



### **OFC meeting Minutes - May 17, 2024, 12:30-2:30**

1. Adopt the agenda
2. Discussion/approval of minutes
3. New members and updates to the membership list

Introductions [Present: Rosemary Pennington MU; Kate Budd UA, Martha Pallante YSU, Ben Givens OSU, David Jackson BGSU, Dan Carl UC, Ed Dauterich KSU, George Litman NEOMEd, Anup Kumar, Cleveland State, Nathan French MU, Anthony Milburn Central State, Lubna Abu-Niaaj Central State, Renee Heberle UT, Linda Rouillard UT.

4. Legislative updates, issues to watch, testimony, etc.

<https://statusreport.lsc.ohio.gov/legislation/135?type=All&sort=Name>

**HB 462** Creates Student Choice Grant (95m) in House comm

**HB394** State higher Ed Institution Commitment to Certain Beliefs; in House comm

**HB151** Ohio Higher Ed Enhancement; in House comm

**HB 219** College Credit Plus introduced 3/4/24; in House comm

(B) Each public and participating private college shall endeavor to use open source materials, in lieu of purchase-only textbooks, in a program course. (C) In the case of a public or participating private college using a purchase-only textbook in a program course when there are open source materials that may be used in lieu of that textbook, the college shall pay for the participant's textbook. (D) In the case of a public or participating private college using a purchase-only textbook in a program course because there are no open source materials that may be used in lieu of that textbook, the college shall pay fifty per cent of the textbook's cost and the participant's secondary school shall pay fifty per cent of the textbook's cost. (E) Any eligible out-of-state college participating in the college credit plus program is subject to this section in the same manner as a participating private college.

5. (B) In addition to the guidelines and procedures established under division (A) of this section, the chancellor shall establish an alternative credentialing process to certify instructors with relevant teaching experience as instructors for the program without requiring any additional graduate-level coursework. [Renee Heberle and Linda Rouillard will work on a draft letter

addressing concerns about HB219. This will be circulated among the council members for feedback before submission.]

**SB104** alternate credentialing for CCP instructors; has had its 3<sup>rd</sup> consideration on 2/28/24 and passed by senate

(B) In addition to the guidelines and procedures established under division (A) of this section, the chancellor shall establish an alternative credentialing process to certify instructors with relevant teaching experience as instructors for the program. The alternative credentialing process shall be established not later than six months after the effective date of this amendment. [no mention regarding textbk expenses]

6. **Campus reports:** In addition to other information, please consider supplying the following information if pertinent to your campus: administrative personnel changes, core curriculum changes/updates, new programs, program closures, STEM or humanities/fine arts/social sciences initiative, contract negotiations, enrollment updates, American Institutes of "civic" discourse, campus protests, AI issues,...

**KSU** report: work on core curriculum has included an interdisciplinary model (discarded due to transfer issues); a model limiting required composition courses; a theme-based model (i.e., courses related to sustainability)

**Cleveland State University:** created an inquiry-based model of core curriculum last year that includes only 1-200 level courses. All core courses must apply for inclusion according to an institutional grid based on OT36. CSU is dealing with restructuring and deficit. There is a VRP in place. CSU has also been working with EY Ernest Parthenon as a consultant. FS was asked to create a Program Improvement Committee. Long list of suspended programs according to operating margins and marketing demands, including comparative religion and languages (which will transition to cultural studies. CSU has hired Gray and Associates. CSU is a year behind in its establishment of a civics institute. An advisory board was named but not approved by Ohio Senate.

**YSU:** has just approved a gen ed model which includes only 1-200 level courses. Some changes to curriculum have been due to Academic Partnership. Former Rep. Johnson is now president even though FS passed no confidence votes on the BOT and President Johnson after his selection. Closure of Eastgate Community College has serious implications for YSU since ECC offers remedial education, but YSU receives no state subsidy for remedial education.

**MU:** dealing with a \$36 million deficit. Hired Baine as a consultant to do strategic planning. Dealing with aftermath of cuts of low-enrolled programs. FS voted to close the department of comparative religion even though they have taught up to 800 students per year in gen ed courses.

Currently bargaining for first union contract. MU civics institute now has an advisory board, but no director yet. Faculty hires for that institute may be made by the director alone according to the law, but will still have to go thru the usual process for tenure.

**UT:** engaged in Program Prioritization. CAL suspended low-enrolled programs. There is an effort to increase enrollment in upper level courses by sharing courses such as Research and Methods across programs. President has left abruptly, succeeded by CFO as an interim president who had been previously criticized for lack of communication and transparency. Civics Institute is up and running. It has been creating curriculum; when reviewed and returned by the FS Academic Curriculum Committee, the President insisted that by law, the institute has the authority to create its own curriculum.

**OSU:** close to announcing a new provost after a search with good faculty input. No program closures but some new programs announced. Enrollment looks good with 72,000 applicants. The Civics Institute board has been established and it is close to choosing a director, but OSU has put the funding on hold ahead of hiring 15 tenure-eligible faculty for the institute. 40 people arrested in April protests on campus. Faculty reprimanded administration for bringing in state troopers and for imposing a space policy that was not vetted in the usual policy process. Faculty Senate has created a new government affairs committee.

**Central State University:** the College of Education has now been folded into the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, as announced to the faculty by the provost prior to any feedback from the faculty. Prior attempt to do this was previously rejected by the HLC. Identification of low-enrolled programs included number of majors (who often don't declare until late in their careers) and courses such as special topics which by their nature have low caps. The Science College was asked to evaluate its low-enrolled programs on May 3, with feedback due on May 6. New president is a university alum. CSU is losing its associate provost. There have been program closures and restructuring. There will now be a Bachelors in Humanities with a focus from various disciplines. There are no CSU faculty who teach languages which are instead taught by visiting Fulbrights. Finances are unstable in part due to the closure of Eastgate CC. Previously, Eastgate was audited due to concern that online courses didn't always appear to have an actual instructor associated with said online courses; consequently institutions with connections to Eastgate, including CSU, were subject to course audits.

**UA:** President Gary Miller is retiring to be succeeded by R.J. Nemer. Miller's retirement is thought to be the result of a disagreement with the BOT over budget, which was declared by the president to be in deficit. Rather than engage in a long search process, it was decided to look internally for a candidate and the position was opened to deans and provst. R.J. Nemer, business dean for 2 years with a good reputation for engaging with students, was the only applicant, interviewed by

11 faculty. He pledges to cut a bloated administration. While he admits to not being up to date on certain higher ed political issues, he is eager to educate himself.

**BGSU:** there is turnover in the provost office. The graduate dean has left. There is a new dean for the College of Technology and for the Firelands campus. They concluded negotiations on a 3-year contract. BGSU has received a large gift of approximately \$100 million, though it requires a significant university contribution as well, money in an unendowed fund to be used exclusively for student scholarships. The Program Vitality Analysis has resulted in the removal of non-enrolled programs through the proper governance process. BGSU is considering the development of a credentialing program for CCP instructors.

7. Items from the floor-none
8. Adjourn 2:25