

**TO:** Faculty Senate  
**FROM:** Rodney B. Piercey  
**DATE:** October 1, 2007  
**RE:** September Faculty Senate Report

The following updates are submitted to the Faculty Senate for September on behalf of Academic Affairs:

Current Issues:

- 1) We are continuing to work toward submitting for approval to the Board of Regents in January the amended P & T policy. Senator Eakin and others from Faculty Senate are working with Cheryl Harris and Sherry Robinson to modify the language in two or three places, but generally the policy is in good shape. We hope to have a forum in late October that will allow faculty to ask questions about the amended P & T policy. The policy will then be presented to the Provost Council in November for its consideration at the December meeting. Finally, the policy will be presented to the Board in January for Board approval.

**Graduate Education and Research:**

**GEAR Scholars**

We are pleased to announce this year's Graduate Education and Research Scholars' Community. They are as follows:

Ogechi Anyanwu, History

Tom Butler, English and Theatre

Vincent Castellana, Mathematics and Statistics

Stephanie Hall, Counseling and Educational Psychology

Beverly Miller, Art & Design

Rick Mott, English and Theatre

Richard Osbaldiston, Psychology

Nicholas Santangelo, Biology

Deneia Thomas, Counseling and Educational Psychology

The program is open to all pre-tenured faculty. Recipients are required to participate in a series of workshops offered during the fall semester which are designed to assist faculty in developing a plan for conducting scholarly activities. They also receive one course reassigned time during the spring term to focus on their scholarship.

**McNair Program**

We are pleased to announce that ECU's McNair Scholars Program has just received notification from the U. S. Department of Education that they will be funded for another grant cycle. The ECU proposal scored within the top ten percent of proposals submitted from throughout the nation, which includes the nation's top doctoral-granting institutions.

As a reward for scoring in the top ten percent, the ECU McNair Scholars Program is awarded one extra year of funding for a total of five years of continued funding. This equates to a total of \$1,125,000 of external funding that will enhance the ECU living and

learning community. Congratulations to Rich Richmond and his staff for their great work on this program.

### **Sponsored Programs Policies**

The University has developed a comprehensive set of policies related to the administration of grants and sponsored programs at ECU. The policies are posted on the sponsored programs website and have been adopted on an interim basis to meet requirements associated with the review conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services as part of our Facilities and Administrative Cost negotiations. Drafts of these policies were presented to the Board of Regents in September and go to the Board for formal adoption in January. Please forward questions and comments to Jerry Pogatshnik.

### **Information Technology:**

IT has created a new faculty training facility, the Technology Studio for Professional Development, to provide hands on technology training for faculty and staff. Workshops currently being offered include Blackboard, Web authoring and Office 2007 with others as announced in ECU Today. Future workshops will provide opportunities for faculty to work with new technologies prior to incorporating them into their classroom. The Technology Studio is located in Case Annex 256. There will be a grand opening, all day, on Thursday, October 4th. Both the President and I will be in attendance and encourage you to stop by.

### **Institutional Effectiveness:**

#### **University Planning and Program Review**

Dr. E. J. Keeley wrote the metrics/measurement section of ECU's 2020 Draft Business Plan and participated in the coordination/review of the entire Business Plan. Any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding ECU's 2020 Draft Business Plan should be directed to Rodney Piercey, E.J. Keeley, or Marc Whitt. OIE is in the early stages of data collection to measure progress for the 2006-2010 Strategic Plan. The focus this month is on the development and dissemination of reporting templates specific to each of the individual campus units. Upon receipt, members of the SPC will begin assessment for the development of an annual institutional progress report to be submitted to the President. Follow-up meetings have been conducted with Deans, Department Chairs, and Program Coordinators of the individual programs under review to discuss findings of the Program Review Committee. OIE has offered campus-wide strategic planning trainings and program review forums.

#### **University Accreditations: SACS Regional and Programmatic**

The SACS Leadership Team submitted final responses for reaffirmation on September 17<sup>th</sup>. We are confident that we will achieve reaffirmation from SACS by the December meeting. OIE is working with the College of Education on its NCATE accreditation, the Department of Computer Science on its ABET accreditation, and the Department of Music on its NASM accreditation.

### **State Compliance and CPE**

Dr. E. J. Keeley has coordinated and submitted various requests for data and initiatives from the CPE including examples of partnerships with schools, teachers, or districts designed to help improve student performance on EXPLORE, PLAN, or the ACT with regard to SB 130. ECU was able to highlight the good work of our faculty and staff in support of this important legislation. The CPE Accountability Report will be requested soon, and your responses regarding this report are valuable to the University. CPE's use of the Accountability Report impacts ECU and ECU Faculty. Therefore, we appreciate all of your support in completing this very important report to show ECU's good work.

### **Assessment**

OIE registered for this coming year's NSSE and is reviewing data from last year. Stacey Street is coordinating the CAT (Critical Thinking Assessment Test), reviewing assessment plans, and making arrangements for the TracDat upgrade.

### **Enrollment Forecasting**

Dr. E. J. Keeley is working with Enrollment Management, the Graduate School, and the Provost to fine tune a forecasting model to predict enrollments for planning and budgeting purposes. This model will also assist in academic planning for assessing faculty needs associated with faculty staffing, space, faculty to student ratio, and related concerns.

### **Institutional Research:**

Survey consultation and data analysis were provided to Human Resources, the Department of Social Work, the Department of Communications, Sponsored Programs, and the Graduate School. IR has provided data online to participating programs for Program Review. Administration of IDEA for Fall '07 has begun, including providing support to a TLC Workshop on IDEA Evaluation. IR is preparing for a TLC Workshop in October on successful survey creation and administration, as well as a Fireside Chat in cooperation with Institutional Effectiveness. 13 ad hoc data requests were completed, and IR is compiling information for two IPEDS submissions (Institutional Characteristics and Completions). Testing has begun on our new survey software, SNAP.