

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

March 17, 2014

Members present: Jim Allen, Seyed Allameh, Matt Albritton, Michael Baranowski, Diana Belland, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Kim Clayton-Code, Steve Crites, Jacqueline Emerine, Richard Fox, Lisa Holden, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Debra Kasel, Mary Kirk, Kajsa Larson, Gail Mackin, John Metz, Karen Mutsch, Margaret Myers, Catherine Neal, Tamara O'Callaghan, Jeanne Pettit, Patrick Schultheis, Sandra Spataro, Laura Sullivan, Jim Thomas, Steve Weiss, Jeffrey Williams, Xiaoni Zhang

Members absent: Gary Clayton, Roxanne Kent-Drury, Irene Encarnacion, Nancy Firak, Sandra Grinnell, Steven Gores, , Ausbra McFarland, Louise Niemer, Will Peveler, KC Russel, Ron Shaw

Guests: Geoffrey Mearns, Sue Ott Rowlands, Mary Lepper, David Trump, Tracey Sigler, Grace Hiles

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Steve Weiss at 3:05 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the Feb. 17, 2014 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **University President** (Geoffrey Mearns):
 - The Kentucky budget process is still ongoing. The budget has passed the House and is now in the hands of the Senate. The version passed by the House was virtually identical to the governor's proposal which included the following in relation to higher education/NKU:
 - State funding support for the full cost (\$97M) of the Health Innovations Center (including renovation of Founders Hall)
 - Funding for half of the \$5M increase in the NKU KERS contribution – this would make NKU responsible for around \$2.5M.
 - Restoration of the cut in the operations budget of 2.5% (roughly \$1.2M)
 - Forums, social media campaigns and various other activities in Frankfort have been taking place in support of higher education/NKU funding.
 - The President just received (3/17/14) the Senate budget survey and is beginning to review.
 - The Health Innovations Center plans are being conceptualized. An internal NKU committee and an external committee will be providing input for the design - expected for finalization in Spring, 2015.
 - A public forum will take place from 7-8 pm on April 3 hosted by WKRC (Channel 12) in the Digitorium about the value of a college education. There will be limited seating for NKU faculty/staff.
 - A campus-wide budget presentation will occur at 10 am April 30 in the Student Union Ballroom.
- **Provost** (Sue Ott-Rowlands):

- The three dean search candidates are being finalized:
 - College of Arts & Sciences: Charles Brody, Katherine Frank, Jerry Herron
 - College of Education & Human Services: Zach Kelehear, Jacqueline Leonard, Cynthia Reed
 - Haille College of Business: Names yet to be released
- Budget reduction plans from the deans are due to the Provost this week and will be reviewed. The final Academic Affairs plan is due to the President by April 2. This is the first phase of a four phase process. The final budget plan is due in mid-April in preparation for the President's presentation to campus on April 30.
- **Faculty Regent** (Jacqueline Emerine):
 - The Board of Regents met during Spring Break. Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure recommendations were approved. The Code of Conduct document for faculty/staff was approved. During the next year, this document will be reviewed by faculty for possible changes. Discussion regarding this process ensued.
 - It was reported that students can view comments submitted by faculty/staff to their MAP Works records. After the Senate meeting, it was clarified that students can view comments submitted by faculty and staff to their MAP Works record only if they submit a request to inspect the records. The student must then specify s/he wants to see the MAP-Works records. MAP-Works records are handled the same way as all other University student records; this is outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog under the FERPA Privacy Rights.

Officer Reports:

- **President** (Steve Weiss):
 - Met with the Professional Concerns Committee regarding the tobacco-free policy.

Committee Reports:

- **University Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox):
 - **Credit Hour Policy:** Discussion ensued regarding the Credit Hour Policy and Procedure proposal (required by the federal government and SACS). The Credit Hour Policy was approved.. Faculty will need to fill out either the long or short audit forms every two years for each section of class instruction and will have the entire semester to fill them out.
- **Professional Concerns** (Jeffrey Williams):
 - The "Conditions to be Removed" clause of faculty reappointment is still being reviewed.
 - Discussion is on-going regarding the implementation of the tobacco-free policy
 - The Code of Conduct will be reviewed.
- **Benefits** (Kim Clayton-Code):

- Currently reviewing comments regarding the Project Grant pilot project which provided feedback to non-funded submissions regarding their proposals. This year showed higher than normal submissions in each of the three categories (sabbaticals, summer fellowships and project grants) indicating a possible need for increased funding.
- Faculty Senate scholarship deadline is April 5.
- **Budget:** NR
- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee:** (Ken Rhee):
 - Peer Coaching in Teaching workshops (3/19-20)
 - Investigating a problem which occurred for course evaluations for the 1st 8 week period classes. Course evaluations could be reviewed before final grades were due.

Other: President Mearns has requested that the final Faculty Senate meeting for the semester be moved from May 9 (last day of finals) to May 2 (last day of classes). This request was approved. This will still be a luncheon meeting (for award presentations) followed by a regular business meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary