. Balances
 - i. MidFirst Operating Fund
 1. \$9360.54
 - ii. Endowed Fund: \$14,896.08 (9/30/24)
 1. Updated Expendable (Scholarship) Fund: \$10,179.41
 - c. Approval of Treasurer Report
 - i. Passed with the following votes:
 1. Yay - 8 (in room) + 15 (zoom)
 2. Nay - 0
 3. Abstain - 1 (Zoom)
5. Scholarship Committee (Sarah Baker)
 - a. Chili Cook-Off/Fall fundraiser: October 29, 2025 @ 11 am – 2 pm near the coffee shop
 - b. A link will be emailed soon to sign up to volunteer, donate cornbread, and/or donate chili (with the option to choose whether to participate in the cook-off competition)
6. Chair Report
 - a. VPAA Meeting (09/18/25)
 - i. A new date for Convocation has not yet been set but hoping for October. More information will be shared once a date has been set.

- ii. The issue of competitive pay for lab assistants and tutors was brought to the VPAA, who plans to do a wage comparison study and present those findings to the President if adjustments need to be made.
 - iii. A community outreach event will be held on campus on October 25. Campus will remain open but only through specific entrances. More communication is expected in the next couple weeks.
 - iv. Faculty Association inquired about the possibility of hosting an event (every 1-2 years perhaps) to provide opportunities for direct engagement between faculty and Regents. VPAA seemed open to this idea, which will be discussed further with the President.
 - v. Spring 2026 – Division/Department meetings times will shift from 11 am on Tuesdays to 12:30 pm. Committees can choose the meeting time that works best for them.
 - vi. A new performance appraisal process will be tested soon.
 - vii. The Math Center has been working under the direction of SEM Dean to create a testing center for the SEM Division. However, the process has been stalled due to an issue with video recording. The issue needing resolution is who will be responsible for monitoring the cameras (not the cameras themselves). VPAA will look into this and try to help with forward movement.
 - viii. Whether or not campus will be closed on the Saturday before Thanksgiving was not clear but hopes to have an answer soon.
- b. Board of Regents (09/15/25) – Report from Jacob Nelson
 - i. Regents praised the new metal work micro-credential, the only of its kind offered by a 2-year institution in Oklahoma
 - ii. Following the pandemic, enrollment numbers declined. However, enrollment has now plateaued although international student graduation rates have decreased.
- c. President Meeting
 - i. Will hopefully occur in the next 5-7 days

7. Open Issues

- a. Yearly Calendar (Seat Time)
 - i. Task force is still in the process of being formed.
- b. OnBase – DOB Removal
 - i. After speaking with ITS, DOB removal will not be possible as it is used as part of a two-factor authentication process. However, moving forward, DOB will only be used for this purpose and will not be included when reports are forwarded/sent on.

- c. October "Fabulous" Drawings
 - i. Faculty are reminded to pay \$10 annual dues before the October meeting and attend the meeting to be eligible for giveaways.
 - ii. If anyone can help find a room available on the Main Campus for the October meeting to facilitate more folks attending in person, please contact Chair Don Ross.
- 8. New Business
 - a. Wednesday 9/24 @ 1-3 pm: OTA Adaptive Presentations in the hall near the bookstore. Faculty are encouraged to stop by, check out presentations, and engage with OTA students.
 - b. Tuesday 9/30 @ 11-12 in Bruce Owen Theater: Academic Affairs 5th Tuesday meeting
 - c. October 22: Library is hosting a PowerPoint party. Registration is now open, and prizes are involved! Visit [this website](#) for more information.
 - d. November 18: Scholar's Day. For more information, faculty can reach out to Professor Gena Ford and/or visit [this website](#).
 - e. A faculty member shared that the multimedia remotes have been locked in the cabinet in some classrooms. If any other faculty members experience this, please let Chair Don Ross know.
 - f. A question was asked about the possibility of raises.
 - g. Concerns were raised regarding ICE and information sharing.
- 9. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM