

## **Faculty Senate Chair Report - 04-07-07**

**Dave Eakin**

I would like to thank Wally Skiba and Gary Barksdale for coming to our last Executive Committee meeting with an additional update regarding Anthem Security Breach and to answer questions regarding Prescription Medicine problems among our faculty. Anthem's recent security breach involved 125 ECU employees. For our information, Mr. Skiba distributed a copy of the information Anthem mailed to each compromised individual. Ray Pepin, Express Scripts Representative, was also present to answer questions regarding prescription medicine issues. Mr. Skiba reported that in 2005-06 ECU spent

\$136,000 in the Proton Pump Inhibitor (PPIs) drugs category alone. ECU has engaged Artemetrx in an effort to reduce the cost of Proton Pump Inhibitor (PPIs) drugs by encouraging employees to choose generic equivalents, and also to encourage faculty/staff participation in the half tablet program, which is a new, voluntary program. Two handouts were distributed, one listing some of the PPI drugs affected and one describing the new Half TAB Program. I would encourage anyone experiencing prescription drug issues with Artemetrx to contact Wally Skiba in Human Resources for assistance.

The Arlington Board Letter was finalized and distributed electronically to all Arlington Board members. I have had some conversations on our behalf with John Flanagan who represents us on the Arlington board, and the President of our National Alumni Association [Ron House, '69, '70], who also is an Arlington Board member. He suggested the possibility of help from the ECU Foundation. I will continue to pursue this with him and keep you informed.

I need to let you know that the Executive Committee has changed our For The Good of The Order [FTGOTO] topic for our April meeting. We were scheduled to discuss "Faculty Workload" Senator Kristofik reminded me that since the faculty workload resolution was approved at the last Senate meeting, the Rights and Responsibilities Committee had completed their charge and another topic might be in order. It did not take long to fill the void. I was asked to add the topic of "Faculty and Administration Camaraderie: A Shared Responsibility". I believe this is timely. In order to move ECU forward we must reestablish trust among all the constituencies of the university. If an underlying mistrust does exist [e.g., between faculty and administrators] – it behooves us as an institution to join together to address the underlying causes.

We have approved the tentative dates for our Faculty Senate Meetings for the 2007-2008 academic year.

The Executive committee was in agreement with regard to 2007-2008 Committee Vacancies. Elections for committee vacancies can be handled entirely at the May meeting rather than soliciting nominees at the April meeting and then again at the May meeting. You have already received notification that included a tentative committee list.

As a part of the continuing discussion of policy development, Senator Piercey indicated that he is in the process of having a policy on policies developed. It would determine how policies are developed, how they're approved, and how they are interpreted. Such a policy on policies should help eliminate many of the current academic policy misunderstandings. He reported that he hopes, in the near future, to share a draft copy of the proposal with the Executive Committee for feedback purposes.

In addition, Dr. Piercey stated that he hopes that the Board of Trustees, through the President, will issue a statement of shared governance and a statement on compensation philosophy for the University.

On the evening of April 03, 2007, I was pleased to attend the alumni dinner for the Frankfort chapter of the Alumni Association. My wife and I were extremely impressed with the student oriented approach that has been adopted and developed for these meetings. Among our faculty, many of us are not graduates of ECU. But I wish each of you could have been there to experience the program. It is of the highest quality and allows our students to promote ECU through their own personal accounts. It was a powerful program and we should thank everyone in our Development office for their work in reconnecting with our former students.