

## **Executive Committee report**

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### **EKU Forward item**

We had two productive discussions on April 15 and 29 that centered on recruitment and retention. Some topics discussed include the letters Departments send out to admitted students in the summer before matriculation, the transition from University advising to Departmental advising, recruitment of out-of-state students, closing the distance between administrators and the classroom, and how much money Open Educational Resources could save our students. I would like to thank the Senators who have attended these sessions.

### **Academic Quality Committee report on best practices in large-enrollment classes**

The Executive Committee charged the AQC with “review[ing] best practices for teaching large classes (>100). Investigate the types of instructional resources and/or approaches, e.g., teaching practices, instructional resources, peer mentorship, teaching assistants, classroom layout, furniture, technology, etc., that have been found to facilitate learning. Also search for and summarize scholarship that compares the effectiveness of large and small class sizes.” The Executive Committee has received their report and thanks the AQC for their hard work and excellent scholarship. The full report is included in the AQC report to this body and we encourage Senators to read and distribute it as they see fit. We consider this report the first phase of an investigation into best practices for teaching large-enrollment courses. I believe the Senate will follow up on this report next year.

### **Valuable Faculty Senate Staff**

I want to take this moment to thank Dr. Melanie Adams-Johnson for her service as Parliamentarian of the Senate for the past two years. This is a volunteer position, without pay or reassigned time. Dr. Adams-Johnson has done a superb job and has helped the Senate function smoothly and according to Robert’s Rules.

Pauletta King started in her position of Faculty Senate Secretary in 2000. I cannot overstate the importance of her expertise and efforts in the functioning of the Senate. She has been especially valuable to me, as I had not been Vice Chair or a member of the Executive Committee prior to my election as Chair. That meant that I had a steeper learning curve than other Chairs, and I am so thankful for her assistance. Simply put: the Faculty Senate owes a huge debt to Ms. King. I hope that each Senator appreciates all that she does and has done to benefit the Senate.