

## **FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**April 18, 2011**

**Members present:** Seyed Allameh, Margaret Anderson, Blas Puente-Baldoceda, Michael Baranowski, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Tom Cate, Kim Clayton-Code, Richard Fox, Diane Gronefeld, Tamara O'Callaghan, Chuck Hawkins, David Hogan, MaryCarol Hopkins, Yi Hu, Ken Katkin, Alar Lipping, Phil McCartney, Kim McErlane, Jacqueline McNally, Joe Mester, Ban Mittal, Teri J. Murphy, Louise Niemer, Sara Runge, K.C. Russell, Toru Sakaguchi, Patty Schumacher, Jeffrey Williams

**Members absent:** Diana Belland, Heather Bullen, Paul Cooper, Ken Engebretson, Rich Gilson, Nancy Hancock, Marc Leone, Caroline Macke, Ausbra McFarland, John Metz, Phil Moberg, Steve Weiss

**Guests:** Jim Votruba, Gail Wells, Mary Leper, Pat Moynahan, Dustin Robinson, Maria Stivers, Ken Rhee, Grace Hiles

The meeting was opened by Faculty Senate President Alar Lipping at 3:05 pm. The minutes of the March 21, 2011 meeting were approved.

### **Guest Reports:**

- **University President (Jim Votruba):**
  - The budget process for 2011/12 is nearing completion. The top two faculty priorities were: 1) Provide adequate funds to maintain, repair, and upgrade technology - \$150K has been allocated for this initiative; 2) Increase faculty salaries – 3% merit pool has been created plus \$350K to be allocated for outstanding excellence.
  - Griffin Hall maintenance and operating will cost about \$2M/year
  - Extra funding is being allocated for advising
  - Staff merit pool will also be 3%
  - Tuition increase ceiling is 5%
  - The Council of Postsecondary Education will consider student driven fees. A recreation fee has been approved by the Student Government association. Part of these fees will be used for health center renovations.
  - Next year will be the last year of the current five year planning process. NKU will need to begin the next planning process. Items which need to be addressed include: 1) growth concerns, 2) online course/face-to-face course ratio, 3) advising, 4) student support services, 5) part-time vs. full-time faculty ratio, 6) faculty expectations of students, 7) role of technology, and 8) public engagement.
  - The move to Division I status for NKU will require a long-term commitment return on investment.
- **Provost (Gail Wells):**
  - The Destination Northern event for incoming Freshmen who have earned scholarships was a success.

- Academic qualifications of incoming students are improving, most notably the following: increase in ACT scores, increase in those taking AP classes, and a 40% rise of regular admits (those with no deficiencies).
  - The Celebration of Student Research and Creativity was a success.
  - Commencement dates/times are: Graduates – Friday 5/6, 7 pm; Undergraduates – Sunday 5/8, 1 pm; Chase Law – Sunday 5/8, 7 pm
  - The last “Final Friday” event for the spring is 4/29 and will include an awards celebration.
  - There will be a Faculty Development Conference 8/17 at the METS Center.
  - Dr. Kent Johnson has begun work as the new Director of General Education.
- **Faculty Regent** (Chuck Hawkins):
    - The next Board of Regents meeting is set for May 4.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Benefits Committee** (K.C. Russell):
  - The Faculty Scholarship selection committee is finishing up its work. There will be 1 scholarship and 2 book awards this year.
- **Budget Committee:** No report – still in search of a chair for 2011/12.
- **Professional Concerns Committee** (Tom Cate):
  - Maria Stivers (Research, Grants & Contracts) was present to address issues regarding the NKU Institutional Review Board policy revisions. Questions were taken and answered. Punctuation change submissions can be forwarded to her.
- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee** (Ken Rhee):
  - There has been good attendance at the faculty development workshops this year.
  - Opinions were collected from the Senate regarding whether the current separate course evaluations (Face-to-face and online) should be combined. Additional comments can be forwarded to Ken.
- **University Curriculum Committee** (Richard Fox):
  - Discussion ensued regarding two new program proposals: Joint JD/MBI degree and a Joint JD/MBH degree. Both proposals passed unanimously in the UCC and the Graduate Council. The proposal also passed review by Chase Law Faculty. The two proposals were approved.
  - The committee has rejected the proposal to modify the General Education SLOs for World Languages and Literature.

### **Officer Reports:**

- **President** (Alar Lipping):
  - The Senate Executive Committee will be attending the Campus Diversity Plan Taskforce open forum on April 25. Other faculty members are encouraged to attend.

- The final Senate meeting for the spring will be May 6 with a noon luncheon (meeting to begin at 1 pm.).
- The Faculty Senate Award will go to Stephanie Hayes this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher, Secretary