

**TO:** Faculty Senate  
**FROM:** Rodney B. Piercey  
**DATE:** April 7, 2008  
**RE:** April Faculty Senate Report

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY AND GOVERNANCE:**

The following items represent draft policies currently in the review process:

- Policy 4.1.2 (Course Syllabi) has been reviewed for a first reading by the Provost Council, the Council on Academic Affairs and the Executive Committee and is submitted for consideration to the full Senate at the April meeting.
- Policy 4.6.1 (Determination of Qualifications for Teaching Faculty) has been reviewed a second time by the Provost Council and revisions continue to be addressed. Once the Provost Council is finished with its revisions, Policy 4.6.1 will be presented to key stakeholders for review.
- Policy 4.3.4 (Joint Curricular, Collaborative, and Consortial Agreements) has not been worked on since the last report to the Faculty Senate.
- Policy 1.1.1 (Formulation and Adoption of University Policies) continues to be vetted across campus. Comments made at the last Faculty Senate meeting have been noted and we will continue to work on revisions. As soon as it is ready, a revised draft will be re-submitted to Faculty Senate.

All new or revised policies are presented as drafts until they are approved by the Board of Regents.

The recently passed Policy 4.6.4 (Promotion and Tenure) requires some editorial clarifications. These clarifications were presented to the Executive Committee and will be presented to Faculty Senate at the April meeting. Pending recommendation, the clarifications and the revised policy will be published to the academic community.

The Office of Academic Affairs continues to work with the Executive Committee to establish a process by which existing policy can be reviewed.

**ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT:**

Total enrollment has increased 8.1% since fall 2000. During this time period enrollment has fluctuated, showing the largest one-year increase (4.6%) between 2002 and 2003 and the largest one-year decrease (3.5%) between 2000 and 2001. Since last year, enrollment has slightly increased by 0.5% to 15,839 students.

In comparison to this time last year, ECU's applications and admitted numbers are up 2% and 9%, respectively (as of March 31, 2008). Tuition rates for 2008 – 2009 will be a determining factor in the degree of success in converting admits to enrollment. As of the end of March, the 2008 spring enrollment is 2.1% greater than for 2007.

The current retention rate of first-time freshmen is 62.3%, a decrease of 2.4% since fall 2001 and a decrease of 2.8% since last year. Retention rates remained steady until fall 2005, when they increased 2.4% to 66.1%; however, since then, retention rates have consistently decreased.

While recruiting has received most of the scrutiny, retention requires equal, if not greater, attention in efforts to increase enrollment.

## **GRADUATE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH:**

### **Graduate Council:**

The next meeting of the Graduate Council will be on April 7. Agenda items include the continuation of the review of revised recommendations for graduate faculty status. Members of the Faculty Senate are encouraged to contact representatives on the Graduate Council or the Graduate School for additional information on the proposed recommendations.

### **Graduate Recruiting:**

The Graduate School will be conducting follow up meetings with graduate program coordinators for each of the colleges to assist in the development and provide support for graduate recruiting. Please contact Dr. Jaleh Rezaie for more information

### **Sponsored Programs Policies Update:**

A working group chaired by Executive Vice President Moberly has been reviewing the proposed policies for sponsored programs administration. Final recommendations are expected at the end of the month. Faculty senators serving on the committee are Guenter Schuster, Karen Petronio, and Malcolm Frisbie.

## **HONORS PROGRAM:**

The Honors Program will be holding its senior thesis presentation event April 10-12. Fifty-eight seniors will make presentations this semester. Presentations will be held in the Kennamer and Jagers Rooms of the Powell Building. A banquet will be held in the Keen Johnson Ballroom on April 11<sup>th</sup> featuring special speaker Dr. Bonnie Gray on *Musings of an Almost Retired Honors Program Director*.

## **INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS:**

### **Strategic Planning and Program Review:**

A work group chaired by Dr. E. J. Keeley has been formed to rework the Program Review process to make it more effective and more user-friendly. The work group is currently looking at the purpose of program review in order to design an innovative streamlined model for future EKU Program Reviews. Dr. Keeley is working with University groups to develop strategic plans for EKU's Child Care Center and Powell Student Center. Stacey Street continues to provide training for the new TracDat upgrade. The KPI Revision subcommittee is reexamining the University KPIs and working to streamline and reduce redundancy where possible. Dr. Keeley is participating in the Web Marketing work group which provides guidance for EKU's Web presence and marketing with respect to our potential and present student population. We seek to position EKU on the cutting edge in presenting ourselves to students.

## **QEP:**

The QEP Advisory Board discussed receipt of a letter from SACS reminding the University that an impact report on the QEP would be due in four years. Dr. E. J. Keeley is a member of the QEP search committee which has started an internal search for the QEP Director position. A total of seven senior level classes (400 & 500 level) have been administered the CAT test. There are 10 more classes signed up to have the CAT test given by the end of the semester. The current goal is to have 5% of the senior population take the CAT test. Michele Goltz has met with all the QEP program initiatives except for the Studio for Academic Creativity (due to building issues). Most of the programs will be starting in the fall 2008 with the exceptions of one that is already in progress, one that will start spring 2009, and the Studio. All programs seem to have a good handle on their assessment plan. Spring 2008 assessment data from the CACTUS program will be available by the beginning of the fall 2008 semester. The first-year-program (GSD 101) is steadily revising the assessment plan for program-level assessment. Data from this program will also be used for university assessment of incoming freshmen on critical thinking skills. Stacey Street has worked with Somerset Community College on planning for their QEP preparations.

## **State Compliance and University Accreditations:**

The Department of Nursing had their ADN program accreditation site visit, in which OIE participated. OIE is working with the College of Education on implementation of the new Ed.D. (Program Assessment). EKU will have a SACS visit next year in conjunction with the launch of the Ed.D program. The SACS on-site visit to review the Ed.D. will occur within six months of the implementation of the program.

## **Assessment:**

IR and IE collaborated with members of UAC Subcommittee Three in preparing their reviews on course-completion and grade-distribution studies and non-returning student surveys as a means of university-wide assessment. The Assessment Exemplar was held March 27<sup>th</sup>. We have provided consultations to First Year Programs and the Honors Program on their assessment goals, objectives and assessment measures. The NSSE is currently being administered on campus and we have worked to increase participation through marketing efforts. Stacey Street attended the Texas A&M Assessment Conference in February to learn more about and share best practices in assessment.

## **INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH:**

During March, Institutional Research completed the Factbook (which is now posted on the web - printed copies will be finished soon). OIR also completed the data submission for the Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange, as well as IPEDS Graduation Rates. IR completed two external surveys and is currently working on 10 internal surveys (including the HR Survey, Diversity Survey, Education Advising Survey, Alumni Surveys, etc). We also consulted on planning the summer session survey schedule. We finalized and distributed the fall 2007 IDEA reports and have begun distributing IDEA materials for spring 2008. IR also completed 16 ad hoc data requests.