

UMKC Faculty Senate Meeting Notes

5 November 2013

Plaza Room, Administration Center, 3 p.m.

Attended: Barber, Ellinghausen, Flowers, Gardner, Gerkovich, Grieco, Kilway, Kumar, Luppino, Pennington, Plamann, Richardson, Schweitzberger, Solose, Srivastava, Sykes Berry, Van de Liefvoort, Van Horn, White, Wyckoff

Excused: Abreu, Bethman, Dilks, McArthur, Stancel, Taylor, Ward-Smith

Absent: Igwe, McCall, O'Brien, Petrie, Rydberg-Cox

Guests: Cindy Pemberton (Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs), Nathan Lindsay (Assistant Vice Provost for Assessment), Henrietta Wood (Coordinator of Writing Assessment), Jeffrey Hornsby (Professor, Bloch School of Management), Ursula Gurney (Senior Associate Athletics Director for Academics and Strategic Initiatives), Robin Hamilton (Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management)

Welcome and Announcements (Kathleen Kilway, Vice Chair)

Announced that there was an opening for senators on the Student Conduct Committee and the Student Grievance Committee. Both are under the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. Grieco volunteered for the Student Grievance Committee and White volunteered for the Student Conduct Committee.

Jerry Wyckoff will be substituting for Senator Tom Menees for the rest of the semester.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

Agenda approved. Minutes from October 15 approved.

Provost/Chancellor Comments

The Provost and the Chancellor were not able to attend. Cindy Pemberton had an update on the COACHE survey. Average response for all schools is 28% and UMKC is at 37%. The first reminder to complete the survey will be sent out next week. The window for participation ends January 24th.

RooWriter and Writing Intensive Classes (Nathan Lindsay and Henrietta Wood)

RooWriter launched on September 6, 2013 and as of today 100 students have taken this online assessment. It is a user-friendly assessment for students and faculty. Two evaluators read each essay and it must meet minimum requirements. This is not a pass/fail test like the WEPT but is a diagnostic assessment. Each evaluator embeds comments in the essay. There is a four-page evaluation given to the student that includes a list of places the student can go for writing support. The RooWriter can also be taken anywhere and at any time. WEPT only had certain testing times and places, and teachers were allowing exemptions if the student could not sign up for the course. Students can take the RooWriter and it will be processed in a few weeks. The RooWriter is pedagogically strong and it is a more formative assessment that will give more feedback to students and instructors. Currently the reading packets focus on the following topics: the 1968 Kansas City riot, algebra, digital piracy, Hurricane Katrina, distracted driving,

and homelessness. Faculty can put together packets and the prompts can be revised every six months. Articles in the reading packets range from five to seven pages, and the reading packets are no more than thirty-five pages. The RooWriter rubric is available online and has similarities to the rubric for the Discourse classes. It was recommended that all Writing Intensive courses require that students take the RooWriter as a prerequisite. Due to its availability, there is no need for instructors to exempt students. This policy should go into effect for all Writing Intensive courses in Fall 2014.

Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation (Jeffery Hornsby)

Entrepreneurship comes from all areas on campus and is not discipline-specific. IEI initiated first Wednesdays from four to six p.m. for an entrepreneurship event. The upcoming event will feature 3 entrepreneurs speaking about their experiences and then sit on a panel that will answer student questions. IEI is also launching the “kangaroo idea,” which will be a soft entry this year and then larger in subsequent years. It will be open to the entire campus and an email will be going out this year. Students who have ideas for entrepreneurship projects, and are willing to fill out the template can submit and compete for up to \$2000 in prizes to be given in December. Before Thanksgiving the applicants will be screened to the top five and then each group will give a presentation of their ideas. They will give a pitch in 3 minutes or less. Many of the best ideas come from joint initiatives between business and other areas. There will be a workshop on November 11th to help anyone who would like to be involved and that email will be sent this week. Starting in the spring there will be Entrepreneurship classics on one Friday every month to talk about issues, funding, human resources and startup ventures. The dates are

pending, but there will be pizza and door prizes. There is not a certification of completion offered in entrepreneurship, which is offered for undergraduates and a certificate of completion is being worked on for graduate students. The last initiative is the faculty fellow program and IEI has funding to select up to five faculty fellows across the university.

Faculty Senate Budget Committee Report (Tony Luppino)

Central administration announced the budget challenge September 17th in which the units were tasked with cutting expenses or demonstrating new revenue to raise their projected FY14 year end Operating Fund balances by a target amount. That project ran through October. Prof. Luppino circulated to the Senate a copy of a letter from the Chancellor and Provost to the unit leaders generally describing the results of that exercise.

Also in September, at the direction of the Chancellor and Provost, the University Budget Committee formed a small working group to study the operation of the Budget Model (which apportions General Revenues) to date and to make recommendations on possible modifications to the Model. FY08 was the last year before the Budget Model phase-in began. The phase-in of the Budget Model began in FY09, but only very modestly that year. There was an increase in the State Appropriation from FY08 to FY09 and the bulk of that was apportioned across the UMKC units for salary increases in proportion to unit payroll (i.e., not through Budget Model formulae).

