**UMKC Faculty Senate**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 4th, 2018**

**Administrative Center, Plaza Room 3-5pm**

**Present:** Stephen Dilks, Linda E. Mitchell, Anil Kumar, Viviana Grieco, Jacob Marszalek, Jack Nelson, Michelle Maher, Mardi Mahaffy, Jen Salvo-Eaton, Margaret Brommelsiek, DeeAnna Hiett, Tara Allen, Mark Patterson, Hari Bhat, Anthony Shiu, Ceki Halmen, Abdulmajeed Ahmed, Samuel Bouyain, Eduardo Abreu, Shannon Jackson, Ken Novak, Ellen Suni, Marilyn Taylor, Sharon Simmons, Erik Olsen, JoDee Davis, Jenifer Allsworth, Sybil Wyatt, Jamila Jefferson, Sookhee Oh

**Also Present:** Provost Bichelmeyer, Chancellor Agrawal, Scott Curtis, Jess Magana, Joy Swallow, Jim Wooden

**Excused:**

**Absent:** Da-Ming Zhu, Deb Chatterjee, Eric Gottman, Nancy Murdoch

1. **Opening Business and Introduction [10 minutes] – Stephen Dilks.**
2. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Dilks calls meeting to order at 3 pm.

1. **Approval of Draft Agenda**

Today’s agenda is approved with one abstention.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from last meeting are approved.

1. **Welcome to New Senators**

Senators introduce themselves.

1. **Reports and Updates.**
2. **Chancellor’s welcome and comments [45 minutes] – Mauli Agrawal.**

Chancellor Agrawal explains that he took the job here as Chancellor because of the potential he saw at UMKC. He considers himself a faculty member. He hopes to get back into the classroom when his schedule as Chancellor allows. He has worked in all facets of academia: research, administrative, and teaching.

He states that the modern public urban university enhances the cultural, health, and economic prosperity of the surrounding community. As a university, UMKC is responsible to our metropolitan community. We must look at the needs of the community, act accordingly, and be visionaries.

Chancellor Agrawal has revised the Strategic Plan using pillars and connections that contain the same elements and values of the original. He and Provost Bichelmeyer have looked at the metrics and targets and are encouraged by President Choi to be aggressive in pursuing these elements of the Strategic Plan. The Board of Curators will look at the plan mid-September, followed by implementation of the plan and evaluation by using metrics, targets, resources, and timelines.

Presently, the Chancellor is on a listening tour in which he talks to committee members at both campuses to understand their needs. After the Strategic Plan has been approved and implementation has begun, the vision for UMKC should come together this upcoming spring semester.

He encourages senators to look at potential of UMKC and build upon its potential. He is also concerned with enrollment and retention. Over the last three years, we have lost students to attrition; this loss directly impacts the overall budget. Overall University of Missouri-Columbia has more new students (added 1000 students) and a higher retention rate. There will be a retreat on Sept 5 to discuss enrollment and retention.

There has been a change in leadership with Athletics. We need accountability and structure. Overall, UMKC’s Athletics budget is 80% compared to the 76% of most NCAA schools. To improve Athletics, we must focus on general revenue and student fees. Student fees are low and are 1/5th of where he came from. Last increase was 1985 approximately. In the budget plan, we must show a decrease of dependence on general revenue and discuss options, such as sponsorships.

 The new Conservatory building will not be located in downtown. The decision was based on what was best for the community, academic programming, faculty, students, and staff, as well as financial ability. It was unanimously decided that the site should be within 2.5 miles of the Volker campus. The previous bidders have also been invited to reapply. Donors are supportive of the move and the Chancellor hopes to move forward with the plan and finish within a year.

 Students would like a more residential experience and, therefore, we need more students accommodation (about 20% of students live on campus in urban universities; we have 9%). The street-car is coming to the neighborhood and will increase property values in the surrounding area, making it difficult to purchase properties. UMKC desires for students to feel safe and live in a wholesome environment that is affordable. The Chancellor has spoken with Father Toma at Rockhurst University to discuss common interest as related to student housing.

The Chancellor discusses a faculty plan that includes: nominating faculty for national awards in a very systematic fashion similar to the other universities, having better structures of communication for accomplishments to reach the Chancellor’s office, developing a faculty center to aid in interdisciplinary research (potentially in the Epperson House), and having an infrastructure to support research and scholarship.

1. **Senators’ q-and-a with Chancellor Agrawal [15 minutes]**

Senators have a question and answer session with the chancellor discussing issues, such as pre and post award support for grants. We need committees and resources to manage larger grants and expand the agenda for interdisciplinary research between the two campuses. The Data Science unit has about 30 faculty interested in collaborative research with other units. Senators discuss the division between the two campuses and the need to connect the professional schools to the overall UMKC campus community. We must brainstorm, develop, and implement communication strategies between the UMKC campuses. The Provost mentions using social media as a tool to enhance communication. Moreover, it is mentioned that we need to be more aggressive

about raising money and position our university to receive donor gifts. Last year, the UMKC Foundation raised $40 million. Senators further mention the need to invest in research to gain resources. Also, questions concerning NTT faculty and longevity were raised.

1. **Provost’s update [15 minutes] – Barbara Bichelmeyer**

Provost Bichelmeyer discusses that the new Budget model holds each unit accountable. Closing last year’s budget, we have balanced budgets, have begun to share services, and made cuts in places that do not impact our core mission. During the Board of Curators summer retreat, the CR&Rs were redrafted to reflect the organizational focus of the UM System. The Board of Curators are focusing on how to define the university going forward, i.e., whether we message as 1 university system rather than 4 strong universities). The provost thanks trustees, representatives, and senators for their hard work. Also, the provost thanks Sheri Gormley for her work on the Strategic Plan.

