

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

February 16, 2009

Members present: Seyed Allameh, Scottie Barty, Perry Bratcher, Tom Cate, Patty Connelly, Adele Dean, Chuck Frank, Emily Detmer-Geobel, Kristi Haik, Nancy Hancock, David Hogan, Barbara Klaw, Aron Levin, Alar Lipping, Augustine Yaw Frimpong Mansoh, Julie Mader-Meersman, Phil McCartney, Jacqueline McNally, John Metz, Carl Miller, Phil Moberg, Cathy Pence, Toru Sakaguchi, Ron Shaw, Duke Thompson, Jeff Ward, Steve Weiss

Members absent: Iain Barksdale, Michael Baranowski, Kevin Besnoy, Richard Boyce, Heather Bullen, Steve Crites, Doris Coy, Rich Gilson, Eric Jackson, Brant Karrick, Ausbra McFarland, Ban Mittal, Scott Nutter, K.C. Russell, Karen Tapp, Jim Thomas

Guests: Gail Wells, Meredith Brennan, Sarah Mann, Rich Shivener, Mark Payne, Ken Ramey

The meeting was called to order by Senate President David Hogan at 3:05 pm. The minutes of the January 26, 2009 meeting were approved as amended for attendance changes. It was noted that in the future, Faculty Senate elections meetings should take place at regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting times in order not to conflict with other commitments.

Presentations:

- **Provost (Gail Wells):**
 - It was noted that the state budget cut is at 2% (rather than the previous 6.7%) for this year. Still unknown for next year.
 - SACS visitation is next week. Information regarding the QEP can be found on various NKU websites and in Blackboard. Everyone together – what is the QEP? ACTIVE LEARNING! – can also be remembered by the acronym SEAL (Student Engagement in Active Learning) focusing on general education (SACS found NKU non-compliant in general education).
 - Two bills are in the Kentucky General Assembly which could affect university operations: textbooks, and transferability/consistency of general education.
 - Questions regarding the proposed 2009-2010 schedule of fees/charges were addressed. These fees are to be presented at the March 11, 2009 Board of Regents meeting for a vote. Questions were addressed concerning the following:
 - Faculty/Staff Employment Based Immigration Work: This new fee is being created to internalize the costs of processing of H-1B Visa and LPR casework. Parts of this work were previously outsourced. There was concern that if these fees must be paid by the department, international hiring may be stifled.

- Book Connection Fee: this cost includes the book covered in the NKU Book Connection program
 - UNV 101 Instructor Training Fee: Includes the workshop/materials for training new UNV 101 instructors
 - Parking fee: President Hogan urged reconsideration of the 8.3% increase. The increase should be tied to cost of living or to the percentage of raise increase. It was noted that parking is now on a cost recovery basis (which covers debt, maintenance and a savings fund for new construction) and that the state will not finance construction of new parking garages.
- **PRISM Update** (Meredith Brennan): An update/demo was given of current/forthcoming features of the PRISM system. Key dates include online registration (May), tuition/billing (July), improved faculty functionality (August), and grades (October). Information will be provided via the MyNKU portal. Sarah Mann will be conducting training sessions.

Reports:

- **Senate President** (David Hogan):

A handout was distributed summarizing the fall 2007 Online Student Evaluation Project. In summary, the following was observed:

- The overall participation rate was 50.4% (896 courses: web class participation rate 42.9%, classroom courses 52.6%). Spring 2008 participation was 62% (415 courses) and Fall 2007 was 55% (163 courses)
- There were a total of 896 16-week sessions covered. 689 (15,440 participants) were classroom instructions and 207 (2,594 participants) were web courses. The mean number of students enrolled per section were 22.4 (classroom), 12.5 (web) and 20.1 (overall).
- Course level participation (overall) was 50.1% (090's), 47.9% (100's-200's), 53.9% (300's-400's) and 47.8% (500's-600's).
- Most of the course sections (174) produced % participation rates in the range of 50-59%
- There was a significant negative correlation between participation rate and course enrollment: larger courses produced lower participation rates.
- Plans for increasing participation rates are being discussed and further ratings analyses will come. Further evaluation will come after Spring 2009 results are analyzed.
- The literature indicates an average participation rate of around 60%.

Work is progressing in the Intellectual Property Committee (David Hogan member).
Student intellectual property is of particular concern.

- **Budget Committee** (Carl Miller): The committee will be meeting with Ken Ramey to discuss issues including parking and international hiring.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry Bratcher
Secretary