

The Faculty Advisory Committee for the Analysis of Change at EKU

Committee Purposes:

- Identify, study, and discuss specific aspects of change in EKU that are of particular concern to, or have significant impacts on the future of, the Faculty.
- Disseminate to the Faculty data-based analyses of specific aspects of change in EKU that are of particular concern to, or have significant impacts on the future of, the Faculty.
- Suggest possible courses of action in response to these changes to appropriate entities.
- Advise the Provost on the growth and development of the Faculty.

Need: The quality and development of the Faculty are critical to the success of the University in all its aims. In recent years, rapid and unrelenting change has impacted EKU's Faculty in a multitude of ways. Collaborative discussion between the Faculty and the Provost, data-based analysis, and dissemination of descriptions of these trends to EKU's Faculty would assist EKU in proactively dealing with change at individual, group, and institutional levels. Potential solutions may also be suggested by these efforts. A Committee with such a charge would enhance faculty and staff work life, student educational experiences, and EKU's reputation as a forward-thinking university. Exchange and discussion of information on change at EKU would enhance understanding, pride, and the sense of shared community at EKU. Some of the changes in EKU that may be of interest to such a Committee might be: demographics of faculty, staff, and students; intra-University communication; faculty scholarship; tuition and state budgets; grant funding; the expression of academic community; traditions marking EKU's unique identity; or relation of the University to its service region.

Procedures: The Committee will meet monthly with the Provost to discuss a wide range of topics that center on the nature of academic change at EKU, as well as how such changes are reflected at state and national levels. The areas to be discussed, and the amount of time spent on each aspect of change, are to be determined by the Committee. Topical discussions of change will be supported by descriptive data whenever possible. A summary report will be given to the Faculty Senate each semester.

Committee Makeup: One Senator elected by the Faculty Senate; five Faculty Members, one elected from each College by the Faculty Members of their College at their Fall College Meeting; and the University Provost. The Faculty Members serve three year terms, with initial appointment of Faculty Members being staggered to enable two members to rotate off of the Committee every year. Determination of staggered term lengths will be determined by the Committee at its first meeting. The Committee is to be chaired by a Faculty Member.

Faculty Member selection should be based on (1) personal and professional objectivity in regard to issues of change; (2) awareness of the values and goals of the institution; and (3) willingness to work for change.

(The above recommendations were produced by the Senate Futures Committee, at the request of the Senate Chair, and with feedback from the Provost. Senate Futures Committee: Ann Chapman, Larry Collins, Stephen Fardo, Richard Freed, Doris Pierce, and Doug Whitlock.)