

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

March 21, 2011

Members present: Seyed Allameh, Michael Baranowski, Diana Belland, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Tom Cate, Kim Clayton-Code, Richard Fox, Rich Gilson, Diane Gronefeld, Nancy Hancock, Chuck Hawkins, David Hogan, MaryCarol Hopkins, Yi Hu, Ken Katkin, Marc Leone, Alar Lipping, Phil McCartney, Kim McErlane, Ausbra McFarland, Jacqueline McNally, Joe Mester, John Metz, Ban Mittal, Teri Murphy, Louise Niemer, Sara Runge, K.C. Russell, Toru Sakaguchi, Steve Weiss, Jeffrey Williams

Members absent: Margaret Anderson, Blas Puente-Baldoceda, Richard Boyce, Heather Bullen, Paul Cooper, Ken Engebretson, Tamara O'Callaghan, Caroline Macke, Phil Moberg, Patty Schumacher

Guests: Jim Votruba, Gail Wells, Jeff Waple, Grace Hiles

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

Guest Reports:

- **University President (Jim Votruba):**
 - Thanks were expressed to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee which meets regularly with Jim Votruba and Gail Wells and provides valuable input.
 - No update on the budget situation in Frankfort. The university currently has \$4M in reserve funds.
 - University budget restructuring going well. A \$5M goal has been set for this process, which includes \$850K in administrative downsizing.
 - The 3-year goal of a 10% increase of student credit hours by FTE has thus far generated \$190K in savings.
 - The Huron consulting group has finished its work regarding streamlining campus operations. Overall, the consultants thought the university was a “lean” operation but could still simplify some business processes. Consultant costs are \$390K which will be regained by savings outlined in their recommendations. Highlights of their report will include:
 - Streamlining the student administration process
 - Finishing up SAP implementation
 - Aligning IT priorities with the NKU Strategic Plan
 - Streamlining Customer Service
 - Formalizing an approach to policy formation
 - Centralizing the approach to academic advising

- Deciding where the university should be on the “technology curve” in order to support the growing emphasis on technology for teaching and learning.
- **Provost (Gail Wells):**
 - Several study abroad activities were described which took place during spring break and other opportunities were outlined.
 - The Dean of Informatics search is currently taking place.
 - There is a 12% increase of regular admits over this time last year.
 - Online course statistics show an increase of 39% over spring of last year.
- **Dean of Students (Jeff Waple):** The “Un-Invited Speakers From Off Campus” policy was brought forward for discussion.
 - The policy has been discussed at the Professional Concerns Committee
 - University Legal Counsel wrote the policy.
 - The policy does not replace the current policy for invited guests, but is a document outlining “time/place/manner” regulations for un-invited guests.
 - After lengthy discussion the following proposal was brought forward: *“The NKU Faculty Senate disapproves of the Un-Invited Speakers From Off Campus” policy as brought forward.*” The proposal was defeated - the policy will move forward as submitted (to the President’s Executive Committee then to the Board of Regents).
- **Faculty Regent (Chuck Hawkins):**
 - Promotion/Tenure decisions, temporary appointments, etc. were approved
 - Approval was made of academic building name changes.
 - Next meeting: May 4

Committee Reports:

- **Benefits (K.C. Russell):** Faculty Senate Scholarship deadline is April 4.
- **Budget –** The Faculty Priorities Survey is available on the Budget Committee website with the #1 priority being classroom technology maintenance.
- **Curriculum Committee (Richard Fox):** Nothing to report – there will be a couple of items regarding Business Informatics and Chase Law at the next meeting.
- **Professional Concerns (Tom Cate):** IRB (Institutional Review Board) issues will be discussed at the next committee meeting on April 7.
- **Teaching Effectiveness and Enhancement Committee (Ken Rhee):** Response rate after the 1st 8-week session is 68% - up due to the new policy regarding viewing of final grades. The Committee will make sure that access to evaluations follows the Faculty

Handbook (there was concern that Deans/Provost had access to all evaluations). A “waive” policy will also be developed.

Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** (Perry Bratcher): Letters of condolence highlighting the memoriam resolution passed at the last Faculty Senate meeting were sent.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher, Secretary