

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

August 28, 2017

Members present: Janel Bloch, Richard Boyce, Carol Bredemeyer, Robert Brice, Kathleen Carnes, Steve Crites, Christine Curran, Jacqueline Emerine, Irene Encarnacion, Richard Fox, Kimberly Gelbwasser, Kebede Gemene, Lisa Holden, Morteza Sadat Hossieny, Stephen Johnson, Francoise Kazimierczuk, JC Kim, Jennifer Kinsley, Christopher Lawrence, Ellen Maddin, Cecile Marczinski (for Kathleen Fuegen), Phil McCartney, Carrie McCoy, Marcos Misis, Ban, Mittal, Ljubomir Nacev, Tamara O'Callaghan, Deborah Patten, Jeanne Pettit, Gisele Lorient-Raymer, Toru Sakaguchi, Gabe Sanders, Cory Scheadler, Ron Shaw, Erin Strome, Laura Sullivan, Sharon Vance, Lynn Warner, Steven Weiss, Matthew Zacate

Members absent: Rachel Banks, English Rep, Rich Gilson, Vanessa Hunn, Ken Katkin, Marc Leone, Yaw Frimpong-Mansoh, Jonathan McKenzie, David Raska

Guests: President Interim Gerry St. Amand, Provost Sue Ott Rowlands, Kathleen Roberts (Senior Advisor to the President for Inclusive Excellence/Title IX Coordinator), Richard Boyce (Faculty Regent), Deanna Karam (Staff Congress Representative), Erica Bluford (Student Government Association Representative), Grace Hiles (Faculty Senate Office)

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Matthew Zacate at 3:02 pm with a quorum present. The minutes of the May 5, 2017 meeting were approved.

Guest Reports:

- **President/Interim** (Gerry St. Amand):
 - Interim President St. Amand addressed the ongoing issue of the Kentucky pension system and “how we got here” at the request of a faculty senator. Several components contributed to the problem including: Projection errors on system cost, employees living longer and drawing more money from the retirement fund resulting in additional employer contribution, and unfavorable returns on investment. Other states are in a similar situation.
 - He also stated that recruitment is becoming a concern since many potential employees prefer a transportable system should they move on from NKU.
 - There will not be any pension changes for existing retirees. A special session of the legislature will be examining this issue in the fall. He is working on behalf of NKU with state government on a solution to the problem.
 - In a recent email, Interim President St. Amand provided as much information as possible about the settlement to the “Jane Doe”/sexual misconduct case.
- **Provost** (Sue Ott Rowlands):
 - The Health Innovation Center (HIC) will have a soft opening the week of April 16-20, 2018, with faculty moving in over the summer. It will be open for classes in the fall.
 - Medical school planning is well underway with an initial class of 35 medical students.
 - The job announcement for the new Honors College Dean was posted.
 - The Center for Teaching and Learning (final name to be determined) will collaborate with TEEC on planning for the Center.
 - The new budget model has officially launched.

- The timeline for the accelerated online program initiative has a new launch date; Provost Rowlands provided more details in a recent email. The new date will allow more transition time for affected academic programs and more time for marketing. Any questions about the transition may be directed to Samantha Langley (Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Research, and Outreach) as the liaison to Academic Partnerships.
 - The Provost has provided more funding to CITE, due to the transition to Canvas. In addition, some departments will receive some hire behind support for faculty on sabbaticals.
 - Open office hours start this Friday, September 1.
- **Senior Advisor to the President for Inclusive Excellence/Title IX Coordinator (Kathleen Roberts):**
 - Dr. Roberts provided a PowerPoint and background on NKU's 2022 Inclusive Excellence Plan. Over the past several months, students, faculty, and staff (60+ participants on five subcommittees) met to develop recommended goals, strategies, and action steps that reflect a new diversity policy. Feedback also came through two community-wide vetting sessions held in February and March 2017.
 - The plan aligns with CPE's (Council on Postsecondary Education) new Policy on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, approved on September 23, 2016.
 - CPE's new plan reflects an expanded category of underrepresented minorities and emphasizes low-income students, as well as cultural competence.
 - NKU's plan was approved in July, though there is time for additional feedback.
 - Targets are set for annual progress, with the expectation for incremental change; Dr. Roberts believes is achievable.
 - Each college and business unit will develop its own inclusive excellence plan (actions/strategies) to align with the institutional plan; this is due in December. Faculty advisors will be available to assist.

