

**UMKC Faculty Senate
Meeting
October 18, 2005**

Major Topics

COSCO Report
Specialized Faculty Titles
Assessment Plan Task Force
Budget Motions

Announcements

- The Chair announced that in the future, the minutes for all Senate meetings will be delivered to the full faculty via e-mail.
- All senators are provided with the Legislative Updates from the university system via e-mail.
- There will be a General Faculty Meeting, October 28th, from 12:00PM to 1:30PM in Room 104 of Cockefair Hall.
- At the Curators meeting on December 1st and 2nd the Faculty Senate will host a breakfast with curators the morning of Dec. 2nd. The format for the breakfast meeting has yet to be decided.
- The commencement activity survey will be distributed via e-mail to all faculty.
- The request for faculty to serve on the Student Grievance Committee and the Student Conduct Committee has been met with the submission of the names of those faculty members who volunteered to serve.
- Membership on the three Focus Commissions has not yet been finalized. We are hoping to hear from the Provost's Office soon.

COSCO Report

The Senate was in closed session for this report.

After the closed session, the following resolution was passed with a vote of
25 Yes votes, 0 No votes, and 2 abstentions.

Resolved: The UMKC Faculty Senate accepts recommendation # 1 of Part 1 of the COSCO Report, "Examination of Overall Administrative Structure as revised below.

The Provost as Chief Operating Officer

Under the proposed organizational chart, the Provost is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the UMKC campus, second in command, immediately under the Chancellor, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Under this proposed model, all Vice Chancellors (Administrative, Student Affairs, and Development) and the Office of Comptroller (new office under the model), report to the Provost. Details of the scope of the reporting to be developed at a later date. When the Chancellor is unable to act (because of absence, illness, etc) the Provost will be the acting CEO.

Specialized Faculty Titles

Jeff Thomas, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, discussed with the Senate the issue of the misuse of faculty titles especially the title of Visiting Professor. He asked for responses from faculty members as to whether and how this issue should be addressed on our campus.

The Vice Provost discussed the following three aspects of the issue.

- 1) The title of visiting professor is an unrestricted title but can be used for no more than 7 years for any individual. It is being misused on our campus, probably to identify persons who function as teaching professors.
- 2) The Roles and Rewards Task Force looked at the issue of non-regular faculty, and chose to use the title “specialized faculty” to label faculty who do clinical or research work. The Task Force also decided that this label should be applied to faculty who do only teaching. The Task Force recommended that we have specialized teaching title, and require for those individuals a similar review process as do regular tenure track faculty.
- 3) Subsequently the Vice Provost asked the university system for permission to create the specialized teaching ranks on our campus. The system didn’t give approval on an ad-hoc basis because Intercampus Faculty Council and the system’s Academic Affairs Office were also working on a system to create the various tracks for specialized professors. Some of the system’s Provosts didn’t approve of the specialized tracks. They felt it might be a threat to the tenure process and might affect the process of faculty searches. In addition, they felt it could create a parallel faculty with lower wages and second class citizenship. They did agree that the specialized title would allow for better control of adjunct professors.

The Vice Provost encouraged the faculty to think about how to resolve this issue. The following points were made in the ensuing discussion.

1. The faculty members of units usually participate in the hiring of visiting professors but often it is the deans who hire adjuncts. The specialized titles system might lead to more faculty control over hiring.
2. The issue was raised about what to do with persons already here with these non-regular visiting titles. The policy issue and the problem of current employees are separate issues. Some of these positions have been created because units were not allowed to hire tenure track faculty when they were needed. It also allows some units to bring in practitioners they need to work with their students.
3. The title adjunct at UMKC is used to mean non-regular faculty not necessarily just part-time faculty. It was suggested that some titles may be needed to allow some units a greater level of flexibility.
4. We still need a title for full-time professors who do only teaching. Issues of salary and prestige are involved in the issue of titles. Excellent teachers should be honored with full professor teaching titles and we have these rankings already in

the clinical and research areas. These specialized titles might provide support for tenured faculty to do more research work and writing.

This discussion revealed that there are many different titles and interpretations of titles in use in the various academic units at UMKC-

Assessment Task Force-Senate Representative

The planning team for the North Central Accreditation visit is being assembled. The Chair of the Senate will represent the Senate on this planning team.

Budget Committee Motions

A motion and a resolution were presented by the Senate Budget Committee and discussed by the Senate. The Senate determined that the two items could be voted on at this meeting. The vote count for this was 16 yes votes, 2 no votes, and 0 abstentions.

The following motion was passed with a vote count of 17 yes votes, 1 no vote, 0 abstentions.

In the spring semester, after the amount of the Faculty Senate operating budget for the following year has been determined, the Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate Budget Committee shall meet together and draft a proposed budget for the next academic year. This budget shall be presented to the full Faculty Senate as soon as possible thereafter for approval or amendment. In addition, the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall present a quarterly report on expenditures to the full Faculty Senate.

The following resolution was passed with a vote count of 17 yes votes, 1 no vote, and 0 abstentions.

WHEREAS the UMKC Faculty Senate understands that a campus-wide committee on UMKC facilities and planning and related matters, with significant faculty participation, formerly existed, but has been dormant for several years; and

WHEREAS the Faculty Senate further understands that UMKC's Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance has indicated to UMKC's Budget Advisory Committee that a new standing committee will be formed to replace such dormant committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UMKC Faculty Senate supports UMKC's formation of a new standing committee which would (a) be charged with providing input and recommendations on (i) the Master Plan for each UMKC campus (including, without limitation, planning for the location and construction of new buildings and additional parking facilities); (ii) annual capital appropriations requests for physical improvements; (iii) campus beautification projects; (iv) deferred maintenance, (v) annual plant costs, including maintenance and repairs; and (vi) funding of operation of new facilities, and (b) include in its membership a significant number of faculty members (at least 50% of the overall committee), each to be elected by or under the direction of the Faculty Senate (which faculty members may, but need not be, Faculty Senators).

Adjournment

Senators Present: Waterborg, Loncar, Ebersole, Stancel, Murphy, Russell, Cole, Thompson, Hood, Honigberg, Jones, Crossland, Schweitzberger, Krause, Potts, Mardikes, Joy, Luppino, Driever, Neau, Gogol, Adler, Fieldman, Igwe, Mitchell, Durig, Knopp

Senators Excused: Pennington, Green, Stein, Gardner, McCunniff, Reese, Rice, Ward-Smith