The Provost says that President Choi asked for aggressive targets and metrics and that these are now part of the plan.

The Provost explains that the Roo Mobile app can target and personalize messages to students and is designed to enhance the student experience on campus.

 New hires will be made with the specific purpose of enhancing our academic enterprise. Because of Devin Cancilla’s retirement, we have new opportunities to explore with regards to academic innovation. Senate Chair Dilks will help develop a pipeline for more shared governance. LaVerne Berkel will assist with onboarding. There will also be positions for faculty recognition, community engagement, etc.

 To improve enrollment and retention, we will build a student success plan. This past summer, the Provost and campus leaders discussed strategic planning for the award of scholarships. We have a decrease in retention due to not being competitive in our academic programming although we have low student to faculty ratios. Amongst our peers (see: tinyurl.com/umkcpeers), we have the lowest retention rates.

On December 2nd, 2020, we will have our HLC Accreditation Review. HLC has changed expectations on how evidence of assumed practices are given. We have made an excel spreadsheet to map out responsibilities!

The Gen Ed 2.0 rollout will be Fall 2019.

1. **Senators’ q-and-a with Provost Bichelmeyer [5 minutes]**

The provost shares that enrollment growth needs to take place on the graduate school level, not professional schools. Growth is targeted for SBS, Chemistry, Engineering, and Bloch. Growth at the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry will not occur if programming is not added. We will establish new academic governing organizations and academic planning committees.

This Friday, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to evaluate the metrics of the Strategic Plan. Target enrollment will be 24,000 in 10 years (3000 of which will be with dual credit students). The Provost shares that UMKC is the university of METROPOLITAN Kansas City. Keeping this idea in the forefront will help increase enrollment.

A senator noted that shared services can, potentially, hinder opportunities to fulfill research.

The Provost noted that there is no more hiring approval needed if the unit is functioning within allocated budget. This is stated in the new budget rules, but there is still a miscommunication about hiring.

Senators express concern about Gen Ed 2.0 and the social sciences. Moreover, the Provost states that there is no financial model for General Education 2.0 at this stage.

1. **Reports and Updates, Part Two**
2. **New Director for Title IX [8 minutes] – Sybil Wyatt**

Sybil Wyatt is the New Director for Title IX office. The Title IX office is a confidential office for both students and faculty. Sex discrimination cases will not be confidential. There are two ombudspersons for both students and faculty. The office has received feedback from the UM System about confidentiality of reports.

1. **Senate Rep needed for Parking Committee [2 minutes] – Linda Mitchell**

Marilyn Taylor will be the representative. Senators express concerns about disabled parking access and if they meet ADA guidelines.

1. **Board of Curators’ Meeting on September 20-21, preparations and reminder about the breakfast at 8:30 on Friday, September 21 [15 minutes] –Linda Mitchell**

The meeting will now be at 7:30 am in the Student Union room 401B because the Board of Curators have an extra meeting on Friday. The breakfast meeting will be 45 minutes as poster sessions. Invitations will be sent to senators. This meeting is important because it’s the one time of year senators can interact with curators, deans, provosts, president, etc. The following is the link to the Board of Curator members: ttps://www.umsystem.edu/curators/members.

 The Human in the Digital Age Research Summit will be on September 19th.

1. **Revised Policy for Late and Retroactive Withdrawal and Course Withdrawal Deadlines:**
The academic policy related to withdrawal and drop deadlines during the term has been revised.  The new policy will take effect this term, Fall 2018.

The relevant policies are available in the University Academic Policy Library (Late and Retroactive Withdrawal  and Course Withdrawal Deadlines).

The review process for students requesting to withdraw after the established semester deadline has moved from a review at the School or College level to a University-wide committee, the University Late/Retroactive Withdrawal Committee,  so that we can administer the policy with more consistency.  The optimal University-wide committee membership has been designated as follows:
·         Two Members from Faculty Senate Academic Issues Committee (term designated by Faculty Senate – designated as Eduardo Abreu and Marilyn Taylor)
·         Two Advisors from the Advising Leadership Team  (Two-Year Term: Alternating First Term)
·         Associate Vice Provost for University College and Advising (Chair)
·         Dean of Graduate Studies or Designee
·         Two Academic Council Faculty Nominee (Two-Year Term: Alternating First Term)

Ex-Officio, non-voting members:

·         Possibility for student representation 1) at the request of the student and 2) per legal approval by university counsel.
·         Registrar or designee
·         Student Health Center professional staff for medically-related petitions and/or Mental Health Center professional staff for mental health-related petitions.
2. **Announcement about preparation for “Last Ten Minutes” at subsequent Senate meetings [5 minutes] – Dilks.**

Chairperson Dilks informs senators that there will be ten minutes time at the end of each meeting for senators to give feedback from their units about Faculty Senate items, pose questions, and voice concerns. It is important that senators get feedback from their units. Senators voice concerns about glitches in the Title IX training video. Also, the School of Graduate Studies will come to the Faculty Senate to give a report and discuss the non-resident waiver policy. Senators express concerns that this policy rolled out without any documentation. The Educate-Organize-Advocate Conference will be October 12th at the Atterbury Center.

1. **Adjournment :** Meeting adjourned at 5PM.