

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING
3:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 13, 2009
Council Room, 250 Student Union

AGENDA:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the December 9, 2008, Minutes
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations:
President Hargis, Provost Strathe, and/or Vice Presidents
5. The President – Remarks and Comments
6. Reports of Standing Committees:
 - a. Academic Standards and Policies: Mindy McCann – No Report
 - b. Athletics: Pat Jordan – Update
 - c. Budget: Ron Miller – Update
 - d. Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Tom Jordan – No Report
 - e. Faculty: Pat Jordan for Udaya DeSilva – Update
*Draft Policy and Procedures Letter Regarding Spousal/Partner Hires**
 - f. Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Khaled Gasem – Update
 - g. Research: Leon Spicer – No Report
 - h. Retirement and Fringe Benefits: J. D. Brown – No Report
 - i. Rules and Procedures: Stephen Perkins – Update
 - j. Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Glenn Brown – Update
Recommendation: Increasing Support for Short-Term Study Abroad Classes*
7. Reports of Liaison Representatives
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

Refreshments will be served at 2:45 p.m.

**Attached*

DRAFT

Oklahoma State University Policy and Procedures

SPOUSAL/PARTNER HIRES	2-XXXX ACADEMIC AFFAIRS - - date - -
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POLICY

- 1.01 Oklahoma State University is committed to assisting qualified candidates by exploring dual career hires for spouses/partners of prospective tenure-track or tenured faculty within the University community. Such a commitment is viewed as a positive inducement for recruiting quality faculty to the University.

PROCEDURE

- 2.01 While such employment cannot be guaranteed, the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs will assist the requesting dean in identifying open positions in other colleges that may be of interest to the spouse/partner.
- 2.02 If the spouse/partner of an incoming tenure-track or tenured faculty member is interested in a staff (exempt or non-exempt) position on campus, the requesting dean will contact OSU Human Resources for information on available positions.
- 2.03 It is understood that the spouse/partner will be clearly qualified for any prospective position.
- 2.04 Within the University, the final employment decision rests with the unit administrator and dean of the unit being asked to accommodate the hire.
- 2.05 If the spouse/partner of an incoming tenure-track or tenured faculty member is interested in a position in the Stillwater community or surrounding area, the individual should be encouraged to seek out information on websites for the:
- A. Stillwater Chamber of Commerce featuring links to Oklahoma State University, Ocean Dental, Meridian Technology Center, and Stillwater Medical Center (<http://www.stillwaterchamber.org/general.asp?id=566>);
 - B. The City of Stillwater (http://stillwater.org/iframe_wrapper.php?page=jobs.htm&h=1800&bc=36);
 - C. Stillwater Public Schools (<http://www.stillwater.k12.ok.us/dnn/default.aspx>);
- 2.06 Personal inquiries to off-campus employers could also be directed to local financial institutions, industry leaders, and numerous specialty businesses

	Amended By	Passed	Failed
Recommendation No. <u>09-01-01-SALR</u>	1. _____	_____	_____
Moved By: <u>Student Affairs & Learning Resources</u>	2. _____	_____	_____
Seconded By: _____	3. _____	_____	_____
<u> Passed <u> Tabled <u> Failed</u></u></u>	4. _____	_____	_____

Title: Increasing Support for Short-Term Study Abroad Classes

The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that: The following plan should be adopted to increase support for faculty leading short-term Study Abroad classes.

1. A centralized office should be created to provide direct support for short-term study abroad instructors.
2. The office staffing should be appropriate to remove as much of the burden from instructors as possible to enable the faculty to focus on class academic content.
3. The office should specifically provide support for accounting, student fee billing, reservations, general travel assistance and emergency services.
4. The office should have a robust Internet interface to facilitate student, parent, faculty and administrative access.
5. The office should be directed by a faculty member with short-term study abroad experience.
6. The office should initially be restricted to providing support to short-term class instructors.
7. The office should be operational by August of 2009.

Rationale: On April 20th, 2007, the University set a long-term goal that 100% of graduates should have a significant study abroad experience.¹ In addition, a five year goal of 25% participation in study abroad was set as a short-term milestone. This goal was recommend by Faculty Council, supported by Administration and approved by the OSU/A&M Board of Regents.

In support of the goal, direct financial support to students has been increased. Most notably, the Provost provided scholarships totaling \$120,000 in 2007-2008 for short- and long-term study abroad. In addition, five of the colleges provided a total of \$209,650 from a variety of sources.² Together, this represents a 27% increase in scholarships from the previous year.

Contrary to the increased funding, enrollment in credit bearing study abroad decreased from 476 to 469. Table 1 presents the statistics for the last 14 years. As can be seen, the decrease can be attributed entirely to a decreased enrollment in the faculty led, short-term courses. To achieve the 25% milestone, participation must almost double to about 1,000 students by 2012.

¹ *OSU accelerates study abroad efforts; Sets long-term goal of 100% participation.* OSU Press Release, April 20, 2007, downloaded 1/6/2009 from osu.okstate.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=646&Itemid=90.

² Report on Credit-Bearing Study Abroad Activity, Current Statistics for 2008-2009, Statistics for 2007-2008, Scholarship Statistics 2007-2008. Geraldine Auel, Study Abroad/NSE Coordinator, Submitted to the Student Affairs and Learning Resources Committee, Nov. 2007.

Short-term, faculty-led classes are the backbone of study abroad at almost all institutions similar to OSU. They are the “intro” courses that provide an initial exposure to most students and impart the encouragement to many to pursue an additional long-term experience. It is doubtful that OSU will ever reach the 25% milestone, much less the 100% goal, without a proportionate increase in faculty-led classes.

Discussions with past and current short-term class faculty indicate two common hindrances to increased enrollment: 1) cost to the student, and 2) administrative burden on faculty leaders. As noted, OSU is addressing costs, but no identifiable actions have been taken on the second issue. Currently, study abroad classes are administrated through the respective colleges’ outreach offices. While there is variation between colleges, most of the outreach offices provide little more than a billing mechanism. Most faculty feel that there is inadequate support for their classes and that they must do everything themselves; to the point of being travel agents. This is a major deterrent to faculty to start or continue a study abroad class.

It should be noted that the OSU Study Abroad Office, lead by Ms Gerry Auel, is doing a good job supporting students on long-term study abroad. However, that office has neither the resources nor the mandate to support short-term classes.

Review of other institutes with more successful study abroad programs, such as Michigan State, has shown that each has stronger centralized support for short-term classes. The most flourishing program identified is our sister land grant institution, the University of Delaware. After their creation of a strong centralized office five years ago, the U of D has reached over 43% participation.³ The plan proposed is largely based on the Delaware model.

Table 1. Number of OSU Students Studying Abroad by Program Type, 1997-2008²

Year	Reciprocal Exchange	National Student Exchange	Approved Semester	Approved Summer	Short-term, Faculty-led Classes	Total
1997-1998	16	4	9	19	85	133
1998-1999	15	10	14	21	247	307
1999-2000	20	12	10	19	241	302
2000-2001	32	24	17	15	251	339
2001-2002	31	24	31	8	270	364
2002-2003	41	20	23	16	251	351
2003-2004	40	22	28	33	334	457
2004-2005	43	13	23	19	302	400
2005-2006	40	8	22	16	298	384
2006-2007	40	13	20	24	379	476
2007-2008	38	11	27	52	341	469

³ *Celebrating the First Five Years*. Center for International Studies, University of Delaware, Newark, DE, 2008, 25 pgs.