

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

Members present: Seyed Allameh, Michael Baranowski, Scottie Barty, Richard Boyce, Perry Bratcher, Carol Bredemeyer, Heather Bullen, Tom Cate, Paul Cooper, Steve Crites, Patty Connelly, Adele Dean, Ken Engebretson, Emily Detmer-Goebel, Kristi Haik, nancy Hancock, MaryCarol Hopkins, Barbara Klaw, Marc Leone, Alar Lipping, Lisa MacQueen, Phil McCartney, Kim McErlane, Jacqueline McNally, John Metz, Carl Miller, Phil Moberg, Scott Nutter, Cathy Pence, K.C. Russell, Toru Sakaguchi, Ron Shaw, Jim Thomas, Jeff Ward, Steve Weiss

Members absent: Kevin Besnoy, Rich Gilson, Aron Levin, Ausbra McFarland, Ban Mittal, Karen Tapp, Chuck Hawkins

Guests: Jim Votruba, Gail Wells, Grace Hiles, D. Chaney

Presentations:

- **President** (Jim Votruba):
 - Town meetings taking place at the college levels (accompanied by Gail Wells)
 - Met with nearly 100 student organization leaders. Students commented on the strengths of knowing the faculty, class size and care of faculty for students. One area of improvement seems to be in advising
- **Provost** (Gail Wells):
 - Online student evaluation report was received. Emphasis will be made on raising the participation rate which may include various incentives. Discussion ensued. One suggestion was to provide an incentive to see grades early if evaluation was completed. An informal poll was taken of senators present and a majority favored requiring the completion of an online evaluation. Support was also expressed for requiring students to opt in/out of completing an evaluation.
- **Faculty Regent** (Chuck Hawkins – synopsis of written report):
 - Sessions included: an enrollment update, grant receipt presentations (Drs. Kirsty Flemming, Kristi Haik, and Arne Almquist), presentation on green initiatives by Ken Ramey, and various administrative reports.
 - Two items worthy of note: 1) Regents meetings will go paperless in the future, 2) there is a move among staff and students to make NKU an entirely smokeless campus – Regents and administration expressed support for this route if this is supported by a campus consensus.
- **General Education Refining Committee** (Tonya Krouse): The Refining Committee has met and reviewed comments received regarding the three General Education revision proposals. This review resulted in a preference for the “Group A” proposal with refinements. This proposal, with refinements, will be passed to the University Curriculum Committee for final review and revision. Discussion ensued. Decisions regarding assessment will be made after a final proposal is adopted. Also, particular classes within the program will need to go through a certification process at the University Curriculum Committee level. Jim Ramage gave an eloquent speech

expressing support of the overall proposal. Of note, the following elements of the original Group A proposal were refined:

- The “Integrated Experience” portion of the original proposal was eliminated.
- Student learning outcomes and goals were clarified.
- Categories were renamed to more closely reflect what they represented.
- The “Global” category was clarified and made an elective.

Committee Reports:

- **Faculty Senate Executive Committee** (Alar Lipping): After a couple of amendments were approved, the following recommendation originating from the Committee was approved: Online evaluation pilot project will be extended through the summer session of 2010. This recommendation originated from the April 20, 2009 minutes of the Faculty Senate which stated “Faculty Senate will need to vote again in the fall to reaffirm continuation of online evaluations.” Discussion also ensued regarding the policies for administering online evaluations. These issues will be discussed at future meetings.
- **Professional Concerns Committee** (Scottie Barty): Currently reviewing the Intellectual Property policy and other issues.
- **Curriculum Committee** (Ron Shaw): Will be discussing the General Education revision proposal.
- **Benefits** (K.C. Russell): Gearing up for review of proposals for faculty sabbaticals, project grants and summer fellowships (deadline 10/6)
- **Budget** (Ken Engebretson): Will be working on reviewing initiatives from the faculty survey and reviewing subcommittee bylaws.

Other:

- Alar will send senators copies of the most recent report of results of online evaluations.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary