

## **UMKC Faculty Senate**

### **September 3, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

**Administrative Center, Plaza Room, 3 p.m.**

**Present:** Abreu, Barber, Dilks, Flowers, Gardner, Gerkovich, Grieco, Igwe, Kilway, Luppino, McArthur, McCall, Pennington, Persechini, Plamann, Rydberg-Cox, Schweitzberger, Solose, Stancel, Sykes Berry, Van Horn, Ward-Smith

**Excused:** Bethman, Ellinghausen, Kumar, Taylor

**Absent:** Morehouse, O'Brien, Petrie, Richardson, Srivastava, Van de Liefvoort, White

**Guests:** Dreyfus (Research and Economic Development), Eisentrager (UMKC Bookstores), Hackett (Provost)

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Peggy Ward-Smith, Chair of Faculty Senate, welcomed those in the room to the meeting, including the new senators in the room.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Senator Buddy Pennington, Secretary of Faculty Senate, stated that there were two changes that needed to be made to the minutes for August 20, 2013. The minutes were approved.

### **Strategic Plan Overview**

Provost Hackett provided an update on system strategic plan activities, including a PowerPoint presentation available on the UMKC Faculty Senate website. The update included a brief history of both campus and system strategic planning activities, including recent system activities done in consultation with the Innosight consulting firm. Revised plans will be submitted to the Board of Curators for their November 2013 meeting.

The state performance funding enabled the system to create a pool of funding for strategic initiatives. Each campus was invited to submit requests for portions of this funding. UMKC requested \$3.6 million and was awarded \$2.6 million. Provost Hackett indicated that UMKC received its “fair share” of the funding. This pool of funding is expected to be available over the next four years, and campuses will be invited to submit requests annually during that time.

More information regarding the campus strategic plan can be found on the Office of the Provost website. The handout accompanying this presentation is available on the Resources page of the Faculty Senate website.

### **Presentation on Faculty Book Orders**

Pete Eisentrager, Assistant Director at UMKC bookstores, gave a presentation to the Faculty Senate on how the faculty could order books and the importance of timely ordering. Ordering textbooks on time keeps allows the cost of textbooks to be reduced. The faculty or department submits a textbook order to the UMKC bookstore, on time, and the data is entered into the textbook management system. Each title is reviewed individually and preliminary buying decisions are made.

Buyback quality is determined based on sales data. The remaining quantities are sourced online and through wholesalers. At the textbook sellback students can receive up to 50 percent of the new book priced and then the books not bought from students are sourced online and through wholesalers.

Timely faculty ordering is the key to allow this process to go smoothly. When the orders are submitted on time it allows for more used books and more rental books to be ordered, and enables the bookstore to give students more money at buy-back. Section 112 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires any institution that receives federal financial assistance to provide students with accurate course materials including ISBN and retail price when available and UMKC is not currently in compliance. Approximately twenty syllabi do not have orders placed on the first day of school and there are faculty members not turning in book orders.

UMKC students encouraged a shift in textbook ordering culture on campus and UMKC bookstore is in competition with every other bookstore and online vendor for copies. Textbook orders should be placed by October 31<sup>st</sup> for spring semester and April 15<sup>th</sup> for fall and summer semesters.

The issue is late textbook orders. Spring semester 50 percent of textbook orders were in. The national average is about 80-85 percent. 12 percent turned in by the priority date and 50 percent by the buyback date.

The problem is easily fixable and it falls onto the faculty. Every department should have a contact for the bookstore. Also, there has been an implementation of a user-friendly online ordering system. This system is called "Verbacollect" and will

be launched at the end of September. The program is easy to navigate and tracks historical course data. Senator Luppino suggested each department appoint someone who has the duty of ensuring his or her faculty members have sent their book orders to the bookstore on time.

### **Research Advisory Council**

Dr. Lawrence Dreyfus, Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development, presented to the Faculty Senate the possibility of forming a university Research Advisory Council. There is a Life and Health Sciences advisory council, but it did not have the breadth that a research council should have.

The Research Advisory Council would be a campus committee, which would have representation from every college, ex-officio representation from the Provost's office, facilities, and maintenance. Dr. Dreyfus requested feedback from the Faculty Senate and would like to launch the committee fairly quickly. The purpose would be to get a committee together and formulate the final words and mission statement. The committee would talk about rational and practical strategies to advance the themes of the committee, but should start to talk about expenditures and advancing the advisory role. Theoretically, members of the Life and Health Sciences could move over to the new committee.

### **Faculty Senate Updates**

Chair Ward-Smith announced the changes to the Senate roster: David Van Horn is replacing Andrew Holder (A&S Natural Sciences) for Fall 2014 semester,

Laurie Ellinghausen is filling the Arts and Sciences Steering Committee Chair role, Jeff Rydberg-Cox is filling the Arts and Sciences Humanities position. Faculty voting rosters were received.

The Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.