

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

October 26, 2015

Members present: Tracey Adams, Matt Albritton, Shannon Alexander, Michael Baranowski, Diana Belland, Janel Bloch, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Brooke Buckley, Teuta Cata, Ronnie Chamberlain, Kim Clayton-Code, Steve Crites, Jacqueline Emerine, Irene Encarnacion, Sean Foley, Richard Fox, Morteza Sadat-Hossieny, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Ken Katkin, Jennifer Kinsley, Trina Koscielicki, Tonya Krouse, Kajsia Larson, Lili Ma, Yaw Frimpong-Mansoh, Cecile Marczynski, Joe Mester, Phil McCartney, Melissa Moon, Louise Niemer, Tamara O'Callaghan, Jeanne Pettit, David Raska, Gabe Sanders, Ron Shaw, Tracey Sigler, Laura Sullivan, Sharon Vance, Mark Wasicsko, Matthew Zacate

Members absent: JC Kim, Catherine Neal

Guests: Geoffrey Mearns, Sue Ott Rowlands, Ken Rhee, Alar Lipping, Phil Moberg, Keith Walters, Kristi Haike, Will Weber, Grace Hiles

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Michael Baranowski at 3:00 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the Sept. 27, 2015 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **University President** (Geoffrey Mearns):
 - A Retention Task Force is being formed to address issues. Workshops regarding this issue will begin in November.
 - The process for developing the 2017 budget will soon begin. An email will be forthcoming with details. Planning will include open forums and developments of several budget “scenarios”. The biggest variable is the state funding appropriation, which won’t be known until late in the process. The goal is to have a budget in place to present to the Board of Regents meeting in April.
 - NKU is currently going through the peer review for final transition to NCAA Division I. A report will be forthcoming.
 - President Mearns will be meeting with Senate President Michael Baranowski and Faculty Regent Rick Boyce regarding concerns related to the comments made at the last Senate meeting by the Police Chief and the VP Legal Affairs/General Counsel.
 - “Northern Kentucky University: A Panoramic History” has been released by the University Press of Kentucky. A reception in honor of the release will be held Nov. 5 at 6 pm in Stealy Library.
 - The Health Innovations Center groundbreaking was a success and featured comments by Gov. Beshear. Two open forums were held detailing plans of the project.
- **Provost** (Sue Ott Rowlands):
 - A presentation was made of the Health Innovations Center/Founders Hall construction project. Details included landscaping and floor plans as well as uses of the individual areas. Parking lot C will be closed during construction – the Provost will check to see if there will be reassigned parking during this interim.
- **Faculty Regent** (Rick Boyce):

- Items of interest to faculty of the Sept. 9 2015 Board of Regents meeting included:
 - Presentation from Marketing & Communications highlighting activities of the 2014/15 year and plans for 2015/16.
 - Presentation from the College of Informatics describing the activities of their area.
 - Presentations by students and mentors summarizing projects from the Sri Lanka Study Abroad Program.
 - Announcement regarding the \$8M gift from St. Elizabeth Healthcare to the Health Innovations Center project.
 - Passage to two Faculty Handbook change recommendations:
 - Reassigned time/stipends for Faculty Senate officers (passed at April 2015 Faculty Senate meeting)
 - Extension of probationary period for exceptional circumstances (passed at May 2014 Faculty Senate meeting)
- Rick Boyce and most of the Board of Regents members attended the Governor's Conference on Post-Secondary Education Trusteeship meeting in Lexington 9/28-29. It was noted that Kentucky residents need to contact their legislators to voice opinions on issues important to higher education. It was suggested that information be distributed on how to make it easier to contact legislators (contact information, "scripts" regarding issues, etc.). The Provost will look into this.
- The NKU Faculty Facebook page is up and running – it is a closed group. This group (thanks to Roxanne Kent-Drury) is in the early stages of organizing an NKU Speaker Series.
- Next Board of Regents meeting is Nov. 11 beginning at 8:30 AM in UC 104.

Officer Reports:

- **Senate President** (Michael Baranowski):
 - Faculty members were urged to join the Faculty Facebook page – instructions are on the Senate webpage.
 - Nominations for At-Large and other committee memberships are due November 13. An email will soon be distributed with details.

Old Business:

- **Evaluation For Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure Draft Proposal** (Ken Katkin – Professional Concerns Committee): Discussion ensued regarding the Evaluation for Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure draft document distributed at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Several amendments were proposed to address the issue of public engagement as follows:
 - Addition of the following as the second paragraph in the **1. Criteria** section (PROPOSAL FAILED):
 - "Each academic unit is expected to serve the full breadth of the University's teaching, research, service, and public engagement missions in a manner that is consistent with the unit's expertise and disciplinary focus. The University's strong commitment to public engagement may be reflected in any or all of the reappointment, promotion, and tenure categories."
 - Changes in the following sections of the proposed document (ALL PROPOSALS PASSED):

- **1.1 Teaching** – Change 2nd sentence to read: Assessment of teaching effectiveness should take into account documented student learning, contact hours, preparations, service learning, delivery method and/or number of students.
- **1.2 Scholarship and Creative Activity** - Add as last sentence of this section: NKU values transdisciplinary scholarship, scholarship of teaching, and scholarship of engagement in addition to traditional scholarship and creative activity.
- **1.3 Service to the University, the Discipline/Profession, and/or the Community** – Add as last sentence to this section: Service also includes public engagement activities.
- Change to the second sentence of 1.1 Teaching from “Assessment of teaching effectiveness should take into account.....” to “Assessment of teaching effectiveness could take into account,..” (PROPOSAL FAILED)
- A final vote on the proposal which included changes made in the 2nd bullet point above passed the Senate. The proposal will now be passed to the Provost.

New Business:

- **Chase College of Law Proposed Degree Program (LL.M. in U.S. Law)** (Graduate Council): (PROPOSAL PASSED).

Committee Reports:

- **University Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox):
 - Will be bringing forward a program change in the College of Business at a future Senate meeting.
 - The UCC has been asked to define the BA/BS distinction for a new university policy that the AAPC (Academic and Admissions Policy Committee) will write.
 - Any curricular changes need to come to the committee before the end of this semester to make it into the Fall 2016 catalog.
 - New curriculum catalog software is now being implemented and new curriculum software (Digarc) will be implemented in the spring semester. Both will be in use by next fall.
 - It was suggested that discussions should take place regarding on the role of Chase curriculum with respect to the UCC, Faculty Senate and Graduate Council. These are not part the Faculty Senate University Curriculum Committee’s charge.
- **Professional Concerns** (Ken Katkin):
 - The PCC hopes to bring forward the NKU Values and Ethical Responsibilities Policy for discussion at the next Faculty Senate meeting. The PCC has been working collaboratively with D. Bell-Gardiner from the NKU Office of Compliance on revisions to the document.
 - Several proposed Faculty Handbook revisions will be coming to future Faculty Senate meetings.
 - In its October meetings, The PCC discussed concerns regarding comments made by the Chief of Police and the VP Legal Affairs/General Counsel at the September Faculty Senate meeting, as well as the gun incident in Steely Library. The anonymous email received by several faculty members (which was the focus of an NKU police

investigation) can be found in the Minutes of the PCC Meeting of October 1, 2015, which is available on the Faculty Senate website. The PCC voted unanimously that the contents of the anonymous email were neither threatening nor harassing.

- **Benefits** (Matthew Zacate):
 - The subcommittees of the Benefits Committee are currently reviewing Sabbatical, Project Grant, and Summer Fellowship applications. There were 20 sabbatical applications (24 available), 17 summer fellowships (15 available) and 23 project grants totaling \$123,000 (\$56,000 available - \$6,000 maximum per proposal).
 - A Senate member suggested considering a limit on the project grants similar to summer fellowships ("A faculty member who receives a faculty summer fellowship will not be eligible to receive another faculty summer fellowship until the third summer following the prior fellowship." – Current Faculty Handbook)
- **Budget** (Janel Bloch): The committee is working on the following:
 - Review of committee bylaws – changes will be brought forward to the next Faculty Senate meeting.
 - Met with the Provost regarding the new budget model.
 - A new and improved budget priorities survey is coming soon.
 - The Budget Committee still needs representatives from some departments.
- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee:** (Ken Rhee):
 - The latest Newsletter has been released.
 - Three brown bag sessions and 2 workshops are scheduled for the spring semester.

Announcements:

- The Kentucky chapter of AAUP (American Association of University Professors) will have its annual meeting in Northern Kentucky in April.
- SOTA (NKU's School of the Arts) will be having an open house from 6:30-8:30 on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary