

UMKC Faculty Senate

September 17, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Administrative Center, Plaza Room, 3 p.m.

Present: Abreu, Barber, Bethman, Dilks, Ellinghausen, Flowers, Gardner, Gerkovich, Grieco, Igwe, Kilway, Kumar, Luppino, McArthur, McCall, Pennington, Plamann, Richardson, Schweitzberger, Solose, Stancel, Sykes Berry, Taylor, Van de Liefvoort, Van Horn, Ward-Smith, White, Wyckoff (representing Menees)

Excused: Menees

Absent: O'Brien, Petrie, Rydberg-Cox, Srivasta

Guests: Wyckoff

Welcome and Announcements (Ward-Smith)

The Provost has released the full version of the strategic planning PowerPoint presented at the previous Faculty Senate. This version includes the amounts awarded to UMKC from the system strategic reserve. The awards were being held pending the attempt to override the governor's veto, and were released with the failure to override. Senators should share this with their faculty. The Provost wants feedback by the end of the week.

Congratulations to all those who were successfully promoted or granted tenure.

Room 404 in the Miller Nichols Library is being set up as the office for Faculty Senate. Furniture and a workstation being moved in. Paper files have been sent to university archives for their review.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Updates

Voting rosters are still needed for the Henry W. Bloch School of Management and the School of Computing and Engineering. These needed to be submitted to the Chair as soon as possible.

Two Senators are needed to serve as alternates on the Academic Grievance Resolution Panel.

A Senator is needed to fill a slot on the Academic Issues Committee. Senator Igwe (Pharmacy) volunteered for this.

The Faculty Welfare Committee has been filled and will soon be working on issues related to total rewards. Chair Ward-Smith will be providing more information on this soon. Faculty will be working with Staff Council as compensation impacts both faculty and staff.

There is a need for a Senator to replace Andy Holder on the General Education Curriculum Committee. Senator Sykes Berry (Libraries) volunteered for this.

Human Values and Ethical Reasoning Outcome Proposal (Wyckoff)

The General Education model includes categories of student learning outcomes. One of these, Human Values and Ethical Reasoning, was written to accommodate Gen Ed courses in the social sciences, but social sciences faculty are finding it difficult to use the outcome, as currently written, in course proposals.

An ad hoc group of General Education Curriculum Committee members and social sciences faculty investigated adding a new student learning outcome to address this issue but felt that was too disruptive to the overall program. Instead, they proposed a revision to the outcome to better accommodate social sciences courses. Dr. Wyckoff presented the proposal to the Senate.

Current statement:

Human Values and Ethical Reasoning

Students will understand principles of value and civic duty in a wide range of settings, and will demonstrate an understanding of personal values and the

values of others. Students will also be able to identify ethical problems utilizing their understanding of ethical theory and moral reasoning.

Proposed revision:

Human Actions, Values, and Ethical Reasoning

Students will analyze, interpret and/or reconstruct human events, experience, actions and interactions. Students will understand principles of value and civic duty in a wide range of settings, and will demonstrate an understanding of personal values and the values of others. Students will be able to identify ethical problems utilizing their understanding of ethical theory and moral reasoning.

The Senate voted unanimously to approve the proposed revision.

Campus Budget Updates (Luppino)

Senator Luppino began by stating that he had received a number of questions regarding a recent Kansas City Star story about UMKC partnering on a restoration of Municipal Auditorium and was happy to confirm that the cost to the university was zero dollars. UMKC is agreeing to have its basketball games played there, and will be promoting those, but the building belongs to the City, so the City is covering the renovation costs.

He then reported that campus administration has tasked all the units to accept a budget challenge. Each unit has been given a spending target and is being charged to align their budget to meet the target. Targets vary by unit, but the campus average is essentially an approximately 7% decrease in spending, but units can meet the challenged by cutting costs and/or demonstrating revenue increases to meet the target. Unit responses are due in October. Tony indicated that some of this pressure is coming from the UM System and involves a different formulation of acceptable reserves. Senator Gerkovich, indicated that the School of Medicine was told they could not spend any of their reserves, some of which was planned on facilities (other Senators reported Bob Simmons had indicated the facilities

upgrades were moving forward). There was no mention of how RIF funds were impacted by the budget challenge. Units need guidance on the use of fund balances, and Senator Luppino said that he would look into what rules/guidelines the Administration is giving the unit leaders on matters pertaining to use of fund balances.

A task force/small working group of the University Budget Committee has been assembled and charged with reviewing the budget model, which is entering its sixth year of implementation. Overall, there has been a slight increase in overall General Revenue Allocations funding to the eleven principal academic since Fiscal Year 2008 (increasing from about \$103 million for the 11 academic units in 2008 to about \$114.4 million this year). Eight of the eleven principal academic units have more GRA dollars assigned to them for FY 2014 than for FY 2008, but, three of the units actually have less GRA funding now than in 2008. At the same time, many units have cut into their Operating Fund balances, and some have significant negative fund balances, and it appears that, at least for some units, much of that is due to expense increases which are being studied. These results are being examined by the task force, which has been asked to develop and report to the University Budget Committee on possible modifications of the Budget Model for assigning GRA. No specific timetable was given, the assumption being that recommendations should be given in October to align with the campus budget challenge.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.