

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
May 10, 2019

Members present: Ryan Alverson, Thomas Baxter, Janel Bloch, Richard Boyce, Robert Brice, Susannah Coaston, Christine Curran, Jacqueline Emerine, Irene Encarnacion, John Farrar, Doug Feldmann, Yaw Frimpong-Mansoh, Kebede Gemene, Steven Gores, Lisa Holden, Morteza Sadat Hossieny, Stephen Johnson, Ken Katkin (for Ljubomir Nacev), Hilary Landwehr, Christopher Lawrence (for Dorea Glance), Kimberly Gelbwasser Lazzereri, Phil McCartney, Jonathan McKenzie, Marcos Misis, Shawn Nordheim, Cathy Pence, Toru Sakaguchi, Corey Sheadler, Erin Strome, Laura Sullivan, Steven Weiss, Justin Yates, Matthew Zacate

Members absent: Rachel Banks, Ronnie Chamberlain, Richard Fox, Rich Gilson, Brian Hackett, Eric Jackson, JC Kim, Mike King, Jennifer Kinsley, Ban Mittal, Tamara O'Callaghan, David Raska, Robert Salyer, Emily Shifley, Lynn Warner

Guests: Ashish Vaidya (President), Sue Ott Rowlands (Provost), Michael Baranowski (Faculty Regent), Felicia Share (Staff Congress Representative), Grace Hiles (Faculty Senate Office)

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Matthew Zacate at 1:28 pm with a quorum present.

The agenda was adopted as distributed at the meeting. The minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting were approved as distributed.

Guest Reports:

- **President** (President Ashish Vaidya):
 - He expressed appreciation for the awards luncheon that recognized NKU students.
 - His recent email summarized the presentations and activity that took place at the Board of Regents (BOR) meeting on May 8; comments are provided as well.
 - The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) provided their final report with recommendations. Any errors of fact must be reported by May 24; after that there will be five months to address the issues/recommendations.
 - There is a bit of an impasse on the pension issue in Frankfort; his recent email on the subject provides more details.
 - Final candidates for the Vice President/Chief Strategy Officer position will be on campus next week. There will be open forums for the campus community, and a special invitation was extended to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to meet with each candidate.
 - He looks forward to commencement and thanked the Senate for the good work that was accomplished this past year.

- **Provost** (Sue Ott Rowlands):
 - Next week there are two notable events, a three-day Faculty Grant Writing Workshop on May 14, 15, and 16, and a two-day Equity Academy on May 15 and 16.
 - This morning it came to her attention that some department faculty did not receive copies of her RPT letter in the fall. All those on committees should be copied on everything throughout the RPT process. She will inform the campus when the RPT process is completed in the fall, and know that something is amiss if a letter does not

arrive on time. If this happens, please let her know, as well as any other related concerns.

- The compensation increase will be 2%, effective July 1 for fiscal year faculty, and August 1 for academic year faculty. The increase is across the board, for everyone with a satisfactory performance review. Due to the amount of the increase, there will not be an equity component.
- **Faculty Regent (Michael Baranowski):**
 - As the president mentioned, the BOR met on Wednesday, May 8. One presentation worth emphasizing was given by Ken Bothof, Director of Athletics. Total revenues for athletics was \$11.2 million; \$8.5 million came from NKU (slightly below Horizon League average in institutional funding for athletics).
- **Staff Congress Representative (Felicia Share):**
 - The faculty/staff picnic is August 9.
 - Staff Congress piloted a survey of the president and his cabinet. Results should be available imminently.

Officer Reports:

- **Senate President (Matthew Zacate):**
 - On Wednesday, there was a Senior Awards Luncheon as part of the Board of Regent's meeting. This year's Faculty Senate Award went to Devon Moffett, who will be graduating tomorrow with bachelor's degrees in political science and in economics. He thanked the provost for her support of this award, as Faculty Senate funding comes from Academic Affairs.
 - The Scholarship Award Luncheon before this meeting recognized four students. Joel Frimpong-Mansoh (son of Yaw in the department of Philosophy, Anthropology, and Sociology) and Abigail Strawn (daughter of Jaime Strawn from SOTA) were both awarded the Faculty Senate scholarship. Brandon Hart (son of Julie Hart in Nursing) and Simon Gores (son of Paige Soliday and Steven Gores in English) both received Senate Book Awards. Those senate officers that are stepping down were also recognized: Steve Weiss, chair of the General Education Committee; Emily Shifley, chair of the Benefits Committee, and Tamara O'Callaghan, Parliamentarian. At last year's lunch, Ken Katkin was not formally recognized for his work as chair of the PCC, and he was acknowledged for that this year. Finally, Carol Bredemeyer was awarded the Faculty Senate Distinguished Service Award for her years of dedicated and unselfish service in collegial governance at NKU.
 - He concluded his report by thanking all the senators for their dedicated service this past academic year, by thanking the provost, president, and administrators not in attendance for their support of the faculty, and by again thanking Grace Hiles for her devoted service to the senate specifically and NKU more generally.
- **Vice President (Jacqueline Emerine):**
 - Over 200 faculty completed the survey related to the compensation policy she drafted. The Executive Committee made recommendations moving forward and she will have a report in the fall.

- **Faculty Advocate** (Phil McCartney):
 - A number of final exams are being given prior to final exam week and he contacted the provost about the matter. It may be time to revisit the policy on final exams, which has been in place for six years.

Committee Reports:

- **University Curriculum** (Jacqueline for Richard Fox):
 - All voting items were approved at the committee's last meeting.
- **TEEC** (Chris Lawrence):
 - He referenced two reports on the results from the Accelerated Online Education Focus Group. The Executive Summary identifies key themes; the full report includes excerpted statements. Recommendations and observations will be passed on to Samantha Langley, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Research and Outreach, and the Academic Partnerships (AP) Steering Committee.
- **General Education** (Steve Weiss):
 - This is the conclusion of 20 years of service on Faculty Senate and many committees for Chair Weiss, and he thanked Faculty Senate president, Matthew Zacate, Carol Bredemeyer, and Grace Hiles. He will be stepping down next year as chair of General Education. He considers his time on Senate as the most meaningful work of his career.

New Business

- VOTING item: Resolution on mental health services for NKU students proposed by Chris Curran (see accompanying file '*Mental Health services resolution 5-7-2019.docx*'). Senator Curran summarized her proposal, stressing the importance of the problem that all universities and communities are facing. Emphasis must be on collecting data.
 - Various viewpoints were offered, including waiting on voting so that more groups would be involved (i.e., Dan Nadler, Vice President for Student Affairs, Counseling services), and a more specific plan developed. Other senators thought specifics could wait until after a resolution was passed.
 - The Senate voted to postpone a vote until the August meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura A. Sullivan