

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

October 21, 2013

Members present: Jim Allen, Seyed Allameh, Michael Baranowski, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Gary Clayton, Roxanne Kent-Drury, Jacqueline Emerine, Irene Encarnacion, Richard Fox, Sandra Grinnell, Steven Gores, Lisa Holden, Barbara Houghton, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Debra Kasel, Kajsa Larson, Gail Mackin, Joe Mester, John Metz, Karen Mutsch, Margaret Myers, Catherine Neal, Louise Niemer, Tamara O'Callaghan, Jeanne Pettit, Will Peveler, Gabe Sanders, Sandra Spataro, Ron Shaw, Laura Sullivan, Jim Thomas, Steve Weiss, Jeffrey Williams, Xiaoni Zhang

Members absent: Diana Belland, Kim Clayton-Code, Steve Crites, Nancy Firak, Ausbra McFarland, KC Russell

Guests: Geoffrey Mearns, Gail Wells, Ken Rhee, Mary Lepper, David Trump, Eric Gentry, Pat Moynahan, Grace Hiles, Alar Lipping

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Steve Weiss at 3:00 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **University President** (Geoffrey Mearns):
 - University Strategic Plan process is progressing. The final draft of the plan will be submitted to the Nov. 13 Board of Regents meeting. After that, the process for dissemination of the Plan will be implemented. Implementation metrics will be developed for presentation at the March Board of Regents meeting. Cross-divisional teams are being formed for the implementation process.
 - The search for the Provost position is nearing completion. Reference checking of is taking place with the hope of presenting a name at the November Board of Regents meeting with a begin date of Jan. 1, 2014. Dean searches are taking place in the meantime.
 - The state budget for the next biennium looks stable, which will probably mean that higher education budgets will remain stable. The NKU budget is stable however we need to look for increasing revenues possibly through increasing enrollment, retention rates and philanthropic support.
- The new VP for University Advancement Eric Gentry was introduced to the Senate by Steve Weiss and made a few brief comments.
- **Provost** (Gail Wells):
 - Search Committees for the following positions have been formed: Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dean of Education and Human Services, Dean of the Haile/US Bank College of Business, Dean of Graduate Studies, and the Associate Provost for Enrollment Management. Semi-finalists should be in place when the new Provost begins work on January 1.
 - The Provost search process is winding down with four excellent candidates.

- Thanks to all for support of the new mid-term grade process – it seems to have worked well.
- **SACS Reaccreditation 5-Year Interim Report** (Pat Moynahan/Mary Lepper): Planning is underway for this report which is due March 15, 2015. A presentation was given outlining the process and areas which will need to be addressed. There are 2 core requirements, 7 comprehensive standards, 9 federal requirements and SACS policy compliance issues which will need to be addressed. Details for compliance in these areas were presented. Committees will soon be formed to address the various issues.

Officer Reports:

- **Senate President** (Steve Weiss):
 - Burke Miller (History & Geology) is the new Chair of the General Education Committee.
 - Two recent Student Government Association resolutions should be of interest to the faculty:
 - Request for IT improvements to Wi-Fi access across campus
 - Implementation of a preparation week the week before finals – this may require further Faculty Senate discussion
- **Faculty Regent** (Jacqueline Emerine): Next Board of Regents meeting 11/13 – contact her for any questions. A link for the meeting agenda will be forthcoming in Midweek.

Committee Reports:

- **Benefits** (Gary Clayton for Kim Clayton-Code): Faculty Development workshops were attended by 28 people. Applications are currently being reviewed for the following submissions:
 - 29 Summer Fellowship applications for 15 awards (\$90,000 total available, \$6,000 each). Total request = \$174,000.
 - 28 Project Grant applications totaling \$149,393 (\$56,000 available, max \$6,000 each)
 - 30 Sabbatical applications (22 available)
- **Budget** (Gary Clayton): The priority spending survey is underway (response period from 10/1/13 – 10/31/13). Thus far, 200 faculty have responded. Thanks to everyone for their participation. A final report is planned to be ready for administration before finals week.
- **Professional Concerns** (Jeffrey Williams): The PCC submitted the revisions of their by-laws. The Senate approved the following revision to the submission – change I.B. from “Periodically review the Faculty Handbook” to “As needed, review the Faculty Handbook”. The by-laws were then approved by the required two-thirds majority. The Registrar has been invited to come to a future PCC meeting to discuss calendar/deadline issues.

- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee** (Ken Rhee): Dr. Rhee gave a synopsis and answered questions about the implementation of the online evaluation process and form. Campus-wide implementation of the new online form will be the end of the fall semester. Collaboration on this process from various areas of campus (faculty, Student Government Association, Chairs, etc.) helped make the process a model for others. Future concerns include implementation issues for summer sessions. President Mearns has identified the number of summer sessions as an area of to be investigated.
- **University Curriculum** (Richard Fox): The proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care degree program was approved without dissent. Two new general education proposals and one new program proposal will probably be presented at the November Senate meeting.

Other:

- President Weiss asked for, and received, opinions regarding the Provost Search and entry of mid-term grades. Discussion ensued regarding the effects of extending mid-term grades in the fall semester to the Friday of fall break week. This would affect the amount of time students would have to see their advisors before dropping a class. Freshmen would most likely be most affected.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary