

UMKC Faculty Senate Meeting Notes

3 February 2015 3:00—5:00 pm

Plaza Room, Administrative Center (Volker Campus)

Present: Peggy Ward-Smith, Buddy Pennington, Nancy Stancel, Virginia Blanton, Laurie Ellinghausen, Viviana Grieco, Tom Mardikes, David Van Horn, Dee Anna Hiatt, Zach Shemon, Roger Pick, Marilyn Taylor, Ed Gogol, Jerry Wyckoff, Yugi Lee, Mark Johnson, Carolyn Barber, Julia Atilas, Christopher Holman, Tarak Srivastava, Michael Wacker, Margaret Brommelsiek, Mark Sawkin, Brenda Dingley, Susan Sykes Berry, Jacqueline Hawkins

Absent: Gregory King, Sean O'Brien

Excused: Kathleen Kilway, Carole McArthur, Eduardo Abreu, Orisa Igwe

Guests: Devon Cancilla (Vice Provost for Online and Distance Learning), Tony Luppino (Professor, Law)

Welcome and Announcements

There will be an all faculty meeting March 3rd in the Student Union, Room 401BC, and refreshments will be served. The School of Dentistry has requested a discussion about early retirement and raises at the meeting.

The Faculty Senate is still requesting nominations for the Faculty Senate secretary. The position does come with a Graduate Assistant.

The Provost search committee will include a Senate representative.

Approval of agenda/minutes

February 3rd agenda approved. Minutes to January 20th meeting approved.

Provost and Chancellor comments

Provost Gail Hackett told the Senate that the candidate for the Dean of Education position turned down the offer. The Dean of Education search committee recommended restarting the search rather than choosing any of the other candidates from the pool. The search will be continued. The search firm has gone out and gotten a new round of candidates that look viable. The timeline for the new search is unclear, but the committee will get the Senate a revised timeline.

At a system summit, President Wolfe initiated discussions about what the campuses could do collaboratively and one of the things that was brought up was the system helping UMKC with professional development, such as advisors, and another was student success and retention.

Chancellor Leo Morton reviewed with the Senate recent events regarding the Kansas City Star article on UMKC rankings and the subsequent audit. The results are damaging, and the university will need time to deal with the fall out and continue with its mission and goals. UMKC has communicated to faculty, staff, students, donors and the community. This year, even after the article came out, there were record level contributions to the university and record levels of other support.

The Chancellor is waiting to hear back about the School of Biological Sciences and School of Medicine merger.

Budget Review Update

The University Budget Committee subcommittee report is out and available at the Faculty Senate website:

<http://www.umkc.edu/facultysenate/documents/REPORT%20AND%20RECOMMENDATIONS%20OF%20UMKC%20BUDGET%20MODEL%20REVIEW%20SUBCOMM.pdf>.

The substance of the report is twelve pages, but the total report is much longer as it includes subcommittee minutes and other documentation for full transparency.

Each section goes through the budget model, has recommendations, or if there was not a consensus then it has pros and cons listed. The subcommittee is now soliciting feedback. Kevin Sansberry is gathering comments from the staff, and Tony Luppino is gathering comments from the faculty. All feedback will be compiled and presented to the UBC with the subcommittee report.

An issue that has been raised is units created courses that essentially duplicate courses in other units and serve to steer the tuition revenue to their unit instead. Luppino asked for anyone who thinks that a course was created not for the academic unit but for tuition grabbing should send Luppino that course's information for more investigation.

The UBC will meet on February 12th, which would mean that comments would be due by February 9th, but if that is not enough time then the deadline can be extended. This document is not much different than the document presented in December.

Senators should ask their faculty to read the document and send comments to Tony Luppino. Luppino stated that he would be glad to attend any faculty meetings and explain the document and answer questions.

COSCO committee report

COSCO met with Luppino and the Faculty Senate Budget Committee and supports the effort to review organizational charts for administrative units. In response to the last Faculty Senate meeting, COSCO spoke to Larry Bunce, who stated he would be happy to meet with Erik Olsen (Arts & Sciences) to go over the number discrepancies in recent Senate presentations. The two have not met so far.

eLAC update on course faculty certification

One year ago, Devon Cancilla stood in front of the Faculty Senate and spoke about an online benchmarking survey that looked at a number of categories related to online course and program delivery at UMKC. The results from the survey indicated that UMKC was deficient in a number of areas and would need to build a stronger online infrastructure for online learning on campus.

UMKC is currently approved to offer degrees online or offline by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) – UMKC's regional accreditor. The Higher Learning Commission recognizes nine standards that online program must meet in order to maintain approval to operate, many of these standards were evaluated as part of the benchmarking survey. In order to offer online programs to students that reside outside of the state of Missouri, UMKC must also be approved by the National Council for State Authorization Agreements (NC-SARA). NC-SARA adheres to the same nine standards for online education as the HLC. UMKC currently, as identified in the benchmarking survey, does not meet these standards. In order to grow its online programs and to maintain accreditation

for online delivery, UMKC must meet the nine standards mandated by both HLC and NC-SARA.

The eLearning Advisory Committee, made up of faculty appointed by each of the deans, the faculty senate, student and academic affairs has been evaluating the results of the benchmarking survey and the HLC and NC-SARA requirements. The committee has recommended that UMKC adopt a policy that online courses be certified to be taught online following one of the national standards established by Quality Matters, the Online Learning Consortium or other nationally recognized organization. In addition, the committee recommended that instructors also be certified to teach online. Course certification includes a review of the course to assess copyright compliance, ADA standards, technology support and other online course characteristics. Instructor certification insures the instructor has training in the use of online technologies and is oriented to the best practices for online instruction.

The policy would require that all online courses with a designation of OA, OS or OC be certified. OC courses are those that have 1-4 required campus-based meetings with the remaining course delivery being online.

This policy would have a 3-year roll out and each department would be helped to enact this policy. UMKC will use these activities as evidence that it is in compliance with the HLC and NC-SARA guidelines. Our accreditation review is scheduled for early in 2019.

Adjournment

IFC update and CRR revisions were tabled due to lack of time. Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.