

**Report to the Senate
Interim Provost
May 1, 2006**

Before anything else, thank you all for the good work you have done this past year. When I first came to the Senate, I thought I was facing a Roman amphitheater crowd. Matters were brought to the floor, and there was just a thumbs up or thumbs down vote. Over the last two years there has been more discussion and debate of issues and concerns. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and be part of the Senate. I particularly want to thank the Executive Committee and especially Dr. Carolyn Siegel for their leadership and selfless commitment of time and energy. There is a lot to be done, but we have done a lot.

Let me address some of the matters with which you might have some concern as this year ends.

SEARCHES

Registrar--Heidi Terry of Radford College has been selected as the new University Registrar.

Dean of Education—the finalists have been interviewed. The committee meets on Tuesday, May 2, to review evaluations and discuss with me the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates.

ITDS Director—all four finalists were on campus and interviewed this week. A decision should be forthcoming shortly.

Dean of Libraries—The four finalists will be on campus between May 1-12. Specifics of the visit and their resumé's can be found on the Library website.

It is my hope to have all of the individuals selected and announced to you before the end of the academic year. The library director selection will be a little close.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH

With the acquisition of funds for the Lancaster Center as mentioned in the President's Report, we will open and operate an education center in Lancaster. This is in response to a need expressed by a delegation from that community, its raising private funds for two years rent and partial renovations of the space, the response of 1100 individuals to a questionnaire of interest in higher education in Lancaster, and the support of the legislature for this project. The programming will be done in conjunction with BCTC. This center offers us the opportunity to work with BCTC to meet community needs through creative programming and delivery systems.

Along those same lines, Deans Helm and Bond, as well as two chairs from Education and I, met with a group from BCTC to discuss the implementation of the already CPE approved KCTCS/Universities 2+2 program in Education. BCTC, which now has 12,500 students, reports that it has 300 students who are in a pre-Education status. This 2+2 program has great potential to provide a diverse number of new teachers for future years.

For this program and the creation and implementation of other 2+2 programs, we are placing full-time people at both BCTC's main campus to work its six campuses and at Somerset to work closely with Somerset CTC to do three things:

- Serve as a transfer student advisor
- Create and implement more 2+2 programs
- Coordinate the offering of courses at those sites.

Such arrangements will allow us to manage the size of the Richmond campus, achieve more graduates, and better serve our service area.

FACULTY CONCERNS REGARDING WORKLOAD

There has been continuing concern expressed regarding faculty workload. At this time of the year we are all weary as the year and semester come to an end, so none of us want to tackle this concern now. Over the course of the summer, my staff and I will be working to get some facts together on teaching load, research productivity, committee work, administrative course releases, and service to our constituent groups. It is hopeful that with these facts in hand the faculty and I can begin a dialogue in the fall to move toward a workable load that better and more fully utilizes the talents of our faculty. I realize this is a volatile subject but it is at the core of what we do and who we are, and like all issues one we should approach through reason, discussion, and debate and not through impressions and anecdotal references.

MERIT

The deans have submitted the names of the individuals eligible for merit raises. There were 518 individuals who will be eligible for the merit raises from the \$250,000 available. The guidelines approved by the Senate and the Board for the distribution of merit money will be the ones that are followed.

COMPUTERS

With new positions to be filled, there will be 571 tenure/tenure-track faculty and librarians who will receive one of the new computers. Visit the ITDS website <http://www.itds.eku.edu/facstaff/laptop.php> to see further information on the Who, What, When, Why and How of the computer distribution and FAQ's that Mona Isaacs will continue to post and answer.

Once again, it has been my sincere pleasure to be your colleague in the Senate these last two years. I wish you well and hope you have a restful, enjoyable, and productive summer.

Jim Chapman