Officer Reports:

- **Senate President (Matthew Zacate):**
 - Senate President Zacate wants to see growing collaboration between Faculty Senate and Staff Congress. In that spirit, Deanna Karam, Staff Congress Representative, will be a regular guest and provide reports in future meetings. Erica Bluford, Vice-President of Student Government Association, is also a guest today.
 - The President's search committee has met four times. Twenty-four applications were reviewed resulting in a short list of 10 candidates to interview. Face-to-face interviews are planned for September and final details are being worked out. The goal is for final interviews to take place in October, with a recommendation to the Board of Regents in October. President Zacate stated that the committee had trouble narrowing the pool from 24 to 10, and he is cautiously optimistic about the candidates on the short list.
 - There are several committee openings:
 - Academic and Admission Policy Committee needs one faculty member from each college; Faculty Senate Executive Committee makes the recommendations. If you know of anyone to recommend or nominate please let President Zacate know.
 - Four Peer Committees need members. A call for nominations will be sent out soon.

- Senate President Zacate will hold office hours, which are posted on the Senate's web page. He encourages anyone to visit to talk about any matter, i.e., business you would like considered, thoughts on how meetings are run.
- **Faculty Advocate (Phil McCartney):**
 - He will send out a memo about the role of Faculty Advocate and position details. He has been busy talking to many faculty across campus and has heard a number of issues surrounding collegial governance. Please feel free to bring any concerns to him. His extension is 5533.

Committee Reports:

- **University Curriculum (Richard Fox):**
 - Richard provided a report with meeting documents summarizing 2016-17 UCC activities. There were fewer changes, mostly due to Curriculog.
 - The first committee meeting is September 6; meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of the month.
 - Two curriculum workshops will be held in September; new faculty members are encouraged to attend.
 - The curriculum manual must be updated for SACS; he is waiting for the revision from the previous Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Idna Corbett.
 - A policy is needed when one department changes a program/offers a new course that could affect another department/their programs. Lack of communication last year resulted in problems.
- **Budget (Janel Bloch):**
 - The committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month; the first meeting is next week.
 - Salaries will continue to be an agenda item, even though many committee recommendations were followed this past year.
 - Recommendations regarding the summer/winter compensation policy were made to the provost and are on the Academic Affairs Council agenda.
 - Some improvements were made to the Chief Financial Officer website and the new budget model website.
- **Benefits (Deborah Patten):**
 - The committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month; the first meeting is next week.
 - The provost has approved an increase of Faculty Development Awards; there will be six more project grants and three more summer fellowships.
 - Two workshops next week will provide an overview on Faculty Development Awards and guidelines; workshops the following week will cover format and criteria review.
 - She is currently checking to see what additional representation is needed on the committee.
- **TEEC (Christopher Lawrence):**
 - The committee's top priority is creating bylaws.
 - The first committee meeting is next Wednesday.

- **General Education Committee** (Steve Weiss):
 - The committee has met this year and the membership is complete.
 - They will continue with the assessment process and writing rubrics.
 - Faculty scored over 500 artifacts this summer. Steve had hoped to have over 1,000 for purposes of reliability and validity. Some data was produced—students in School-Based Scholars showed better outcomes than NKU students though it is not certain this is statistically significant. Steve will provide a dashboard review.
 - There will be upcoming workshops.
 - Please submit any artifact by the end of the semester for Fall 2018 inclusion.
- **Graduate Programs** (Steve Crites):
 - The committee's first meeting is next week, with the first order of business providing written guidelines for curriculum changes.

New Business:

- **Graduate Admissions Categories.** (Accompanying documentation contains the proposed changes as approved by the Graduate Council at its May 4, 2017 meeting. The current text can be found at <http://nku.catalog.acalog.com/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=860#admission-categories>)
 - Senate President Zacate described the typical process with a new business item—the topic is introduced as a discussion item; the next meeting it becomes a voting item with discussion and amendments considered. Senators then take the issue back to departments for feedback. He said that this could be inefficient since there may be duplicate debate in the second meeting. Thus, he asks that full debate occur at the next meeting to avoid duplication.
 - Steve Crites introduced the three current categories:
 1. Full/Regular Admission (applicants meet all admission requirements and submit all required documents submitted)
 2. Provisional Admission (applicants unable to provide one of required admissions documents, valid for one semester during which time required document/s must be provided)
 3. Conditional Admission (applicants who have submitted all admission documents but fail to meet one or more requirements for regular admission). Students admitted conditionally are not eligible for financial aid.

Proposal combines Provisional Admission and Conditional Admission for two categories:

1. Full/Regular Admission (same as above)
2. Provisional Admission (applicants who fail to meet one or more admission requirements; valid for one semester during which time applicant can demonstrate ability to succeed in program by receiving acceptable grades, meeting required pre-requisites and/or submitting required admission documents).

If applicant is not fully admitted after one semester, he/she can ask for a variance, although this is not anticipated to happen very often. The benefit of combining categories allows more students to be eligible for financial aid.

- Senate President Zacate announced motions could not be made, as there was no longer a quorum present.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura A. Sullivan
Secretary