MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate November 2, 2010

Present: Senators Bartnik, Begley, Binfield, Blaylock, Bloomdahl, Bodevin, Busija, Byers, Coffelt, Fawzy, Goggins, Jung, Kleinhans, Koren, Norris, Ortega, Papajeski, Pittman-Munke, Rogers, Schell, Smith, Stambaugh, Washington, Wattier, A. White, S. White, Yarali, and Regent Rose. Dr. Michael D'Ambrosio was proxy for Senator Swisher, Department of Music, and Dr. Katy Garth was proxy for Senator Farrell, School of Nursing.

Absent: Senators Guyer, Herr, Hoover, Locke, McCreary, Ortmann, Porter, and Robertson. Guests: Dr. Randy Dunn and Josh Jacobs, President's Office.

The minutes of October 5, 2010, were approved, with one correction to attendance noted. Senators are reminded to sign in.

REPORTS

President Dunn

The President returned to discuss possible scenarios for faculty salaries for next year. The administration is beginning to look at possible sources of funds to recommend to the Board. He encouraged the senate to look at data from comparable benchmarks and OVC institutions and to draft its own recommendations and priorities at the same time the administration is investigating options. He requested help with articulating needs of faculty to the Board and would like to be able to take a collective position to the Board noting the Board's desire to be responsive to faculty.

Board of Regents

Regent Rose thanked the president for coming to the senate to talk about salary issues. He then reminded them to take time to vote after the meeting. The Board meets again on December 10. In regard to salaries he noted four important considerations:

- Sharing of information in order to successfully present unified message to the Board
- Motivational issue
- Enrollment significant factor in order to drive upward as active participants faculty need some assurances of rewards
- Welcomes any suggestions individually, as units, or from senate committees

President Pittman-Munke added that she hopes for an array of information for the Board to make grounded decisions in regard to salaries.

Insurance and Benefits

Senator Washington reported that the committee had met on October 8 and will meet again on November 12. The committee approved a recommendation of a health insurance premium split of 85/15 with the administration equating to an eight percent (8%) premium increase to the employee for the 2011 benefit year. Meetings were well attended and she reminded faculty that

open enrollment ends November 12. Dependents are now eligible to age 26. The committee is investigating tuition exchange plans with other institutions within the Commonwealth.

Academic Policies

The committee will address the lecturer/instructor issue within faculty election criteria. Chair Bartnik will present a summary of discussions to the Executive Committee.

Finance

The committee has met and discussed most of the issues raised today regarding salaries.

Handbook and Personnel

The senate approved changes to Section 1.5 of the *Faculty Handbook* aligning with the BOR Policy Manual and the University Governance Document. The committee also recommended adding a library representative to CISR, University Studies, and the Research Policy Committee; or any committees where schools have representation. The senate unanimously approved all the recommendations of the committee.

The committee is looking at lecturer rank in regard to voting rights and at definitions of special appointment faculty. At no time is the number of lecturers campus-wide supposed to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the entire faculty. The committee will calculate and inform the provost of their findings. Reappointment of special appointed faculty, per the *Handbook*, is up to four years. The committee will ask the provost to remind chairs.

The committee, in line with the Board of Regents, is looking to reduce the number of university standing committees and has identified duplication in several areas, especially in appeals. The committee is also reviewing definitions of graduate faculty and terminal degree categories at the request of Dr. Morgan, associate provost for graduate education and research.

Rules, Elections, and Bylaws

Vice President Koren reported that the committee is reviewing procedures of the recent faculty regent to check the clarity of information regarding eligibility and qualifications of candidates and voters. The committee may recommend inclusion of general procedures in the *Faculty Handbook*.

The committee is also discussing the use of VoteNet for administrative assessments. There is no capability for open response. The committee is gathering data on the exact purpose of doing an assessment and usefulness for regent, senate, and/or administration.

Executive

President Pittman-Munke reported that the committee met last week and discussed several of the items already reported today. She has met with the provost to discuss the lecturer/instructor issue. Data is being gathered on both sides to identify any differences across the colleges/schools. The provost would like to satisfy the wish of several faculty to vote and will work with the senate on a solution.

Dr. Pittman-Munke also met with the president and talked about salary issues. He has asked for Faculty Senate input and would like to have some priorities of faculty before budget criteria are developed.

President Pittman-Munke also represents COSFL on the state-wide transferability committee to ease issues for students coming from the community colleges and is dealing with developmental education also. Dual credit is being discussed.

The provosts will recommend changes to a new proposal of program review by CPE.

She noted that CPE has faculty involved at every level and they have been appreciative of what is brought to the table.

Academic Council

Undergraduate Studies—Dr. Pittman-Munke is stepping down as senate representative. Dr. Bill Schell was elected by acclamation.

Graduate Studies—Senator Wattier reported that the committee is routinely meeting and several course/program proposals have been approved especially for an undergraduate catalog year.

Library and Academic Support—Dr. Koren reported that the committee did meet to get updated status on areas of the committee's purview:

- IS Library budget-the committee will ask for information from the IS Director
- Dean Murray presented developments on a new building
- The president has asked the task force to meet soon to review locations

Residential Colleges—No report.

International Studies

Dr. Koren reported that the advisory committee has proposed a merger with the executive council. The recommendation has been forwarded to the senate's Handbook Committee for review. The committee is also tracking accountability measures discussion by CPE to include a broader range of populations.

New Business

Senator Bartnik announced an Executive Blend session with the Provost in the University Libraries for conversation between faculty and the administration.

The senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.