

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

May 2, 2014

Members present: Jim Allen, Seyed Allameh, Matt Albritton, Michael Baranowski, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Gary Clayton, Kim Clayton-Code, Steve Crites, Irene Encarnacion, Richard Fox, Sandra Grinnell, Steven Gores, Lisa Holden, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Debra Kasel, Kajsa Larson, Gail Mackin, Ausbra McFarland, John Metz, Karen Mutsch, Margaret Myers, Catherine Neal Louise Niemer, Tamara O'Callaghan, Jeanne Pettit, Will Peveler, Ron Shaw, Laura Sullivan, Jim Thomas, Steve Weiss, Jeffrey Williams, Xiaoni Zhang

Members absent: Diana Belland, Roxanne Kent-Drury, Jacqueline Emerine, Nancy Firak, Mary Kirk, KC Russel, Patrick Schultheis, Sandra Spataro

Guests: Geoffrey Mearns, Sue Ott Rowlands, Mary Lepper, Ken Rhee, Grace Hiles

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Steve Weiss at 1:05 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the April 21, 2014 meeting were approved.

Previous to the meeting, the annual Faculty Senate Scholarship Luncheon took place. The recipient of the Faculty Senate Scholarship (Brendan Sullivan – son of Steely Library faculty member Laura Sullivan) and the Faculty Senate Book Award (Miriam Hadassah Ward – daughter of Computer Science faculty member Jeff Ward) were recognized. Kimberly Clayton Code (Benefits Chair), Gary Clayton (Budget Chair) and Jeffery Williams (Professional Concerns Committee Chair) were also recognized for their service as out-going Chairs of their respective committees. Jeffrey Williams was also presented the Faculty Senate Distinguished Service Award.

Guest Reports:

- **University President** (Geoffrey Mearns):
 - The spring budget and strategic plan presentation was made on April 28.
 - Commencement will take place on May 10 with three ceremonies at the Bank of Kentucky Center. Three thousand and fifty degrees will be conferred.
- **Provost** (Sue Ott-Rowlands):
 - Planning is now taking place for the Health Innovations Center.
 - The Academic Innovation Implementation Team is working on its recommendations.
 - Thanks were expressed to everyone for making the Provost's first semester a welcoming one.

Officer Reports:

- **President** (Steve Weiss):
 - A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Tom Leach, Professor of German in the Department of World Languages and Literatures.
 - The Tobacco Free Committee will be reviewing the enforcement policy over the summer.
 - Steve will be reviewing the Faculty Senate Constitution over the summer for refinements.

Committee Reports:

- **Professional Concerns** (Jeffrey Williams) Voting items:
 - Faculty Handbook; *modification of 'Conditions to be Removed' policy: Section II F.* Discussion ensued regarding changes in this policy. After discussion, the original document was passed with the following revision – “In order to facilitate this feedback, the department chair will collect all RPT letters from the RPT committee, the department chair, the dean, and the provost and make them available for both the current and following year’s RPT committee. Additionally, the candidate will include scans of all letters in each year’s eRPT materials.”
 - Faculty Handbook; *inclusion of policy for pausing probationary period in exceptional circumstances: VII Tenure in Section G.* Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of this policy. After discussion, the original document was passed with the following revision – “A faculty member may request of the department chair to be allowed to pause the RPT process for up to two years and extend the probationary period under very limited circumstances with or without taking a full or partial leave of absence”.
 - Faculty Handbook; *revision of Faculty and University Policy: Part Two, Sections I and II.* A motion to postpone voting until the fall semester was not seconded. These changes mostly clean up the language in these sections – the original proposal passed without revisions.
- **Benefits** (Kim Clayton-Code): No report.
- **Budget** (Gary Clayton): No report.
- **University Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox): No report.
- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee:** (Ken Rhee):
 - The recent workshop on “Flipping the Classroom” attracted 55 attendees. Thanks were expressed to the Provost for financially supporting these workshops.

Other: Thanks were expressed by the Faculty Senate President to Jeffrey Williams for his work resulting in the receipt of the Faculty Senate Distinguished Service Award and to Grace Hiles for the hard work she performs for the Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary