

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

April 20, 2009

Members present: Seyed Allameh, Michael Baranowski, Scottie Barty, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Heather Bullen, Tom Cate, Steve Crites, Patty Connelly, Chuck Frank, Emily Detmer-Goebel, Kristi Haik, David Hogan, Brant Karrick, Barbara Klaw, Julie Mader-Meersman, Phil McCartney, Jacqueline McNally, John Metz, Carl Miller, Phil Moberg, Scott Nutter, Cathy Pence, K.C. Russell, Ron Shaw, Karen Tapp, Jim Thomas, Jeff Ward Steve Weiss

Members absent: Iain Barksdale, Kevin Besnoy, Doris Coy, Adele Dean, Rich Gilson, Nancy Hancock, Eric Jackson, Aron Levin, Alar Lipping, Augustine Yaw Frimpong Mansoh, Ausbra McFarland, Ban Mittal, Toru Sakaguchi, Duke Thompson

Guests: Gail Wells, Michael Collins, Kathy Bennett, Laurie McDowell

The meeting was called to order by Senate President David Hogan at 3:05 PM. The minutes of the March 16, 2009 meeting were approved.

Presentations:

- **Provost (Gail Wells):** Several items of note:
 - Dr. Votruba is in Washington D.C. to gather information regarding stimulus money.
 - SAP implementation is on target.
 - No parking increase for 09/10. The possibility of salary increases will be reviewed again this fall after budget review. Faculty contracts will be distributed as normal this spring. If a salary increase becomes a reality this fall, new contracts will be created.
 - Enrollment is strong in all areas.
 - General Education is being reviewed. SACS found NKU non-compliant in student learner outcomes and assessment. These areas are being reviewed with a proposal to come before Senate in the fall. A proposal outlining methods of compliance need to be submitted to SACS for review in December. After review, SACS will determine compliance or further non-compliance. If non-compliant, NKU will need to be “monitored” for a year.
 - Summer Faculty Institute June 1-4 focusing on active learning, student learning outcomes and assessment. <http://it.nku.edu/itsc/training/trainingfacstaff.php>

- **Office of Institutional Planning and Performance** (Laurie McDowell): A presentation was given regarding the Council on Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability. Information included:
 - Nancy Hancock is the faculty representative
 - The Council will be reviewing the NKU Strategic Plan in order to reduce the number of goals (currently 77) in light of current economic conditions.
 - A handout was distributed outlining the charter of the group, including mission/philosophy, primary charge, authority, limitations to authority, Council Chair, Council membership, standing subcommittees and work plan through 2011-12.
 - The Council will also be considering student learning outcomes assessment, training/development and technology

- **Online Student Evaluations** (Kathy Bennett):
 - Online evaluations are now taking place.
 - Publicity has been frequent, including student emails, Facebook announcements, Blackboard announcements, NKU homepage and a student video.
 - David Hogan summarized results from a study in the Psychology Dept. comparing paper and online methods from fall 2005-fall 2008. Even though the size of the online sample and participation rates were small, the general conclusion was that the online method produced the same overall instructor and course ratings as the paper method despite these differences.
 - Discussion ensued regarding online evaluations. It was noted that at the December 2008 Faculty Senate meeting the online evaluation project was approved as a pilot study for the spring 2009 semester. Faculty Senate will need to vote again in the fall to reaffirm continuation of online evaluations. This will also give time to gather and evaluate data results from the spring. It was also emphasized that the questions on the form need to be reevaluated. This issue will be considered by the Professional Concerns Committee.

- **Faculty Regent** (Steve Weiss): Elections for the next Faculty Regent are now taking place.

Committee Reports:

- **Professional Concerns** (Scottie Barty):
 - Two voting items coming to the May meeting regarding prior service and degree requirements
 - Intellectual Property document will be reviewed over the summer for voting in the fall.

- **Curriculum** (Ron Shaw):
 - Voting item for MA in History coming to May meeting
 - Lengthy discussion ensued regarding general education. Work on general education requirements will continue over the summer. Updates of the committee's work will be made available. Concern was expressed that the 30-34 hour limit was too low.
- **Benefits** (K.C. Russell):
 - Faculty Senate scholarships have been reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM. Next meeting (luncheon) 5/8 at 12:30 with meeting starting around 1:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary