

Executive Committee Minutes
Faculty Senate
August 28, 2017

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on Monday, August 28, 2017 at 3:30pm in the Faculty Center in the Keen Johnson Building.

PRESENT: M. Ciocca, D. Corley, R. Day, L. Kay, P. Kopacz, N. Mason, I. Slusher, T. Spigelman, D. Whitehouse, M. Winslow and special guests Paul Gannoe, Gill Hunter, Lynnette Noblitt, and Sherry Robinson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Senator Slusher moved approval of the April 17, 2017 minutes as written, seconded by Senator Kopacz. Motion carried.

GUESTS SPEAKERS:

- ***President Benson – Monthly update***

Senator Benson stated that the Faculty Center is in the process of being reverted back to its former glory. The monies used for outfitting the Faculty Center and reupholstering the furniture and updating the living room area is budgeted at \$100,000 which would be split between the Foundation Fund and private donor funds. The faculty has yet to determine the official name for the space. The Teaching and Learning Center will be relocated to what is currently the Law Library space in the John Grant Crabbe Library. The funds for renovating the Law Library space is being taken out of auxiliary funds. The goal is to have a grand launch for each of those areas in the spring semester.

State Budget Director John Chilton testified before one of the legislative sub committees earlier today that his office estimates there will be a \$200 million shortfall in Kentucky's 2018 budget. This is not good news for any of us.

The 2017 Governor's Conference for Postsecondary Education Trusteeship is scheduled for September 11-12. The Acorn Awards will also be presented at the conference. Our own Matt Winslow will receive an Acorn Award. This is the first time since 2008 that an ECU faculty member has received the award.

On CPE's first run of performance-based funding, which was based on the past three years of data, ECU showed a net-positive gain. Current enrollment figures show that ECU's enrollment for Fall 2017 is down by 1.97% which is about 300 fewer students as compared to this time last year. However, it's still early in the semester and the percentages could change as much as one or two percentage points.

The Board of Regents is scheduled to meet in October at Model Lab School. The Board also plans to tour the facility. Model Lab is a top priority for the Board.

President Benson stated that he is very cognizant of tuition and the tuition discussion. There is a movement within our Board to hold tuition very low this year. Discussions are already underway in CPE right now to keep tuition increase to no more than 1-2% at most.

- ***Paul Gannoe – Campus Update on Construction Projects***
 - The new science building Phase II opened this fall. The Deans suite should be completed within the next 6 weeks.
 - Two new residence halls (North Hall and New Martin Hall) are now open.
 - Construction should begin on the new RECC center on November 6.
 - The new dining facility should be completed by December 15th and will open for business for the spring 2018 semester.
 - Powell Building reconstruction should begin around April or May. Discussions are currently underway on the schematics for Powell. Some of the possibilities include:
 - The basement of the Powell building will house the bookstore, a bank branch, Amazon lockers, possibly a post office, and two retail dining spaces (possibly Starbucks and another one yet to be determined).
 - The second floor will house the multicultural center, SGA, IT, student organizations, and meeting rooms.
 - The third floor could possibly house meeting rooms for students. Construction should begin around April or May.
 - Some of those areas currently housed in the Powell Building will temporarily move to Memorial Science and Roark during the reconstruction.
 - Einstein's will need to move from the Moore Building. Possible new location could be the science Phase II area. Nothing has been decided yet.
 - Once the bookstore moves out of the Keen Johnson basement, possible uses for the space could be for IT Tech Commons or for student meeting space. Nothing has been decided yet.
 - The TLC is moving to the Law Library space in the Crabbe Library. The budget for renovation is \$100,000.

Paul Gannoe will give a report to the full Senate in September.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ***Policy Updates:***

Vice Provost Robinson reported that the Faculty Grievances Policy, which has already been approved by Senate, went before the Provost Council in May and substantive changes were recommended. The policy will go back for action at the next Provost Council meeting in two weeks and then will come before XC for review in September before going to the full Senate.

Vice Provost Robinson shared a [5-year review plan](#) for all remaining policies that have not yet been through the Policy on Policies review process. She asked that anyone with suggested changes to the review timeline should let her know.

Senator Kopacz requested that Policy 4.7.11 - Faculty Responsibility for English Composition be changed from the 2021-22 review period to the 2017-2018 review period.

- ***Faculty Senate Appointments to University Standing Committees***
 - Senator Corley self-nominated to serve on the Compassionate Withdrawals Committee.
 - Senator Slusher self-nominated to serve on the Residency Appeals Committee.
 - Senator Mason self-nominated to serve on the General Education Committee. After XC, Senator Mason discovered that the Gen Ed meetings conflicted with her teaching schedule and therefore Senator Kay volunteered to become the Senate's representative.

- **Discussion Items:**

- ***Should XC continue to meet monthly with President Benson***

The XC was in agreement that the monthly meetings with President Benson should continue again this year. Chair Winslow will follow up with Jeremy Raines to schedule those meetings.

- ***Chairs Steering Committee Partnership***

Last year the Executive Committee invited the chair of the Chairs Association to attend XC meetings and in turn the Senate chair was invited to attend the Chairs Association meetings. The XC was in agreement to continue that practice again this year.

- ***Updating Committee Charges for 2017-2018***

A list of last year's charges was shared with the committee and Chair Winslow asked for suggestions/revisions to be emailed to him by Friday. Once the charges are updated for all committees, Chair Winslow will share with XC for additional feedback.

Chair Winslow suggested adding the following charge to the Academic Quality Committee charges for the year with the due date of early spring 2018 to report back to Senate. The XC was in agreement.

Write a report that includes all of the ways that ECU is responding to the performance-based funding metrics and highlight the resources available to faculty and students in this effort.

Gill Hunter, Executive Director for Retention and Graduation, noted his willingness to work closely with the AQC.

- ***Update on Actions over the Summer***

Chair Winslow noted that he and John Fitch met independently with Barry Poynter several times over the summer to discuss t Aramark's contract for Facilities Services. The meetings provided a better understanding for why outsourcing was a financial benefit for ECU.

- ***Evaluation of President Benson***

Chair Winslow moved, seconded by Senator Corley, to investigate hiring an outside firm to assist with the evaluation of President Benson. Motion carried.

Chairman Craig Turner has agreed to cover the cost for hiring a firm for this purpose.

- ***Two issues raised by Senator Kay***

The XC was in agreement to add the following to the charges for the Faculty Welfare Committee.

- Check into why employee dependents can no longer combine the tuition waiver with a merit scholarship
- Check into why the 10% employee discount is no longer honored for textbooks at the campus bookstore

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Winslow announced that the following vacancies will need to be filled at the September Senate meeting:

- Budget Committee – 1 vacancy
- Elections Committee – 1 vacancy
- Rights & Responsibilities Committee – 3 vacancies
- Board of Governors – 1 vacancy 1 vacancy

Chair Winslow announced that Betina Gardner will give an LMS update at the September Senate meeting.

- **Reports:**

- Academic Quality Committee
Senator Ciocca will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Budget Committee
Senator Ciocca will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Elections & University Nominations Committee
Senator Mason will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Faculty Club Board of Governors
Senator Kopacz will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Faculty Welfare Committee
Senator Spigelman will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Senators Bentley and Turner will serve as co-chairs this year.

The University Benefits Committee met several times over the summer and Senator Bentley attended those. Some of the things being considered for health care at this point include:

- Adding implants to the dental plan
- Adding identity theft shield
- Bringing financial training on campus
- Looking for a location for a work out center on campus for faculty (*free resource*)

EKU has switched to a new employee wellness portal which also provides an app to download to personal devices.

- Information Technology Committee
Senator Slusher will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Senators Baggett and Cogdill will serve as co-chairs this year.

- Rules Committee
Senator Kay will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Senators Kay and Martin will co-chair the committee this year.

- *Rights and Responsibilities Committee*
Senator Corley will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Senator Quan will serve as chair this year.
- *Ad Hoc Committee on Ombud Framework*
Senator Winslow will serve as the XC liaison for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- *Faculty Regent Report – Senator Day*
Faculty Regent Day would like to see a report generated on the attrition of faculty and he plans to check on this.

Faculty Regent Day will not be at the September meeting.
- *Provost Report – Senator Whitehouse*

Provost Whitehouse wants to keep putting energy and effort into faculty development activities and helping our faculty help each other to try and do innovative things.

Provost Whitehouse will be unable to attend the September meeting but will provide a written report to Senate.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30pm.