OSU STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 8, 2000  416 Student Union Case Study 3  1:15 p.m.

Present: Anderson, Bateson, Breedlove, Fletcher, Ford, Hays, Hundley, Jardot, Jennings, Knight, Magness, Mann, Miller, Mitchell, Overton, Payne, Satterfield, Shoffstall, Swann, Traynor, Whitney

Excused: Bale, Cimino, Hayes, Howard

Absent: Carlile, Foust

Mary Kay Jennings called the meeting to order and Louisa Payne called roll. The March agenda was approved.

Executive Group Update – President James Halligan: The proposed bill restricting remedial courses to state junior colleges rather than OU and OSU has passed the House 51 to 46. The conventional wisdom is that it will be killed in the senate. However, the governor is strongly in favor of this message and since all funding is approved or vetoed through his office, the measure will in all probability eventually pass in some form. OSU is trying now to make provisions for this contingency.

Freshman retention is at an all-time high of 82%. OSU-Tulsa is seen sometimes as a competitor or as a financial drain on OSU Stillwater. Historically, in similar situations, the branch campus has developed its own population and financial base, rather than depleting the parent institution. At present, 4,300 students are enrolled on the Tulsa campus. OSU has 1258 of those. 138 are enrolled on both the Stillwater and Tulsa campuses.

The projected enrollment for 2000/01 is very high. Last fall we had 300 new freshmen. We had every bed full. With a 82% freshman retention rate, we would like to modulate that increase for several reasons. Housing is very full, class scheduling is stretched to the limit with the faculty and funding available.

The new apartment housing is coming along nicely. The construction is on a lease-lease back deal. The university leases the land. The company builds the buildings, manages and maintains the facility for 30 years and after that time period the land and the improvements revert to the university. Phase II is going in across from Cowboy Mall and will net about 1,000 beds. The location for Phase III is still to be determined.

The legislative outlook is still too soon to call. The best assessment at this point is that fiscal year 2001 will be a good year but not a great year.

The University has retained McKinney and Stringer to represent us in the litigation about the Colvin Center pool. The lawsuit will probably be lengthy.

Satterfield asked about the governor’s statement that most Oklahoma college graduates could not pass an employment test for a Fortune 500 company, President Halligan replied that
although the statement was erroneous in many areas, diplomacy was probably the best response from higher education when dealing with the governor.

Magness asked about the governor’s budget proposal which only allowed for a faculty salary increase and specifically omitted staff raises. Halligan answered that the budget negotiations were still in the very early stages and he anticipated that staff would be included in the raise package.

Magness asked whether SAC’s Ombudsman proposal was going to be presented to the Executive Group. Halligan replied that to his knowledge, the proposal was not scheduled to be discussed.

Jennings asked what criteria was going to be used to determine who would be the residents of the new housing, Halligan referred her to Pat Murphy for specifics but said that upper classman and residents of university housing would be given top priority. There will be a detailed point system used to determine a student’s place in the cue.

**Treasurer’s report: Rita Hundley** The February reports are not available yet, so most figures are as of January 1, 2000. The regular account has an annual budget of $12,000. We started the year with a deficit and we have already exceeded our $12,000. Hopefully the $14,000 deficit includes the $10,000 shortfall carried over from last year.

The T-shirt sale netted a little over $600 for the scholarship fund.

The foundation account has a balance of $2,293 as of February 2, 2000.

**Branch Campus Reports**

**OSU-COM – Marsha Howard** No report

**OSU-OKM – Homer Breelove** No report

**OSU-OKC – Sherry Overtan** The main focus of the campus recently has been a NCA visit, the last part of the accreditation process. OSU-OKC is now accredited for 10 years. They have a new Vice President of Student Services. The family fund picnic will be held in April.

**OSU-Tulsa – Marcia Hayes** The plan was passed by the regents. OSU Tulsa can offer advanced classes when funding is available. The mission statement is currently in development. Hayes distributed a brochure about the conference center. The center is rented to OSU free of charge until July 1, after July 1 it will be available to OSU at half price.

**Report of Standing Committees**

**Rules and Procedures – Myra Traynor** The committee is presently busy with the upcoming elections. The nomination requests and accompanying cover letter should be mailed out next week.

**Public Relations – Diana Bateson** The newsletter is about ready. If anyone has anything that needs to be included, they should contact Camille Jardot

**Awards and Recognition – Nancy Swann** There has been no problem getting enough volunteers to run the concession stands at the baseball games. Sales at the first few games were not as heavy as expected, but the fans are not yet used to concessions being available in alternate locations or having so many choices available. Profits for the three games worked is about $250. SAC has committed to work 7 more games. Because of Spring
Break, the fraternity that has the main concession stand will be unavailable March 17-19. The committee has decided to work those games. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

The flower sale for National Secretary’s Day is April 26. A sign-up sheet will be passed out at the next meeting for flower delivery.

Policy, Benefits, and Budget – Tonya Magness The committee met February 22. The University’s policy on the Family Medical Leave Act is still under discussion. The University’s Budget Meeting was held. The hand out’s will be sent to Council Members through campus mail. This will include a copy of the governor’s budget that included a budgeted amount for faculty salary increases but no provision for staff raises.

Report of University Committees
Faculty Council Update – No report

Old Business Leslie Miller has updated the SAC web page. Please look at it and provide some feedback to her.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:20. The Staff Advisory Council will meet April 14, 2000 in 102 Ag Hall at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes Approved:

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Mary Kay Jennings, Chairperson  Craig Satterfield, Vice-Chairperson

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Rita Hundley, Treasurer  Louisa Payne, Secretary