Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee is working to identify suitable faculty members for a joint Taskforce on Accessibility in Distance Education. The taskforce will be charged with proposing recommendations that will ensure accessibility compliance.

Deadline extensions for the General Education Assessment Committee and the Libraries of the Future Taskforce were approved. The GE Assessment report deadline will be September 2016; the Libraries Taskforce will submit its Phase 1 report February 2016 and Phase II report October 2016. The EC will follow up on the October 2015 presentation by the Vice President for Research with written questions.

Campus Master Plan

Robert Thompson, Wright State University architect from Facilities Management and Services, introduced Krisan Osterby, practice leader from Perkins and Will, who presented a draft of the campus master plan highlighting the major findings and plans for improvement of Wright State’s campus. This effort began in earnest in March with a sequence of work sessions that developed a process of issues analysis addressing project needs of the university. Following later in the spring into early summer was a process of looking into details to determine which concepts to carry forward into preliminary planning. From late summer until now, the department has been surveying the campus for review and making final refinements.

The campus master plan focuses on a list of overarching characteristics, such as having an inclusive universal design and being welcoming to a wide array of students. This list should guide decision making for the future. Major components covered in the master plan include physical changes and reinforcements to both existing structures and future assets on campus, such as improving academic and research buildings, enhancing tunnel systems, heightening transportation circulation, and enriching student community buildings (housing and recreation facilities). This plan has been derived from a data driven analysis created by working closely with the Provost’s office to determine the short-term, mid-term, and long-term projections for student enrollment leading to anticipated needs for the campus. The department also focused on potential research growth and partnerships by working with the Vice President for Research, Robert Pyffe. Areas around campus were measured using the matrix system Dashboard to determine the quality of the buildings. The department found that space could be significantly enhanced if several aged buildings on campus were renovated. In order to keep up with the rising demands being placed on the university, the master plan proposes a roughly $14.6 million for capital funding, Wright State currently receives less than it did in 2005.

2005 – $14.6 million
2007 – $16.5 million

Policy Modification: Course Addition Deletion Procedures

After discussion of the revised Policy Modification: Course Addition and Deletion Procedure plan, Faculty Senate agreed to postpone voting on this policy until the Senate returns in December. The revised policy allows any course that has not previously been approved for an online offering to be offered one time only as a pilot after prior notice has been given to the appropriate college curriculum committee and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. The revision is intended to permit academic units to pilot online offerings of existing courses while undergoing the more formal curricular review process required by academic policy. Some Senators expressed concerns about the language of the amendment as well as the intent of the revisions. The Senate has asked the Undergraduate Academic Policies Committee to review this document to address their concerns before bringing it back to the agenda next month.

New Business

CoNH RN-BSN Admissions Requirements

The College of Nursing and Health proposed immediate implementation of a, change to the RN-BSN program that would remove the admissions requirement of a pharmacology course. Students are already required to take a pharmacology class over the course of their study, making the requirement for admission redundant. This redundancy has led to students choosing other universities for this program rather than Wright State.

CoLA Direct Admissions Standards

The CoLA Admissions Policy, which was approved by the Faculty Senate in February 2015, was found to contain several elements that need to be addressed concerning transfer students and continuing students changing their majors. CoLA’s proposed revision to the policy adds a section on transfer students and current students. After discussion of ambiguities in the policy language, Senate sent it back to CoLA for further clarification.

Faculty Line

Faculty Senate Meeting dates, agendas and minutes: www.wright.edu/administration/senate.

By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rohn and Jonathan Dillon