MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 30, 2019


Absent: Erin Masters, Young Kim, William Landon, Rebecca Elkins, Danielle Todd, Shawn Nordheim, Corrie Danieley

Guests: Provost Sue Ott Rowlands, VP/CFO Mike Hales

Chair Janel Bloch called the meeting to order at 3:20. The minutes from the 10/9/19 meeting were approved as distributed. In her report, Janel stated that an ad hoc committee is being formed to further help employees make pension decisions.

Janel asked everyone in attendance to share any budget concerns from their department. As we went around the table, concerns included faculty salary compression, adjunct pay, various workload issues, funding for instructional equipment, sustaining library resources, and monetary barriers to student success. In many of these situations, Sue advised the department chair to work with the Dean. There is often latitude for things like adjunct salaries.

Mike said there were no updates at this point in the state budget process. CPE is scheduled to vote in mid-November on priorities. There were recent tier employee meetings on campus with KERS representatives to answers questions regarding their pension options. There have been eight proposals submitted for the EKU/NKU/WKU actuarial analysis project that will provide additional information to the institutions. A recommendation is due to the Board of Regents by April 1.

Sue emphasized the need to scale up the offices that provide student services, such as IT and Financial Aid. The Budget Committee’s input is helpful for putting priorities into context. The University continues to review the impact of Accelerated Online Partners and how revenue is distributed among departments.

Janel displayed the revised draft of the faculty budget survey that had been reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee. Their main suggestion was to remove the question regarding faculty development awards. P. Moberg was in favor of returning the question to the survey since it would provide valuable information. After further discussion, it was moved and seconded (N. Campbell/P. Moberg) to return the question to the survey, including amounts given for each award. Phil further suggested removing the last two options from the question and accept the survey as amended. Motion passed unanimously. Janel will take it back to the Executive Committee and explain our intention to provide feedback to the Faculty Benefits Committee.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy F. Campbell