

Faculty Council

Structure

Under the Revised Charter (1971), the president of the university is ex-officio presiding officer of the Faculty Council. A chair, vice-chair, and secretary, who function as officers of both the General Faculty and the Faculty Council, are elected by a vote of the entire faculty. The vice-chair is elected each year and automatically assumes the office of chair the following year. There are 27 councilors, each elected for a three-year term and not immediately eligible for re-election, except that a Councilor appointed or elected to fill a vacancy may be subsequently elected for a regular three-year term. Areas represented are as follows: one each from the technical branches at Oklahoma City and Okmulgee, one from OSU/Tulsa, one from the College of Osteopathic Medicine, one from the Library, and one Multicultural representative. The remaining 21 positions shall be allocated to the College of Veterinary Medicine and the undergraduate colleges in a representative manner based on the number of faculty with a minimum of one seat per college.

The Faculty Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August). It follows an agenda prepared by its Executive Committee. That committee is composed of the chairs of the standing committees and the elected officers; the Executive Committee meets monthly to discuss and coordinate council work.

The structure of the Council stresses committee effort. Ten standing committees cover different areas of responsibility, and each reports at the regular meetings. The standing committees are: 1) Academic Standards and Policies; 2) Athletics; 3) Budget; 4) Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security; 5) Faculty; 6) Long-Range Planning and Information Technology; 7) Research; 8) Retirement and Fringe Benefits; 9) Rules and Procedures; and 10) Student Affairs and Learning Resources. The Rules and Procedures Committee, because of its special responsibilities, is composed entirely of Faculty Council members. The other nine committees include councilors, general faculty, and Emeriti faculty; in addition, four of the committees include student members. The chair of each committee is a Faculty Council member.

The Nominating Committee, composed of the elected officers of the Faculty Council and the members of the Rules and Procedures Committee, submits nominations to the Faculty Council for the appointment of faculty members to the standing committees of the Council and to the president for faculty appointments to a large number of other university committees, boards, and councils.

The Faculty Council has frequently requested formation of ad hoc committees to investigate special matters and to report their findings and recommendations for action to the Council and the administration.