Wichita State University Faculty Senate meeting  Monday,  October 12, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:  T. Bennett, Brooks, Bryant, Carruthers, Celestin, Craft, Dale, Decker, DeSilva, Driessen, Hemans, Henry, Hershfield, Horn, Klunder, Kreinath, Lewis-Moss, Lezotte, Miller, Monroe, Mosack, Myers, Rillema, Rokosz, Ross, D. Russell, L. Russell, Scherz, Skinner, Soles, Spurgeon, Strattmann, Thompson, Yeager, Yildirim

MEMBERS ABSENT: Baker, Baldridge, J. Bennett, Hu, Moore-Jansen, Pickard, Wolf

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Anderson, Bolin, Smith-Campbell

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Provost Miller, SGA President Gearhart

Summary of Action:

I.  Call of the Meeting to Order:  President Soles called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

II. Informal Statements and Proposals:  
    President Soles reminded the senate that the Regents would be on campus Tuesday, October 13 and faculty would be meeting with them at 10:30 in the RSC E. Ballroom

III. Approval of the Minutes:  
    The minutes of September 14, 2009, were accepted as presented.

IV. President's Report: 
    President Soles discussed the new reporting form on campus for the H1N1 flu.  
    President Soles updated the senate about the Faculty Senate Planning & Budget Committee, which continues to meet every Friday to discuss the suggestions which have been submitted for the reshaping effort. About 80+ suggestions have been received. The Committee is narrowing the list to determine what is within the purview of the Committee. Suggestions which are not under Academic Affairs or which are entirely within a college are not within the Committee’s purview. To date, the Committee has received reports from four deans about their strategic planning. One proposal was for the development of the Office for Faculty and Development and Student Success. This office would be formed by re-tasking The Center for Teaching and Research Excellence, Undergraduate Success Programs and the Emory Lindquist Honors Program. Combining these existing offices with related missions formalizes efficiencies already in place on an interim basis and creates strategic and conceptual synergies that will promote academic success for WSU’s broad spectrum of undergraduate students. The Director of the new office would be responsible for faculty development programs and continuing efforts outlined in the 2008 Honors Task Force report. A detailed
description of the proposal can be found on the WSU Reshaping, Rebuilding website: http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=RESHAPING.

This could be a potential savings of $70 thousand. President Soles urged the senators to look at this proposal and to send comments to the Committee.

V. Committee Reports:

A. Rules: Senator Fritz Hemans, chair of the Rules Committee, said the Committee was nominating Gaylen Chandler to be the Barton School of Business representative on the General Education Committee (1yr appt), and Mark Vermillion to represent the College of Education on the Scholarship and Student Aid Committee (3yr. appt). The nominations were approved unanimously.

VI. Old Business: none

VII. New Business:

A. Martha Shawver, Senior Associate Provost, and Vanessa Rodriguez, Director of Campus Housing, made a presentation about the University Behavioral Intervention Team (UBIT). Team members are: Cheryl Adams (Dean of Students), Maureen Dasey-Morales (Director, Counseling and Testing), Paul Dotson (Chief of University Police), Matthew Johnston (Associate Director, Human Resources), Lisa Jones (Associate General Counsel), Vanessa Rodriguez (Director, Housing & Residence Life), Martha Shawyer (Senior Associate Provost, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs and Research). It is part of the university’s Crisis Management Team. The UBIT Crisis Management Team has different committees to deal with various problems; its mission is to provide a proactive and supportive multidisciplinary team to assess and evaluate issues addressing safety and its goal is to provide a safe environment. Team members will be conducting workshops to assist in understanding crisis management and other related issues. Team members are on-call (SEE WEBSITE) ubit@wichita.edu; The team has been functioning for about 1 year. UBIT addresses faculty as well as student issues. The team will be conducting several meetings and a notice regarding times/places/dates will be issued on Tuesday, Oct 13th. Senator Hershfield asked about student privacy, and there was a discussion about the balancing of concerns. Cards were handed out with information and contact information for UBIT. The website is www.wichita.edu/UBIT. The email address is ubit@wichita.edu. The phone number is 978-8248 (978-UBIT).

B. Student Recruitment/Retention at WSU -- Christine Schneikart-Luebbe, Dean of Enrollment Services Bobby Gandu, Director, Undergraduate Admissions & Barth Hague, Assoc. Vice President, University Relations provided an overview of strategies used to recruit undergraduate students. They provide services such as on-campus programs, college conferences, high school visits (about 200/yr) community colleges visits which bring about 1/2 of our new students; participation in community and job fairs, and the Discover WSU program. Highlights of the presentation were discussions of

- Surrounding area, campus visits, group visits; senior day, junior day, open house, faculty representation; program for high achievers Presidential Scholar,
Scholarship Information Night Shocker Leadership Academy; recruitment efforts extending to middle school

- Messages – Dean and Director report that they receive about 10 thousands messages/year. The message focus on the mission and general description of the institution- an urban research serving; individual attention from faculty; quality affordable; cooperative work base (internship); small classes; benefits of being in Wichita

- Publications
  - E-brochure (individualized)
  - College pack (around discipline of interest)
  - Campus visit brochure
  - Involvement brochure

- Recruitment of diverse population
  - Community-based (brought in people from community)
  - Parent Involvement
  - Middle school program
  - Multicultural visit program
  - Relationship with high schools

- Performance agreements- creation of faculty based committee to make suggestions to move forward

Discussion followed: 79% of students WSU are from local 5 county area; technology is used to reach students; all students must apply to receive scholarships none are automatically awarded or awarded without application. Recruitment of non-traditional students -- the office has a special person that helps with contacts of non-traditional students; returning adults; the office is constantly trying to meet their needs; members of Deans office works closely with parents of USD 259 middle school students in order to recruit students; schools are placed on data base; "a lot" of brochures are sent on a regular basis; the office does maintain files of matriculation rates and non entry rates. Dean stated that she would share that information with members of the senate.

C. Elmer Hoyer, chair of the Academy for Effective Teaching Steering Committee, reported on changes to the nomination process by students for the teaching awards. Starting this year the nominations will be made online. This is in response to concerns raised in the past that the committee members cannot attend every class to solicit nominations. Senator Scherz asked if graduate students can nominate teachers. Hoyer said that they can if they meet the basic requirement that nominations can only be made by students who have taken at least 30 hours of classes on campus.

VIII: As May Arise:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm

Respectfully submitted:
Johnnie Thompson, Secretary