

UMKC Faculty Senate Meeting
October 21, 2008

Present: G. Ebersole, H. Fieldman, S. Alleman, C. Beard, S. Sykes Berry, B. Butner, R. Downs, J. George, W. Gutheil, S. Honigberg, D. Hopkins, A. Humrichouser, A. Luppino, T. Marken, L. Potts, J. Price, B. Schubert, L. Stanley, M. Taylor, C. Whitt, K. Williams, B. Yang, R. Ziskin

Excused: C. McArthur, J. Foxworth, T. Mardikes, N. Stancel, A. Holsinger,
Absent: C. Davies, R. Gardner, J. Knopp, S. Madison-Cannon, P. Ward-Smith

Guests: Richard Anderson, Administration and Finance; Dennis Cesari, Administration and Finance; William Leutzinger, Environmental Health and Safety; Andrew Bergerson, History

Chair Ebersole convened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Announcements

Chair Ebersole reported that he will be attending the Intercampus Faculty Council meeting in Columbia on October 22, 2008, and also will attend the Board of Curators meeting on October 23 and 24, along with Provost Hackett and Rick Anderson. Chair Ebersole reported that the UMKC Campus Master Plan is on the BOC agenda.

Chair Ebersole announced that the next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be held at the Health Sciences Building, Room 3301, on November 4.

Chair Ebersole reported the following new members have been added to Faculty Senate standing committees:

Academic Issues

Ekaterina Kadnikova, Chemistry; Nancy Weatherhold, Bloch School; Xin Yan, Mathematics; Louis Imperiale, Foreign Languages and Literature

Administrative Issues

Jakob Waterborg, Biological Sciences; Susan Sykes Berry, Libraries; Thomas Johnston, Pharmacy; Jimmy Adegoke, Geosciences

Faculty Welfare

Mary O'Connor, Nursing; Connie White, Dentistry; Eloise Rathbone-McCuan, Social Work; Mary Henry, CAS

Bob Schubert announced that he will be meeting with University Communications to request that e-mail announcements to the campus community include a short description below the title, be allowed to be submitted up to one month prior to the event, and be allowed to repeat. He asked Senate members to let him know if they have suggestions for changes to the announcements.

Senator Honigberg presented questions about faculty members assigning materials that they have authored. He pointed out that royalties are to be given to the UM system or to a charity, but that it is sometimes difficult to ascertain the correct amount. Provost Hackett said she will bring this question to the attention of the Chief Academic Officers and will report back to Faculty Senate. The Provost noted that as publishers add materials, e.g., CDs, workbooks, to the original publication, this ups the cost.

Senator Hopkins moved that the minutes of the October 7, 2008, Faculty Senate meeting be approved as distributed. Vice-Chair Fieldman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from the Provost

Provost Hackett reported that she has shared the concerns expressed by members of the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry with Rick Anderson, Mary Lou Hines Fritts, and Mel Tyler, and she has responded to the concerns. Information regarding these issues is located at the Provost's website.

Provost Hackett announced that the COACHE Survey on tenure-track faculty satisfaction will be sent to all junior faculty soon.

The Provost reported that the recent visit to the Arizona State University Decision Theater was very successful. Those attending included members of the Kansas City community, trustees, Student Affairs representatives, and faculty. Faculty who attended have written a draft proposal of what a UMKC Decision Theater might look like and how it would contribute to the campus community and to Kansas City.

Provost Hackett announced that Deans Council has been discussing undergraduate student success and retention, looking at ways to improve communication with students so they may better understand exactly what course work is required on a semester-by-semester basis. One suggestion is to put all undergraduate academic programs in a common course format across departments. Deans have the template for this. Also, departments could specify a suggested sequence of courses. Provost Hackett pointed out this could be tied into course scheduling and could aid in predicting course enrollment needs. Senator Beard asked about transfer courses and looking at more efficient ways to improve the evaluation of transfer credits. Senator Ziskin asked if we could try to find a way to accord a higher priority to affordability, proposing that one of the main reasons students drop out may well be because they cannot afford to continue their educations. Offering one example of an area in which we could probably do more, she asked whether there might not be a way to increase the use of students in the campus workforce.

Senator Honigberg asked if UMKC can afford the expense of new building projects given reasonable estimates for future enrollment and other revenue streams. Provost Hackett stated that Rick Anderson's financial people have reviewed this; looking at a conservative estimate of enrollment growth of 3%, all currently approved building projects could be funded. Dr. Honigberg asked whether a 3% annual growth should be considered conservative given that in many years our growth has been much less than 3%. The Provost noted that UMKC has not been getting its share of local high school graduates, and that the number of these graduates are currently increasing in the Kansas City area by 5-6%. Also, there is also an opportunity to increase the number of transfer students from local colleges. She further noted that UMKC is not dedicating all revenues from increased enrollments to the new facilities project, just a percentage. The Provost pointed out that the university's bond rating is very good, and there is a window of time that can be used to assess the influence of the current economic situation before fully committing to several planned but not finally approved building projects.

Campus Environmental Issues

Rick Anderson reported that his office has been reviewing what UMKC has been doing to promote a more "green" environment from a sustainability standpoint:

- Carbon footprint – Examine where UMKC is making the greatest impact.
- What is UMKC doing right now?
 - Rain gardens
 - Electric carts
 - Discounts for bus passes for faculty and students
 - Bicycle programs
 - Chillers
 - Most if not all buildings will be LEAD certified in the future
 - Sustainable curriculum offerings

Mr. Anderson noted that UMKC needs to plan for future parking requirements, including looking at increased use of shuttles and buses. Chair Ebersole inquired about the proposed Oak Street parking facility project. Mr. Anderson stated that plans are to have the facility completed in two years to coincide with the opening of the new student union. He also noted that if the two-year timeline is not implemented, this would allow for more time for review of the proposed project. Chair Ebersole asked about the increase in parking fees and taking the burden off students and staff. He asked if the debt for the proposed parking facility would be financed for 30 years, and Mr. Anderson confirmed this. Chair Ebersole expressed his concerns about the university financing a structure that may be obsolete in 30 years. He recommended putting a hold on the project and conducting a concerted study that would look at future parking needs for UMKC. He also noted that Kansas City is not in compliance with EPA regulations, and that the EPA has given the city an extended timeline to address this. Chair Ebersole asked if UMKC could partner with the city on working to create a healthier and more sustainable environment. Discussion of the proposed parking facility and transportation issues followed, including members of the audience.

Chair Ebersole presented a Sense of the Senate motion as follows: The Faculty Senate recommends a hiatus, not to exceed one calendar year, on the plans to build a new multi-tiered parking structure on Oak Street, during which time the Faculty Senate would work with the Provost, the University Budget Committee, and others in setting up a university-wide committee and subcommittees to do the kind of comprehensive study of what the university can and should do to fulfill our responsibility as the university of Kansas City to sustain and improve our environment.

It was the consensus of the Senate that, for real shared governance and to follow the spirit of the UM Collected Rules and Regulations, all major capital projects and improvements should be fully vetted with the University Budget Committee and other relevant faculty committees first for discussion and input. Senator Luppino seconded the motion, and it passed with twenty ayes and one abstention.

Chair Ebersole reported that a proposal has been presented to Interim Chancellor Morton for the creation of a UMKC Environmental Council and the appointment of a Sustainability Coordinator.

Department of Environmental Health and Safety Report

William Leutzinger, Director of the UMKC Department of Environmental Health and Safety, presented a report on the department, including its mission, accomplishments, and future planning. He stated that the Emergency Response Guide should be posted in every office on campus.

Social Science Institutional Review Board (SSIRB)

Dr. Andrew Bergerson, Department of History, presented a proposal for new protocol on oral histories. Dr. Bergerson pointed out that generally ethnographers and persons conducting oral histories are not required to go before the IRB. He stated that this is the first SSIRB issue to be presented to the Faculty Senate for faculty governance. The proposal calls for the following:

- (1) Every faculty member would INFORM THEMSELVES about basic ethical guidelines to follow when conducting oral histories.
- (2) In addition to reviewing the guidelines, the researcher is strongly encouraged to discuss their research protocol with EXPERIENCED peers before implementing the protocol.
- (3) The SSIRB Subcommittee for Oral History will hold two meetings per semester at FACET to discuss “Best Practices” in oral history.
- (4) Based on guidelines provided by the SSIRB Subcommittee, the researcher and/or their designee will then make the determination if their research project requires IRB review.

Dr. Bergerson recommended a similar procedure be implemented for other types of research at UMKC. Because of time constraints, Chair Ebersole asked that this discussion be continued at the next Faculty Senate meeting on November 4, and he

invited Dr. Bergerson to attend. He asked Faculty Senate to review Dr. Bergerson's proposal prior to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.