Faculty Senate Report  
Tuesday, 6 May 2008  
Plaza Room, Administrative Center, 3-5pm

1. Welcome – Ebersole  
   a. Information Items  
   b. Parking and Traffic Committee – need faculty nominees  
      i. Jane Peterson, Nursing willing to serve, as is Keith Buszek, Chemistry,  
         and Joe Parkinson, Dentistry.  
   c. Program evaluation committee (committee is mandated by UM system)—needs a  
      Senator as a committee member; committee meets monthly  
      i. Steve Driever volunteered.  
   d. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs – need a search committee member  
      i. Committee will work over summer.  
      ii. Lou Potts was volunteered and accepted.  
   e. UM system faculty committee on tenure  
      i. Marilyn Taylor’s term has ended, but is willing to serve again.  
      ii.  
   f. SB 389; Provost sent out information regarding faculty completing information on  
      educational background. SB 389 asks for more information; Senate executive  
      committee will be sending out more information on what that might be; Marilyn  
      Taylor willing to assist.  
   g. Report on Faculty Senate budget

2. Chancellor Bailey  
   a. Distributed a draft memorandum regarding campus construction projects and  
      serious facility deficit. This memo should be distributed to the campus  
      community shortly.  
      i. Top campus priorities may need to be deferred because of lack of state  
         funding and attempting to use innovative revenue resources. UMKC used  
         debt financing to fund chiller plant replacement; energy savings and other  
         modifications will provide the revenue to pay back the debt.  
      ii. Oak Place Apts. Revenue from this project will help support Miller  
         Nichols Library expansion Phase I and other facilities.  
      iii. Among the projects under discussion: additions to the Hospital Hill  
         campus, such as student housing, a wellness and recreation center, dental  
         school building expansion, and a Health Science Education and Research  
         Building II.  
      iv. Volker campus projects under discussion include a new Conservatory of  
         Music and Dance building and a convocation center/athletics facility.
v. A faculty member asked about what kind of debt UMKC is taking on. Bailey noted that the UM system issues bonds; UMKC has to have debt service identified before any bonds are issued. Projects may be funded differently depending on the type of project.

vi. Another faculty member asked about reconfiguring classroom space. Bailey said that it’s a good question and said that we may not have the most efficient classroom space available. Worth looking at a survey of our classrooms and space utilization. Bailey’s guess is that as UMKC hires younger, more tech savvy faculty, they will be more interested in having blended classes.

vii. A question was raised about possibly synergy between Conservatory, convocation and student union spaces? Bailey responded that the Conservatory’s needs are very specialized, especially in regards to acoustics.

viii. A faculty member asked who is involved in these conversations? Bailey noted that he and community folks who are in the know about tax credits/neighborhood districts.

ix. Any suggestions or questions? Please send them to Chancellor Bailey asap.

b. Discussed issues of faculty salaries. 18 April Chronicle of Higher Education had articles regarding faculty salaries (see http://chronicle.com/weekly/v54/i32/32a02001.htm); when Bailey left UTSA 3 years ago, the average salary for a full professor was $108,000. Bailey interested in raising faculty salaries for UMKC.

3. Provost Hackett

a. Most of Hackett’s time has been spent with Dean appointments and searches.

b. Bloch school interim dean is Lee Bolman, effective 1 July 2008. Search committee to be announced soon.

c. Just completed final interviews for Computing and Engineering Dean search.

d. Just met with the 5th of 6 Conservatory Dean candidates.

e. Hackett thinks the search committees have done an excellent job. Hackett’s preference would be that dean candidate information be distributed to everyone on campus and give people an opportunity to attend forums.

f. Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs – planning to look within UMKC or UM System first before looking outside the university. Ebersole recommended that Hackett resend the position description and ad to UMKC Faculty.

g. A faculty member asked about a search for an important faculty position; this faculty member did not know this had been advertised. Hackett agreed that these positions do need to be advertised, need to have an opportunity to meet the potential colleagues. Hackett will follow up on this particular example.
h. Hackett did meet with the Academic Chairs and Directors this week; Hackett is concerned about the support for academic leadership on this campus. Support varies from dean to dean. The campus needs to be supportive of this level of academic leadership. Hackett thought the meeting went well and follow up will occur soon.

i. Ebersole asked if the Chairs and Directors meeting will be a regular meeting. Hackett proposed forming a small steering committee to form meetings and content discussions. The Chair and Directors expressed the desire to meet with the University Budget Committee.

j. A faculty member asked about space utilization. Hackett noted that she has already received a space utilization report and some changes may evolve from that. The changes in the budget model may help with some of this; some schools “own” their classrooms and some may be part of the central scheduling pool. The costs of the centrally scheduled rooms are borne by all academic units. Hackett noted that the university needs to move to electronic scheduling and also create more efficiencies for classroom needs. Another concern raised is matching ILE classrooms to faculty needing that technology and having appropriate sized rooms available for various class sizes.

k. Hackett noted we have the data, but don’t have a process for decision making on these issues.

l. Another faculty member asked if there is a plan to upgrade the ILE classrooms. Hackett will ask Mary Lou Hines about a plan.

m. Hackett has been talking with the deans, staff, and now the faculty about the many little things such as putting in blackboards/whiteboards that would make a big difference. If there are things that can be solved quickly to help you move forward, please make those suggestions to Provost Hackett. Ebersole encourages Senators to contact Senate Executive Committee members too, who bring up issues in their monthly meeting with Hackett.

n. Another faculty member asked about the issues of assigning office space or even finding out who has a particular office space. Central scheduling would not provide an answer.

o. A Conservatory senator noted her unit has been working on master scheduling plan internally and has had a difficult time; can only imagine what the rest of the campus would experience.

4. Administrative Issues Committee – Tom Stein
   a. Report on standard operating procedures
      i. Jeff Price sent a list of suggestions regarding the standard operating procedures presented at previous meetings. They were enough that the Administrative Issues Committee is meeting to review these suggestions.
ii. The standard operating procedures are supposed to be flexible; do senators want to vote to pass them now, or wait until the fall after the CRR changes have been adopted. These procedures can be changed by a Senate vote. Price suggests to vote on the procedures now and then follow up with any changes in the fall.

iii. A senator asked if there will be continuity on the Administrative Issues Committee for the fall? Stein noted that yes, there will be some continuity and the current committee is meeting this week to review Price’s suggestions.

iv. Rice moved to accept, Whitt, seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Election results

i. 669 ballots issued

ii. 270 ballots returned

iii. IFC election: Stancel won with 128; Persechini 69, Olson 66

iv. Chair, Ebersole with 225 votes

v. Vice-Chair, Fieldman with 230 votes

vi. Secretary, McArthur with 229 votes

5. COSCO – Mardikes

a. Report on grievance procedures – not available and will be deferred until fall

6. Athletics update – Tim Hall (4:30pm)

a. Update on student athletes

b. details of UMKC intercollegiate athletics core values

c. Areas of concentration for this academic year included:

i. Student athlete experience; includes encouraging/supporting/promoting graduation – UMKC rate is 87%, national average 77%; raising GPAs; men’s basketball athletes raised GPAs this semester.

ii. Compliance; hired staff with national reputation; strong alliance with conference/NCAA office; compliance examination of entire department

iii. Staff evaluation; present vision, accountability for all, greater collaboration in department and on campus.

iv. Revenue generation; expense control; careful review of all forms of revenue, review and prioritization of all expenses; corporate sponsorships and entrepreneurial thinking; analysis of potential staff streamlining.

v. Customer service; expectations; find out “who is our clientele,” can never say thank you enough, professional assistance, form potential focus groups.

d. A faculty member asked if there are plans to compete in swimming. Hall noted that women’s soccer was added, which was a good move. Gender ratios need to be within 2-3% of each other and is a delicate balance; the issue of an appropriate venue is another question.
e. Another person asked when payroll deduction will be available for basketball tickets. Jessica from the athletics office noted that it’s available during the season, but not yet to be distributed through the payroll year. Hall and his office are working with the Central Ticket Office on these issues. Specific e-mail will be sent out about this.

f. A faculty member asked about identifying student athletes in their programs.
   i. Student athletes are not encouraged to wear practice gear to class.
   ii. Noted that those student athletes who are doing well academically and winning awards to need to be recognized.

g. A faculty member asked about how many student athletes are at UMKC. Hall responded about 180, and about 77% of those are on scholarship. Some sports are “headcount” sports (team sports) and some are equivalency sports (e.g. track and field).

h. Another faculty member asked about the struggles student athletes have with the scheduling challenges of academic programs (e.g., clinical experience, student teaching, etc.). Hall noted that students are not funneled into specific majors to avoid these challenges; the faculty member noted that faculty need to be aware in order to work with the student on scheduling program requirements.

i. Another faculty member asked about the basketball program and evaluating it. Hall noted that a study was done by an institution about the exposure and promotion a successful athletic program has given that institution.

7. Ebersole thanked Senators for a productive year.
   a. Marilyn Taylor thanked Ebersole for the tone he established during his term as chair.


Excused: Mardikes, George, Mullaly-Quijas, Gutheil.

Absent: Crossland, Knopp.