

Dear Senators:

The **Senate's Executive Committee** met November 21, 2005. Reports were received from liaisons to standing and ad hoc Senate Committees, University Committees, and the Arlington Board, as well as from the Provost and Faculty Regent. For the most part, the information they provided will be found in other reports, so it will not be repeated here. Otherwise, the following announcements were made and actions taken.

1. Senators Robles and Ware (Rights and Responsibilities Committee) met with the Executive Committee to request that the Academic Integrity Proposal be placed on the December Senate agenda. So approved.
2. The Executive Committee discussed the proposed new Senate agenda format and a trial version was approved. It will be used for the first time at the December 2005 Senate. The Senate Chair will contact all regularly scheduled Senate speakers to alert them to the change and request their cooperation. The Senate will try the new agenda for several meetings then evaluate its efficacy.
3. The Executive Committee approved the draft Resolution on the Centennial (below) to be brought to the Senate in December.

Be it resolved on this the centennial year of Eastern Kentucky University that the Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University celebrates and honors our faculty colleagues and this University for one hundred years of being a school of opportunity for our service region in southeastern Kentucky and the Commonwealth. We also take this opportunity to honor our sister institution, Western Kentucky University, on this shared centennial year as we move forward together in common pursuit of higher education advancement for the people of the Commonwealth.

4. The ad hoc Senate Futures Committee met November 22nd. Members are Professors Doris Pierce, Steve Fardo, Doug Whitlock, Richard Freed, Senator Ann Chapman, and Senator Larry Collins.
5. The ad hoc Senate Centennial Committee will meet again November 29th. Senator Hunter Hensley was elected Chair; members are Charles Hay (University Archivist, Retired), Dr. Hal Blythe (Director, Teaching and Learning Center), Senators Sharon Shasby and Joyce Wolf, and Marc Whitt (Associate Vice President for Public Relations and Marketing). The Committee will be planning activities in collaboration with the TLC, Faculty Club, and Retired Professors Organization to advance faculty participation in the Centennial celebration during the Spring 2006 Semester.
6. The ad hoc Committee on Senate Membership is complete and will soon meet. The Chair is Senator David May; members are Senators Marlow Marchant, Vickie Sanchez, and Matt Winslow, and former Senate Chair Karen Janssen. This committee will look at Senate term limits and requiring that a faculty member serve a minimum number of years of service at EKU before becoming eligible for election to the Senate.
7. The University Parking and Transportation Committee submitted its final report to the President for consideration.
8. The midnight breakfast for students will be Wednesday, December 7th beginning at 10:30 pm in the Food Court, Powell. Volunteers will work a two-hour shift. Students love seeing professors handing out biscuits, bacon, pancakes, and eggs, so please volunteer if you can. Contact alison_king40@eku.edu. No previous food handling experience needed!
9. The faculty evaluation of the President's job performance is delayed while the Board of Regents conclude the process of hiring a consultant to assist in the process. All stakeholders will be asked to participate in the evaluation in early Spring 2006 (February-March probably). The faculty evaluation will be implemented at the same time as the Board's.

10. The February 2006 *For the Good of the Order* discussion will be "Strategies for Improving the Senate Election Process." It was suggested that the March topic might be "Strategies for Developing More Effective Communication between the Senate and Departments." An April topic is needed.
11. When we had unseasonably warm weather in early November, copious complaints were heard about the excessive heat particularly in older buildings. Complaints continue about clocks that either have stopped working entirely or are woefully inaccurate. Therefore, in response to a request from the Senate Chair, Mr. James C. Street, Director of Facilities has kindly provided a detailed explanation for both our heating and clock problems. Thanks to Mr. Street for taking the time to write such complete and useful explanations (below).

The Executive Committee meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

From Mr. James C. Street, Director of Facilities:

Heat Plant Basics

Heat is provided to main campus by a central heat plant that produces heat primarily through the combustion of coal with natural gas as a back-up alternative system. These central boilers produce steam that is distributed to various buildings through a buried system of pipes. The centrally fired steam, once distributed from the central plant to the individual buildings, is used to heat water (this heat transfer takes place in a piece of equipment called a steam converter) which is in a separate loop within the individual buildings, and this heated water is piped to the registers, fan coil units, or other conditioned air delivery system within the various classrooms, offices and other occupied spaces. In some of the classroom and office buildings constructed in the last forty years we have what is called a "reheat" system, and this means, in basic terms, that air is brought into the building and cooled by a chiller system during the spring, summer and fall, and then reheated to a comfortable temperature. The advantage of this system is that it provides relatively dry air and a greater degree of control over temperatures than the more rudimentary heat or cool only system. One negative aspect of this system is that the chiller system that cools the air must be taken off-line as the potential for freezing approaches, and the result of this is that unseasonably warm weather like that which we've been experiencing lately (early November) will cause uncomfortable temperatures indoors.

Facilities makes every effort to start and end the heating season at a time that will afford the most comfort for our campus occupants. You may recall that we've experienced a very warm fall; however, about three weeks ago it turned cold for a week or so. We received numerous complaints from faculty, staff and students about the cold, but the long-range forecast suggested a return of warm weather so we were reluctant to start the heat plant. (Keep in mind that starting the central heat plant takes roughly three days to start, and also keep in mind that once we start heating we can't go back to cooling.) The cold remained, and finally the long range forecast suggested below average-to-average temperatures so the decision was made to start the plant. Following firing, and at about the same time the plant was starting to provide heat to the buildings, we found ourselves in the midst of another heat wave (75 degrees). Once the cores of all of our buildings get warm, excessively warm outside temperatures will keep the inside temperatures very warm. I know we have uncomfortable folks, but there is little that can be done. The forecast for lows in the 20's will mean we'll have a difficult time responding to the 50 degree swing in temperatures, which will result in cool areas.

On a longer horizon, we have projects identified in our capital plan to address some of the issues relative to system problems. Many of our mid-life to elderly buildings (40 years and over in age) have HVAC equipment in service that is far beyond its life expectancy. President Glasser has worked hard to address deferred maintenance, and we're investing a sizeable portion of the money we've received in heating and cooling repairs.

Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?

Our original Simplex clock system relied on a signal generator that provided a "code" through the campus electrical grid that synchronized the clocks on an hourly schedule. Through the years a couple of things happened that rendered the system something less than efficient: the addition of computers and other equipment that include voltage reduction transformers canceled some of the efficacy of the signal generator, and the clocks simply wore out. The new electrical upgrade does not have a signal generator; therefore, most of the clocks remaining have not reset and are wrong. We anticipated this development and have purchased "Atomix" clocks that reset via a low frequency radio signal that is transmitted nationally and which requires a transmitter repeater to penetrate buildings. We're a bit behind in getting these installed before the prior system became defunct because the electrical contractor is ahead of schedule in getting the new system in place and the old system off line. We are working to get the new clocks in place and will make every effort to get them installed over the next few weeks.