

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

March 30, 2015

Members present: Matt Albritton, Shannon Alexander, Seyed Allameh, Jim Allen, Matt Asare, Michael Baranowski, Janel Bloch, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Steve Crites, Jacqueline Emerine, Richard Fox, Morteza Sadat-Hossieny, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Rick Kolbe, Tonya Krouse, Kajsa Larson, Yaw Augustine Frimpong-Mansoh, Phil McCartney, Sean Foley (for Ausbra McFarland), Joe Mester, John Metz, Karen Mutsch, Margaret Myers, Catherine Neal, Louise Niemer, KC Russell, Gabe Sanders, Ron Shaw, Sandra Spataro, Jim Thomas, Steve Weiss, Matthew Zacate, Xianoi Zhang

Members absent: Diana Belland, Ronnie Chamberlain, Kim Clayton-Code, Irene Encarnacion, Mary Lee Glore, Debra Kasel, Jennifer Kinsley, Jeanne Pettit, Laura Sullivan,

Guests: Geoffrey Mearns, Sue Ott Rowlands, Debbie Kelly, Tracey Sigler, Katherine Hahnel, Alar Lipping, Phil Moberg, Keith Walters, Kristi Haik, Carole Zigler, Jennifer Cellio, David Bauer, Grace Hiles

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Steve Weiss at 3:00 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **University President (Geoffrey Mearns):**
 - An email was sent via the nkunews listserv regarding the Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct document. For now each faculty and staff member will just need to acknowledge that he or she is aware of the Code of Conduct.
 - The implementation of the new budget model is progressing on schedule. The next step is for the consultant to meet with colleges, departments and governance groups regarding the structure.
 - The annual campus-wide budget presentation will take place on April 29, 9am in the University Ballroom. Commentary regarding budget concerns of “associated” activities (Early Childhood Center, Bank of Ky. Center, METS, WNKU, etc.) will occur at this meeting.
 - An Acting Interim will be named for the VP of Student Affairs position.
 - There is good news regarding to report regarding enrollment.
 - Graduate applications up 11%
 - Graduate admissions up 50%
 - Graduate confirmations of acceptance up
 - Graduate summer applications up
 - These show a positive trend for graduate enrollment after a three year slump.
 - New Freshmen enrollments up 21%
 - Admissions up 24%
 - Regular admits up 28%

- Confirmation fees are up
- Transfer applications however are down 14% and admissions are flat (except for New Freshmen)
- Confirmations are up slightly
- African-American enrollment up 16%
- Hispanic/Latino enrollment up 22%
- NKU is exceeding its fund raising goal for the year.

Faculty comments:

- Need to continue focus on small class size for the future
- Budget presentations should include faculty/staff cost-of-living raises
- Budget presentations should include more granularity for administrator salaries
- It was noted that the “census date” is used when determining class size for reports. This allows consistency when reporting yearly averages.
- A question was raised on whether independent study courses were included in the class size average determination
- A question was raised on where to get information on the previous Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct document (AR-I-1-1.0-1. Superseded regulation previously effective on 7/13/2005) – footnoted at the end of the current document.
- **Provost** (Sue Ott Rowlands):
 - Will provide information to the Professional Concerns Committee regarding:
 - Reassigned time provided from 2009-2013
 - Faculty salaries as they related to CUPA from 2009-2013
 - The Health Professions Dean candidate will be revisiting campus for follow-up meetings on April 7.
 - The Faculty Handbook revision meetings are going well. The committee has been reviewing the Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure section of the document. Their recommendations will be forwarded to the Professional Concerns Committee.
 - The Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure “Debriefing” meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 31.

Committee Reports:

- **Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox):
 - VOTING ITEM: The new graduate program, Ed.S. Educational Specialist in Teaching and Leading, was approved without dissent. This is a post-Masters/non-Doctoral program targeted to those with a teaching certificate/Master’s degree to move up to Rank I with eligibility for financial assistance.

- Two non-voting new Gen Ed pilot courses (ENG 101W and ENG 101R) were discussed. These courses satisfy the Council for Post-Secondary Education's call for changing developmental courses.
- **Faculty Benefits Committee (Matthew Zacate):**
 - Faculty Senate scholarship deadline is April 6.
- **Professional Concerns Committee (Michael Baranowski):**
 - The proposed amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution regarding release time for Executive Committee members was distributed. This amendment would change/clarify reassigned time and stipends as follows:
 - President – 50% reassigned time
 - Curriculum Chair – 25% reassigned time
 - Faculty Benefits Chair – 25% reassigned time for Fall semester
 - Professional Concerns Chair – 25% reassigned time
 - Budget committee chair – 25% reassigned time
 - Vice President – stipend (amount set by Provost)
 - Secretary – stipend (amount set by Provost)
 - Parliamentarian – stipend (amount set by Provost)

This amendment will be brought to the faculty for a full vote.

- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee (TEEC) (Ken Rhee):**
 - Faculty Development Workshops:
 - *Peer Observation and Coaching* (March 18 & 19) workshops were well attended.
 - Next workshop set is: *Mindfulness and Renewal* (April 15 & 16)
 - Looking at a future workshop on guidelines for teaching effectiveness. This would be valuable for evaluation as part of the RPT and performance review.

Officer Reports:

- **Senate President (Steve Weiss):**
 - Work with the Provost committee on revision of the Faculty Handbook has gone well. Completed recommendations on the RPT section, which will be passed to the Professional Concerns Committee for review. Major changes include recommendations for two review periods during the tenure process (currently reviewed every year) and aligning the RPT/performance evaluation process. The Grievance section will be the next section for review.
 - Fred Hersch, American jazz pianist and composer, will receive an honorary degree at NKU's graduation ceremonies. He will perform a free concert at NKU

the evening before graduation. He will also be in town and be inducted into the inaugural Cincinnati Jazz Hall of Fame – an event to be emceed by Nick Clooney.

Other Business:

- VOTING ITEM: The new program MLS Masters of Legal Studies for the Chase Law School was approved without dissent.
- VOTING ITEM: Senate approved the recommendation to change the monthly payday in December to the 31st.

Announcements:

- Faculty Senate Regent elections will start this week. Candidates are Rick Boyce and Tracey Sigler.
- Approximately 200 faculty (with over 500 responses) participated in the annual administrator evaluations. 500 faculty were eligible to participate.
- Proposals regarding the outsourcing of the recreation center are currently being reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary