

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
April 24, 2017

Members present: Tracey Adams, Michael Baranowski, Janel Bloch, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Brooke Buckley, Christine Curran, Jacqueline Emerine, Irene Encarnacion, Richard Fox, Kathleen Fuegen, Doug Hume, Stephen Johnson, Ken Katkin, Francoise Knox-Kazimierczuk, Tonya Krouse, Christopher Lawrence, Marc Leone, Ellen Maddin, Yaw Frimpong-Mansoh, Phil McCartney, Carrie McCoy, Melissa Moon, Ljubomir Nacev, Tamara O'Callaghan, Deborah Patten, David Raska, Gisele Lorient-Raymer, KC Russell, Toru Sakaguchi, Ron Shaw, Cory Scheadler, Erin Strome, Leslie Hammann (for Laura Sullivan), Matthew Zacate

Members absent: Sean Foley, Vanessa Hunn, JC Kim, Jennifer Kinsley, Denise Luethge, Marcos Misis, Randy Pennington, Jeanne Pettit, Gabe Sanders, Sharon Vance

Guests: Sue Ott Rowlands, Grace Hiles

Senate President Michael Baranowski called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the March 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **Provost** (Sue Ott Rowlands):
 - Academic Affairs Faculty/Staff Awards Ceremony April 27
 - "Final Friday" April 28
 - Commencement for Chase Law School, Friday May 5. Undergraduate/Graduate ceremonies Sunday, May 7.
 - Screening for the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs position will take place in August/September
 - Screening for the Honors College Director position will take place in August/September
 - If the Board approves a 3% salary increase, 2.5% will be for merit and .5% will be held to address equity issues.
- **Board of Regents** (Richard Boyce):
 - The Board will meet on April 26. Agenda items include:
 - Recent Faculty Handbook changes passed by the Faculty Senate
 - Recent Bachelor Degree programs recently approved by the Faculty Senate
 - New capital plan, which includes the expansion of the Science Center as a first priority followed by the Landrum renovation.
 - Discussion of the 2017/18 budget including proposals for a 4% undergraduate tuition increase, 1-3% increase in student housing, 2.8% increase in dining, parking fee increases of \$15 for faculty/staff and \$13 for students and a provision for a 3% salary increase.
 - The Presidential Search Committee is working with the Board and Isaacson-Miller on a "hybrid" search process
 - A representative from Isaacson-Miller met with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and heard concerns about the Presidential search process.

Committee Reports:

- **University Curriculum** (Richard Fox):
 - Committee has met for the last time. Some late submissions did not make it in time for the catalog.
 - Working on improving cross-departmental communications for courses which impact more than one department.
 - **Discussion item:** Formalization of the General Education course approval process. For any course which is either a new course and being proposed for general education, or an existing course being proposed for general education, the process will be as follows:

Proposer→Dept →Chair→TEC (if necessary)→College Curriculum
Committee→Dean→General Education Committee→UCC→Provost

At the UCC stage, a majority is needed for approval, with a 2/3 majority need for rejection. Discussion ensued. Voting on this proposal will take place at the May Faculty Senate meeting.

- **Budget** (Janel Bloch):
 - Faculty survey results are on the Faculty Senate website.
 - Working on a summer compensation draft that has also been discussed at the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and will be reviewed with the Provost over the summer. The objective is to simplify the current method of compensation.
- **Professional Concerns** (Ken Katkin):
 - Continuing to review the issue of performing faculty performance reviews while the faculty member is on medical leave.
- **TEEC** (Chris Lawrence):
 - Working on revisions to course evaluation questions
- **General Education** (Steve Weiss):
 - Artifacts for student learning outcomes are due
 - Workshop for naming/scoring of B artifacts will take place on June 7
 - Will begin collecting Communication/Critical thinking artifacts in the fall
- **Graduate Programs** (Julie Olberding)
 - Graduate Council is reviewing policies for dual graduate degrees in order to develop a policy for NKU
 - Investigating micro-credentialing at the graduate level as a possible means of increasing enrollment.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **University Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox): The following program proposal was **APPROVED:**
 - BA in Health Communications

- **Faculty Benefits Committee** (Michael Zacate):
 - **Discussion item:** Summer Fellowship Award. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed changes to wording in the Faculty Handbook that would clarify the timeframe of the Summer Fellowship Award for academic year faculty. This change would designate a two-month period allowing faculty to teach May intersession courses. Voting for this proposal will take place at the May Faculty Senate meeting.
- **Professional Concerns Committee** (Ken Katkin):
 - **Discussion item:** Future of the Early Childhood Center. NKU has announced that it is reevaluating the future of the Early Childhood Center. As a result, The PCC is asking that the decision-making process be inclusive and transparent. In particular, the following issues should be addressed:
 - continuation of a child care facility on-campus that serves, at least, faculty and staff members and NKU students;
 - maintenance of a high standard of quality (e.g. NAEYC accreditation or equivalent);
 - continuation of placement opportunities for early childhood education program teacher candidates for field work and course projects;
 - continuation of student employment opportunities;
 - maintenance of subsidies for NKU students who use the facility; and
 - encouragement for increasing child care options on campus.

Voting for this proposal will take place at the May Faculty Senate meeting. It was also mentioned that rates would be a part of the RFP (Request for Proposal) if outsourcing is considered.

- **Discussion item:** Presidential Search Process. Many expressed concerns regarding the seemingly “closed” nature of the Presidential search process. Although expressed as a “hybrid” search, many felt a leaning more towards “closed” than “open”. This concern was particularly troublesome for the search finalists. It was generally felt that particularly at this stage, the search should be open, allowing everyone to have the opportunity to meet the candidates. As a result, the PCC has proposed the following for consideration:

In order to promote transparency and accountability at Northern Kentucky University and;

to facilitate the success of the new president;

to foster positive relations between faculty and administration and promote mutual respect;

to observe written and established norms of shared governance at NKU;

to enable both the campus community and the presidential candidate to determine each other's suitability;

to ensure that the new president is qualified to be appointed to the faculty of a college within the university with a grant of tenure and to serve as chief academic officer of the institution and the faculty;

and to create a welcoming environment for the new President;

the General Faculty of Northern Kentucky University respectfully recommends that three or more Presidential search finalists be brought to campus for open public meetings with the faculty and other campus constituencies, during the academic year, and before any offer of employment is extended.

Voting on this proposal will take place at the May Faculty Senate meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary