From: Tom Reed, Faculty Senate Representative, Department of Criminal Justice and Police Studies
Re: Statement Against the Syllabus and Textbook Proposals from the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA)
Date: April 7, 2008

Guided by feedback from our department and long-standing opinions of the American Association of University Professors, this statement urges the faculty senate to reject soundly and beyond all doubt both “talking points” (i.e., standardized course objectives and textbooks for all multi-section courses) on the grounds specified in 1 and 2 below:

1. The proposals contradict and threaten to undermine academic freedom and responsibility that historically are vested in individual faculty members and departments.
2. In line with this academic tradition, at a well-ordered retreat the Department of Criminal Justice and Police Studies adopted the Hampton Accords. These Accords endorse the historic understanding of academic freedom and responsibility (noted above) and encourage each faculty member to expand the horizon of knowledge in every course taught and in new course development. Both CAA talking points violate the department’s Hampton Accords that are strongly supported by the faculty and the department chair. The Accords serve as a powerful consensual motivator for the faculty and as a key element both in recruiting and the promises made to our newer faculty members about the academic nature of EKU and our department.
3. If either proposal is adopted a formal complaint will be filed with the AAUP.
4. If either proposal is adopted at least one faculty member will engage in public civil disobedience.