**UMKC Faculty Senate Minutes Meeting of 1 September 2015 3:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Plaza Room, Administrative Center (Volker Campus)**

**Present:** Nancy Stancel, Carole McArthur, Susan Dykes Berry, Margaret Brommelsiek, Ed Gogol, Nathan Oyler, David Van Horn, Laurie Ellinghausen, Jacob Marszalek, Dee Anna L. Hiett, Peggy Ward-Smith, Jack Nelson, Mark Johnson, Ida Ayalew, Christopher Holman, Sean O’Brien, Kathleen Kilway, Marilyn L. Taylor, Gerald Wyckoff, Virginia Blanton, Linda E. Mitchell, Roger Pick, Eduardo Abreu, Gregory King

**Also present:** Chancellor Morton, Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer, Dean Denis Medeiros, Tony Luppino

**Excused:** Kathleen Schweitzberger, Zachary J. Shemon, Michael Wacker

**Absent:** Carolyn Barber, Tarak Srivastava, Mark Sawkin, Leonard Dobens

1. **Welcome and announcements**

Vice Chair Kathleen Kilway initiated introductions.

1. **Introduction of Provost Bichelmeyer and comments**

Chairperson Peggy Ward-Smith introduces Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer. Provost Bichelmeyer states that she met with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and understood that UMKC works under shared governance. She wants to begin a dialogue to discuss her accountability within this shared governance. Her goal is to be communicative and transparent to the UMKC community especially to the faculty in order to strengthen the academic programs. She sees the faculty as critical to the university’s success.

After her introduction, faculty proceeds to ask Provost Bichelmeyer a variety of questions dealing with communication, academic achievement goals for UMKC, etc. The Provost agreed that the Faculty Senate should send an aggregate email with any additional questions/concerns the senators had for her. Chairperson Ward-Smith said that she would compile that email for the Provost.

Moreover, Provost Bichelmeyer discusses the role of the faculty and how they fit within the university. She believes that her role as Provost is to be a transparent and supportive problem solver, which will allow her to find a shared interest with faculty and administration in order to serve the region, aid in student recruitment and retention, and further prepare the students using 21st century tools and methods. She further discusses the need to support faculty research in paid and non-paid venues as well. Likewise, Provost Bichelmeyer elaborates on the top five university issues that she intends to address within the next six months. First, she will focus on student retention and recruitment. Though she noted that this will be a challenge, she plans to have 20,000 students enrolled at the university by 2020. She believes student completion is achieved via retention. She will be working with the Vice-Chancellor and using retention mechanisms, such as academic tools and technology. Secondly, she sees research as a public enterprise and encourages faculty research. Moreover, academic programming should lead to work force and economic development and support of culture, civility, and quality of place. Additionally, infrastructure can be improved through technology. Lastly, with respect to engagement, she believes the city becomes the campus through creating a community at the multiple campus locations of the university.

1. **Update from Chancellor Morton**

Chairperson Ward-Smith introduces Chancellor Morton. He gives an update about the previous school year. The week of September 7th will be a Curators Retreat at the Ozarks. The retreat will last two days and the four universities will be in attendance. The Curators have issues with UMKC’s tuition and fees and during this retreat, Chancellor Morton hopes to show them that the university has a revenue problem and not an expense issue.

This year the university has a net asset across all of the units of $7.6 million. The target goal is to have 60-90 days of cash on hand and currently the university is half way there. Moreover, there were about 1500 students that attended convocation this year. With respect to undergraduate students, there are about 1000 new transfer students and 1000 first-time freshmen. The average ACT score for incoming students has increased to 24.5 and transfer student GPA is 3.13. 34% of domestic students come from underrepresented minority groups, with most students having prior student government experience at their former institutions and 6% having started their own business. Further statistical information will be compiled during the September 21st census. Although, enrollment is down 3% here at UMKC, 6 out of the 14 academic units have reported an increase (including biological sciences, computing & engineering, dentistry, medical, pharmacy, and university colleges). Moreover, UMKC is gaining market share compared to community colleges. Also, a university satellite for pharmacy has opened up in Springfield, MO.

Last spring, there was a 7% increase in the number of graduates. Overall, compared to past years, UMKC has better retention and higher graduation rates as illustrated with a six year grad rate of 52%. Furthermore, this past summer, the College of Arts and Sciences had a retreat focused on enrollment. At the retreat it was stated that retention has gone from 67% to 71% and the students on track for graduation has increased from 38% in 2013 to 81% currently.

Furthermore, the Curators will have their board meeting at UMKC October 1st and 2nd. On October 2nd there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the Whole Foods. After reviewing statistical information with the Faculty Senate, Chancellor Morton answers questions posed from the faculty. He states that the demographic of students is: 75% from Missouri and Kansas with 57% of the 75% being from Missouri. 10% of students are from St. Louis, 8-9% are international students and 6% are from other states. Also, the Provost shares that there is a plan to raise Honors College enrollment to 300 students within 3 years.

Moreover, Chancellor Morton addresses concerns about the auto-messages about class attendance (for financial aid purposes) sent to students. Senator Virginia Blanton will forward the auto-message email to the Faculty Senate. Faculty agree that the auto-message has a negative tone. Faculty also suggest that UMKC should do better in marketing the UMKC undergraduate programs as a four year program essential for students’ life experiences. Chancellor Morton further shares that the purpose of the UMKC retreat this past was summer was to discuss what is being done in regards to retention and enrollment. The notes from the retreat will be sent out soon. Likewise, when asked to compare the cost of attendance for UMKC and community colleges, Chancellor Morton discusses articulation agreements with community colleges.

Secretary Wyckoff mentions that receiving strategic planning money here at UMKC is low compared to Columbia. Chancellor Morton explains that every year universities compete (on zero based budgeting) and that receiving monies is based on strategy. Chancellor Morton plans to broaden the sphere of engagement and will share these plans with faculty in order to ensure that faculty have a voice in the proposals being submitted. Furthermore, Chancellor Morton explains that the university is trying to solidify funding for deferred action students’ tuition for next semester. Lastly, Chairperson Ward-Smith proposes the idea to add students and staff to the 360 evaluations. Chancellor Morton says that administration and nonacademic evaluations will be implemented in the future.

1. **Introduction of new senators**

Chairperson Peggy Ward-Smith states the deans have been notified to fill senator positions and within two weeks all senate seats should be filled.

1. **Approval of agenda / minutes from May**

Today’s agenda was approved as well as the May 2015 minutes.

1. **IFC Report – identification of a substitute representative**

Senators Nancy Stancel and Carole McArthur are IFC representatives. IFC has not met yet, but they will have a retreat September 24th-25th. Every year the IFC chair rotates and this year it is here at UMKC. Senator Stancel asks that faculty senators send any concerns via email. Last year, the addition of an alternate person in case Senators Stancel or McArthur could not attend IFC meetings was approved. The alternate person has to be selected from the Faculty Senate body. Secretary Wyckoff will post IFC meeting dates on the Faculty Senate website and senators will vote for the alternate person at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Also, Chairperson Ward-Smith will email senators to ask for nominations for the alternate member to be voted on at the next meeting.

1. **Budget Report (Tony Luppino) (30 minutes)**

Tony Luppino does an overview of the draft minutes of the budget overview from the meeting last Friday. The main goal of the budget model is transparency. The minutes will be posted on the UBC website within the week. Luppino also discusses that the estimate of debt service for the large Miller Nichol’s classrooms is $412,900. There is an impact for the academic units for these classrooms. The concept of usage vs common good with respect to these large classrooms is being discussed among the UBC members. Furthermore, to increase net assets there will be special funding for strategic initiatives.

Additionally at the UBC meeting, the concept of raises having a base level or being merit based was discussed and was concluded that there is no across the board concept. There will be a taskforce formed from four committees: Faculty Senate Budget Committee, COSCO, Intercollegiate Athletic Advancement, and Research Services to address questions from faculty dealing with the specific academic units. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor will be involved in these committees as well. Senator Ed Gogol and the COSCO committee will take the lead with Advancement and Student Affairs as well as Enrollment Management. Tony Luppino will head the taskforce for Intercollegiate Athletics. The taskforce for Office of Research Services has a team leader already as well. The Faculty Senate agree that four to five people on a committee is the most effective and that there also should be at least one representative from the Faculty Senate on each of the four committees so that there is a mechanism of having timely reports from the meetings and for more transparency. Secretary Wyckoff will send an email to the Faculty Senate asking for participation/volunteers for the committees and once there is at least one Senator on each of the committees, Secretary Wyckoff will email Tony Luppino, Shannon Jackson, and the rest of senators informing them who the members are. Afterwards, senators can enlist other faculty to become members of the committees.

Moreover, Tony Luppino will remain the representative for the Faculty Senate Budget Committee. Also, Secretary Wyckoff nominates Senator Mark Johnson as the Faculty Senate UBC representative and the rest of the Senate is in favor to elect him. Likewise, Secretary Wyckoff will be stepping in for Chairperson Ward-Smith for the UBC because she cannot attend the meetings this semester.

1. **Senate update report** 
   1. **SOP suggested changes / committee structure**

Chairperson Ward-Smith encourages the senators to look at the changes which are posted on the Faculty Senate website. She informs the Senate that the COSCO committee name needs to be changed.

* 1. **Dean evaluation (October) and revisions for SGS Dean**

Dean evaluations will be implemented this fall. Dean Medeiros will be evaluated differently because some factors do not pertain to him, such as he does not hire, develop or retain faculty nor does he allocate space for the university. At the next Faculty Senate meeting senators will be voting to delete these items from his evaluation.

* 1. **Suggested changes to CR&R 420.010 (report from Council**)

Chairperson Ward-Smith encourages the senators to review the changes Senators will vote on these changes at the following Senate meeting. Also, additional editing the document is not an option. Afterwards, all the faculty will vote this upcoming May as well as the other three campuses.

* 1. **Board of Curator breakfast presentations (October 2)**

The breakfast will be Friday, October 2nd from 8-9 am. There will be a Faculty Senate presentation at the breakfast.

* 1. **Rosters for unit-specific voting faculty**

The rosters are ready and those that are benefit eligible should be receiving an email from HR. Chairperson Ward-Smith encourages the senators to make sure the rosters match the definition for voting faculty as described by the Faculty Senate. Secretary Wyckoff informs the senators to look for headcount changes on the rosters. These rosters will be used to send out Dean Evaluations and other important faculty voting matters.

* 1. **Faculty senate representative to the UBC**

Senator Wyckoff nominates Senator Mark Johnson as representative and senators agree unanimously.

* 1. **Tax relief for residents of Kansas**

Senator Stancel discusses the residency tax that was recently passed by Missouri Senate stating that if Kansas residents have paid the 1% earning tax, they will be eligible for a refund. Senators most inform their units.

1. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm.