UMKC Faculty Senate  
Meeting  
February 7, 2006

Major Topics

Provost Search  
Dean of College Search  
Senate Elections Scheduled  
Resolution of Senate on Search Committee Composition  
COSCO Recommendations

Information/Announcements

The Chair confirmed the reservations for the Senate breakfast with the first Provost candidate and provided the Senate with a list of the members of the Provost Search Committee.

After assessing the will of the Senate, the Chair determined that the meeting scheduled for March 7th will not be held since that is spring break week.

Chancellor’s Report

Chancellor Bailey discussed the Provost search with the Senate. There are 5 candidates identified to come to campus for full interviews. The Chancellor indicated that pool of candidates was good but not large, and we need to consider why the pool was not larger. The 5 candidates identified are all in other Provost searches too. The Chancellor encouraged the faculty to meet with the candidates and get to know them. He asked that the faculty, especially Senators then provide feedback to him regarding the candidates’ qualifications. The Chancellor indicated that he would like narrative feedback with the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates addressed. He said that it is acceptable to show preferences but ask that faculty not rank the candidates. The Chancellor also asked that the faculty allow the search committee and the search firm to do the reference calls on these candidates. If there are particular things faculty members want to know about the candidates they should have the search committee find out the information in a systematic way. Individuals Senators can give feedback on the candidates to the Chancellor but he asked that a collective report from Senate also be generated and provided to him. The Chancellor’s Office has forms individuals can use to provide feedback on the candidates. All efforts to gather information on these candidates needs to be professional and systematic and respectful of the individual candidates. The search needs to move forward quickly because these candidates are in other searches and we don’t want to lose a candidate to another institution. The Chancellor would like the search to be done by mid-March.
Senators asked if the cover letters of the candidates could be made available along with their curriculum vitae and if these could be gotten to senators fairly early. The Chancellor assured the Senate that this will be done.

The names of the candidates will be released along with their CV’s as they confirm to the search committee that they will come for an interview. The Chancellor stressed again that the search committee must do the research on the 5 candidates.

A Senator asked if the search firm is releasing background information to the search committee such as letters of references. The search firm will get information that the search committee will not be able to get. There is a need to talk to staff, colleagues, and supervisors of the candidates and the search firm can do that best. The Chancellor indicated that the search firm is excellent and does very high level searches in higher education for many institutions.

Senators were asked about the scheduling of interviews with candidates. Open meetings for the faculty are scheduled in Plaza Room and will be hosted by Kathleen Schweitzberger. Kathleen asked the Senate about how many faculty members might come to the interviews, and about the best times for scheduling open faculty sessions with candidates. The Senate indicated that the best time will probably be 2:00-3:00PM on most afternoons. There will be separate forums with the candidates for Hospital Hill faculty. E-mails will be sent announcing the specifics of the candidate forums.

Tuition Issue - The Chancellor also discussed the possibility of a tuition increase for the next academic year. We don’t know yet what will happen. It is possible that tuition might be raised about 5%. The option of a facilities fee was discussed at the last Curators’ meeting but this did not have strong support among the Curators and probably will not happen. The Curators recognized that a state appropriation increase of about 2% will not cover much of the projected increase for the next fiscal year. The cost inflationary increase projected for the next year is about 6.8 million.

Addendum: The 6.8 million is the projected cost of the assumed-to-be mandated 2% salary pool increase and the approximate 15% benefits increase. The administration is currently projecting approximately $7.5 million of other recurring expenses increases--i.e., in addition to the 6.8 million (thought no 100% of the 7.5 million is viewed as “mandatory”). Depending on tuition rate and enrollment variables, it is expected that increased tuition revenue, combined with the 2% increase in the state appropriation would cover only about 46%-55% of the anticipated expense increases.
Most of this increase is for employee benefits (up to 15%), which is a major part of the compensation package in higher education. Curators questioned why higher education employees should have such good benefits, but also recognized that good benefits are what attract good faculty. Nevertheless, tuition increases are necessary primarily because of the increase in employee benefits. Like the other campuses, UMKC must find new revenue sources. Our anticipated money shortfalls cannot be handled by budgeting alone.

The Chancellor commented on the sale of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). He noted that the proposal has been modified to the sale of only out of state loans. UMKC students do not use MOHELA. The Chancellor noted that the governor’s choices for the use of the sales funds for buildings at UMKC did not match campus priorities. If we can use the sales money to finish out the shell space of the Health Science Building, we wouldn’t have to tap the fund balances of other units. The total amount of money initially assigned to each campus from the MOHELA sale will probably not be realized, but the Chancellor hopes to get enough money from the MOHELA sales to finish out the Health Sciences Building shell. The Chancellor observed that we need to think about how we position ourselves politically when we assign priorities for capital funds. The best thing we can do right now is to finish out the Health Science Building. That will have the most ripple effect across campus and the community. The Chancellor ended by stating that he was pleased with the work of the Budget Advisory Committee.

**Provost’s Report**

Senators asked the Interim Provost about his choice of chair for the Arts and Sciences Dean Search Committee and the composition of that committee. Interim Provost Bubacz indicated that he believes that the chair he selected will do a good job and will be unbiased. He also pointed out that he chose faculty members for the search committee from the list of nominees from the college who had agreed to serve. (See resolution given below.)

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee**

The Chair distributed and explained the Senate budget and expenditure from July 1, 2005 and January 31, 2006.

The Chair also announced that Dr. Louis Potts needs to be replaced on the University Faculty and Staff Benefits and Retirement Committee. The Chair asked that senators nominate a replacement.
Administrative Issues

The Chair of the Administrative Issues Committee explained to the Senate that the Dean of the Conservatory had actually completed his formal evaluation last year. The Senate agreed that no evaluation was necessary this year. The Chair also proposed the following schedule for the Senate’s spring elections:

- February 15 - call for nomination out
- March 3 - close of nominations at 5:00PM
- March 13 - ballots out
- March 31 - ballots returned by 5:00PM

The Senate approved this schedule.

Academic Issues

No report. The Chair of the committee is representing the UMKC faculty at the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates.

Faculty Welfare Committee

No report.

Senate Budget Committee

The Chair of the Senate’s budget committee reported that the Budget Advisory Committee and the Senate Budget Committee working on several issues.

- A long term budgeting model (the committees may analyze the possibility of allocating all income to academic units and then requiring the units to pay for needed services and support

- Since increase costs will not be adequately covered by tuition, there will be a gap and the Senate Budget Committee is supporting the point that the administration must look for the cuts elsewhere than in the academic units. These figures are relevant to this point:

    20 million dollars of administrative costs are within the academic unit, however 63 million dollars of administrative costs are outside the schools and colleges
It was noted that references have recently been made to the fact that most of the General Revenue (for GRA) income increases in FY06 were allocated to schools/colleges (some $4 million), but that we might also keep in mind that for FY03 through FY05 there was an aggregate approximately $21 million dollar increase in General Revenue, and of that, the Faculty Senate Budget Committee found that about $17 million went in direct GRA allocations to UMKC units other than schools/colleges and only about 4.5 million went to direct GRA allocations to schools/colleges. Thus, while some of that may have come back indirectly to schools/colleges (we are still awaiting a tracing of such dollars), it appears that over the four-year period the administration has gotten much more of the GRA increases than the schools/colleges (even though the latter are most directly affected by enrollment increases.)

The Senate Budget Committee and COSCO will meet with Chancellor Bailey to make sure he understands the faculty perspective on these budget issues, and the Senate Executive Committee will as well.

**COSCO Report**

The meeting went into closed session for this report.

**Resolution**

After the meeting was reopened, the Senate voted to override the requirement to vote on resolutions at the next meeting to allow for the discussion and vote of the following resolution.

*Whereas, the Faculty Senate is concerned about the chairmanship and composition of the Search Committee for the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences,*

*We move that the search committee be modified to include a co-chair who is a full professor from the College of Arts and Sciences, and to include at least three more full professors as members, at least two from the College of Arts and Sciences, and at least one Assistant Professor from the College.*

*A call should go out immediately for nominations for these full and assistant professors. The co-chair should be selected from the final list of full professor members.*

This resolution was moved and seconded, and passed unanimously.
Adjournment


Senators Excused: Murphy, Rice, Reese, McCunniff, Green