

TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Joanne K. Glasser
DATE: April 4, 2007
RE: March Faculty Senate Report

Congratulations to Dr. Malcolm Frisbie on being elected Faculty Regent. I look forward to welcoming and formally introducing Dr. Frisbie at the April 23, 2007, ECU Board of Regents meeting and to working with him to continue to move ECU forward together. Additionally, please join me in thanking Dr. Pam Schlomann for her service to ECU as Faculty Regent over the last five years.

The following are my updates for April:

SACS Visit April 10-12

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the SACS on-site review committee, 10 reviewers from a variety of universities across our region, to ECU April 10-12. As they visit our campus, I am confident they will sense among our faculty, staff and students a positive commitment to student learning at ECU. The faculty's involvement in the development of the Quality Enhancement Plan and contributions to this entire reaffirmation process is greatly appreciated. You are invited to familiarize yourself with our QEP by reviewing the FAQ that was distributed to the campus community this week. Should you desire, you can review the entire document at <http://www.sacs.ecu.edu>.

University Advancement and Capital Campaign Update

March saw the continuation of our aggressive schedule of campaign visits and alumni events. Plans are being finalized for visits and events in numerous areas for the remainder of the fiscal year including key events and visits in New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, several sites in the Western United States and cities across the Commonwealth.

Additionally:

- As you know, Alumni Weekend will be held on April 27th and 28th and this year's calendar of events promises to be very exciting. The highlight of the activities will be the Alumni Banquet and Hall of Distinguished Alumni Induction Ceremonies to be held on the evening of Saturday, April 28th. Should you need information about this year's Alumni Weekend Activities, or would like to attend the Alumni Banquet and Induction Ceremonies on the 28th, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 622-1261.
- Our annual fund efforts for the Spring continue to make positive strides. Our student phonathon callers, as well as our direct mail efforts, continue to focus on increasing both overall support and donor participation. Likewise, considerable development efforts are focused on securing endowed gifts in support of the campaign, as well as securing planned gifts through estate plans, charitable gift annuities and trusts.

- We continue to make great progress with the planning for Homecoming 2007 scheduled for October 19th and 20th. If your department or student organization would like to participate in any special Homecoming activities, please contact Jackie Collier at 622-1261.
- We have launched a renewed effort to provide current updates to Eastern's alumni and friends via the web. This new outreach is designed to timely provide news and special interest updates to alumni and friends who have provided us with a valid email address. This outreach will also provide information about financial needs across campus and ways in which our alumni and friends can provide support.

EKU Tuition Comparison and Base Funding Model Update

All Kentucky public universities and KCTCS have now submitted their tuition and mandatory fees for the 2007-08 academic year to the Council on Postsecondary Education for approval. As was expected, ECU's tuition and fees per semester for full-time resident undergraduate students ranked third among the comprehensive universities in terms of amount charged, with WKU and NKU charging more and Murray, Kentucky State, and Morehead charging less, in that order. In addition the CPE is continuing its work and discussion with various groups on the base funding model which will serve as a basis for the biennial funding requests for the public universities and KCTCS from the CPE in the 2008 legislative session.

Construction Update

New Science Building: OMNI continues work on Phase "B" design development. HERA, the lab sub-consultant continues with meetings with faculty groups to finalize lab layouts, and the most recent meetings are to determine lab equipment needs. Phase 1 project drawings that will construct utility connections to the site should be advertised for bid on April 27th. Phase 2 site demolition drawings will follow shortly behind the Phase 1 bid. Phase 2 is currently under review by Facilities Services.

Business and Technology Phase 2. Phase "B" design development will complete in the next week. Bidding is scheduled for August.

Bookstore Services and Dining Services Requests for Proposals (RFP) Process Update

The University is entering the final stage of the process to contract for operation of the ECU Bookstore. The process began last fall with an ad hoc drafting committee which developed the RFP document. Dr. Vic Kappler served on the drafting committee. The RFP issued in late January and four proposals were received in early March. An ad hoc advisory review group, including faculty members David May, Patrick Newell and Salome Nnoromele, has been reviewing and evaluating the written proposals and presentations by the four companies.

Also, the University is entering the final stage of the dining services RFP process. As background, in June 2006 a small ad hoc work group was formed to prepare the RFP document for University dining services. University dining services had not been bid out since 1999. The ad hoc work group prepared the RFP for the University, reviewing ideas from several other university RFPs. The ECU RFP was issued in January 2007 and three (3) vendors responded. These three vendors had the opportunity to ask many questions and also came to campus for a pre-proposal conference and to tour all dining facilities. Two weeks later all three vendors submitted their proposals. An ad hoc advisory review group, including faculty members Alice Jones, Claire Schmelzer, and Bill Wesley, has been reviewing and evaluating the written proposals and will evaluate the upcoming presentations by the three companies.

With all the proposals, the dining services review group and the bookstore services review group are striving to thoroughly evaluate and review the overall qualifications of all the vendors and their unique and overall ability and qualifications to satisfy the services and needs of the University.

Wellness Program

The first year of ECU's new wellness program, Healthy You at ECU, has concluded with the following positive results for Year 1: 22% participation; Rewards: 48 people have selected a Health Care Premium reduction of \$100-\$200; 43 people have selected a Flexible Spending Account contribution of \$100-\$200; 14 people have selected a personal holiday; 43 gift bags; 23 people have selected \$150 gift card; 14 people have selected a \$75 gift card. Also, we had a very successful February Health Fair with over 200 faculty/staff participating. The second year of the program began on March 1 with the current Spring Into Fitness Departmental Challenge.

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to ECU.