

**TO:** Faculty Senate  
**FROM:** Rodney B. Piercey  
**DATE:** November 5, 2007  
**RE:** November Faculty Senate Report

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

Current Issues:

- 1) We continue to expect the revised Promotion and Tenure policy to be presented to the Board of Regents for its approval at the January meeting. An open forum was held in October for faculty to review and comment on three changes recommended by the Office of the Provost and the University Counsel. The policy will also be vetted by the Provost Council prior to the January Board meeting.

Additionally, the University is working on a Policy on Policies, which is being vetted through a number of institutional channels. This policy will clarify important distinctions between policies, regulations, and guidelines; standardize the format for university policies; and delineate the process by which university policies are vetted and approved.

**Enrollment Management:**

Currently 15,755 students are enrolled compared to 15,695 students at this time last fall, not including University of Louisville ITP students. Final enrollment is expected to be a net increase of approximately 0.5% for Fall 2007. Current enrollment is up 0.2% for undergraduate students and up 2.2% for graduate students. Current new freshman enrollment is up 1% and new transfer students up 11%.

**Honors Program:**

The EKU Honors Program will take a group of 90 students and faculty to the National Collegiate Honors Conference in Denver on November 1-4. All of the students will be making presentations at this national conference and EKU will once again be the largest represented student/faculty group in the nation.

**Institutional Effectiveness:**

**Enrollment Forecast:**

We currently expect an increase for Fall 2008 of approximately 3% for new freshmen, 10% for new transfers, and 7% for new graduate students over Fall 2007. At this point in the cycle we would expect an overall enrollment increase of approximately 3% for Fall 2008, or about 16,325 as a midpoint (Fall 2007 final enrollment is expected to be approximately 15,850). On a plus-or-minus 1 percent band, this equates to between approximately 16,150 and 16,500. Much more information that will enable increasingly precise forecasts will become available throughout the rest of the academic year, including fall-to-spring retention rates, application/admission trend data, housing

application and orientation registration/attendance trends, financial aid and scholarship offers, new and continuing student registration patterns vis-à-vis last year, etc.

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

IE staff, Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) members, and other university leaders continue data collection efforts to measure progress for the 2006-2010 strategic plan. Specific activities include the receipt and assessment of reporting templates submitted by individual campus units. Members of the SPC have begun initial assessment for the development of an annual institutional progress report to be submitted to the President.

University planning groups should have received progress reports from their individual reporting units. In addition, university planning groups should be finalizing their own institutional effectiveness progress reports for submission by Friday, October 26, 2007. IE has been working very hard with many departments across campus to help them prepare their progress reports and enter their assessment results and use of results for improvement into TracDat.

The 2007-2008 Academic Program Review schedule and supporting materials were distributed to approximately 30 programs scheduled for this academic year. For the first time, the Graduate School and Graduate Council will play a role in program review for graduate programs. Also, IE has provided information and support for the Office of Graduate Education and Research to develop a strategic plan inclusive of campus input, and has provided information, facilitation and planning support for the First Year Course Steering Committee.

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

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is organizing an Online Resource Room at its 112th Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, December 8-11, to assist institutions that are beginning the reaffirmation process. Since ECU was commended by SACS for its QEP and its IE processes, ECU has been asked to be featured in the SACS Resource Room. ECU is sending a CD with excerpts from our Compliance Certification and Quality Enhancement Plan for participants to peruse at the conference. This is truly a great honor, as ECU is the only Level IV institution, public or private, to be included.

Dr. E. J. Keeley is co-chair for Standard 2 on Assessment for the NCATE accreditation, and IE and the NCATE team are working in preparation for this accreditation. IE has also provided a great deal of assessment support and guidance in preparation for the ABET visiting team review of the Computer Science program scheduled for October 28-30<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, IE has worked with the Provost's office to submit to the CPE the FY 2006 CPE Action Agenda Trust Fund Report.

### **Institutional Research:**

IR has been in consultation with the Graduate Education and Research Strategic Planning Committee regarding surveying current graduate students and faculty. We are also updating our 06-07 CSRDE (retention data exchange) report which will soon be available

on the web. IR is assisting the NOVA program with data collection for their grant renewal. IR and IE also participated in a Fireside Chat at TLC related to planning, budgeting, and data reporting issues. The IPEDS Fall reporting including Institutional Characteristics, Completions, and 12-month Enrollment has been successfully completed and submitted.

**Sponsored Programs:**

The Division of Sponsored Programs is seeking input on its proposed policies and procedures. Policies can be found on the Sponsored Programs website at <http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/pol>. The policies are a meeting agenda item for discussion. The annual report for Sponsored Programs activities is available at [www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/reports.php](http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/reports.php).

The Division of Sponsored Programs and Sponsored Programs Accounting have been relocated to Jones 414. Combination of the two offices will provide a “one-stop” shop and provide better services for faculty and staff. We have also established a Sponsored Programs listserv to provide improved communication. Please contact the Division of Sponsored Programs at 2-3636 for more information.