The more significant Budget Model phase-in started in FY10 and became much fuller for many units in FY11 and since—but has still not been fully phased-in for all units. For example, a few units have not experienced the full increases they would have received under strict application of the Model, nor has the Medical School experienced the full increase it would receive under strict application of the Model.

In terms of GRA results from FY09 through budgeted FY14, eight of the eleven principal academic units have higher FY14 budgeted GRA than their GRA for FY08 before the Budget Model phase-in commenced. Some of the ones with the most significant increases in GRA also have developed substantial new programs which generate increased tuition boosting their GRA, but also presumably have substantial increased costs. The state money was cut nearly nine million dollars and the General Overhead Assessment taxed to the principal academic units increased by over five million since the budget phase-in began. The total GRA to the principal academic units nevertheless increased about eleven million dollars since FY08, as enrollment and tuition have increased.

But the cost of expenses has increased significantly. The General Revenue is not the entire story. The budget challenge arose largely because of increases in spending (especially payroll expenses) and for FY14 has not done the entire job and some units will be spoken to individually (per the letter from the Chancellor and Provost circulated at the meeting). Prof. Luppino expressed his opinion that it is important to track both instructional payroll and non-instructional payroll before any particular units are given or not given extra funding.

The small working group has had a second meeting and a consultant is being hired based on a decision recently made by the Provost and Chancellor. The decision was made to take the issues in groups. The next meeting will be about tuition and scholarship sharing (probably one or two full sessions). The Faculty Senate Budget Committee is working to compile information on the recruiting and advising expenses relating to the tuition split general rule on cross-unit instructions of 80% (at standard undergraduate rate) to the teaching unit and the rest of the tuition from the cross-unit course to the “home” unit. This is under discussion for several reasons, including the fact the Medical School charges more than a normal undergraduate rate.

The next major component of the Budget Model to be studied by the small group after tuition/scholarships sharing will be how the State funding is allocated, followed by issues relating to the General Overhead Assessment, and then reserves policies.

Vote on Collective Rule Change 220.020 Diplomas and Certificates. (Kathleen Kilway)

The collective rule change 220.020 Diplomas and Certificates was approved unanimously.

The Student – Athletic and Discussion on Student Absences (Ursula Gurney, Robin Hamilton)

UMKC joined a new conference this year, the western athletic conference (WAC). The students are considered students first and then athletes second. The combined G.P.A. of the 240 student athletes was 3.26 and the graduate success rate is 84%, which is 2 % higher than the NCAA Division 1 GSR average. The top majors for student athletes are business administration, health sciences, psychology, and communication studies. The student athletes face certain challenges. During the season they spend 20 hours per week practicing and 8 hours per week out of season. Additional commitments include travel to and from practice, stretching, rehabilitation and strength and conditioning. They also must travel from competition, appearance requests, sports psychologist meetings and nutritional meetings.

The student athletes are required to go to class, spend time in the study hall and do individual study. They are required to meet with an athletic advisor weekly. The student athletes must also meet NCAA academic eligibility metric requirements including graduating in 5 years and earning a certain grade point average. Student-athletes must also participate in life skills such as community service projects, leadership seminars, wellness workshops and career development.

The Student Athlete Support Services developed a wealth of programming to help them focus on their degree. The education programs require freshmen meetings and at-risk meetings for the students with a low G.P.A, which requires they meet 3 to 5 times per week with an advisor. The student athletes also have athletic advising to help them get

classes around practice schedules. The student athletes also receive grade checks at week 5 and week 10.

The new challenges student athletes face is that while they were previously in regionally based conferences, they are now in the western athletic conference. Some of the teams have been traveling Thursday, Friday and Monday. Some ways it is being dealt with is to go to request earlier game times to allow the student athletes to return the same day of the game and also there is an effort to record missed classes. There is already mandatory study hall on the road and an increased communication with the faculty.

The UMKC attendance policy is available online at:

<http://catalog.umkc.edu/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=99&chapterid=8506&topicgroupid=57864&loaduserredits=False>.” The general principles are that students are expected to attend and participate in class, advance notice of attendance policies of academic units and instructors should be given to students in writing, students should notify instructors of excused absences in advance when possible, students who have an excused absence are expected to make arrangements with the instructor for make-up work, instructors should accommodate excused absences to the extent that an accommodation does not interfere with the learning objectives of the course or unduly burden the instructor, attendance policies should be applied in a non-discriminatory manner, enrollment as a student is required to attend any class unless otherwise pre-approved by the instructor and instructors are responsible for verifying the class roster in Pathway throughout the term.

The policy is that each academic unit and instructor may adopt an attendance policy appropriate to that unit, a particular field of study, or for a specific course. Policies must be consistent with the general principles and give students advance notice in writing. In the case of an academic unit, notice may be given in the General Catalog, or in other materials provided to students to inform them of the rules and regulations. Individual instructors should give notice in the course syllabus.

The general attendance policy is that students shall not be penalized for excused absences. "Excused absences" include absences due to illness of the student, illness of an immediate family member for whom the student must care, death of an immediate family member, religious observance, representation of UMKC in an official capacity, and other compelling circumstances beyond the student's control. Students seeking an excused absence must provide documentation. Students with excused absences are required to do make-up or alternative work to be provided by instructors of the course.

Regular Meeting Adjourned at 4:45

Closed Session

Closed Session Adjourned