Faculty Senate Newsletter

President's Report:

I. Biennial Capital Budget
   http://www.ohm.ohio.gov/
   budget-capital/

Dr. Hopkins announced that a Capital Bill is expected to be introduced in the State Legislature in April, 2016. A draft of the bill indicates that Wright State may receive $13million in capital project funding out of $25million requested. Prior to 2011, capital funding was dispersed based on total institutional square footage but is now decided by a state commission charged with earmarking funding towards specific priorities and projects. Wright State’s list of proposed capital projects and priorities was developed with input from the Faculty Senate Building & Grounds Committee.

II. Dayton Daily News Articles & Updates

Dr. Hopkins announced that the Ohio Attorney General found no evidence of legal violations or wrongdoing related to Wright State’s use of the Ron Wine Consulting Group.

Dr. Hopkins informed the Senate that a Dayton Daily News article, dated 15 February, was misleading for claiming a drop in donations to Wright State. The article did not factor pledged gifts which are a significant portion of funding for younger universities. The Rise-Shine Campaign has raised around $131million to date. Alumni giving accounts for 24%, up from 9% in the 2006 campaign. Over 29,000 individuals have donated to the campaign, with over 16,000 first-time donors to the university.

There will be a celebration of the campaign’s success on April 19th. http://bit.ly/1pql1Vv

III. H-181 Investigation

Dr. Hopkins informed the Senate that there are indications that the ongoing federal investigation will come to a close in the next few weeks. The investigation involves Wright State’s use of H-181 visas in an applied research grant from 2010. Dr. Hopkins reminded the Senate that Wright State performed its due diligence when it learned of the investigation by bringing in special legal counsel associated with the Ohio Attorney General, a forensic accountant, and external compliance consultants. Since then the University has taken additional steps by adding a new General Counsel, two new Assistant General Counsels, and increasing staff in the area of research compliance.

(continued in column 2)

From the Provost's Report

1. Review of International Programs
   A. The report from the International Services External Review is complete and will be shared with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Council of Deans after the University Center for International Education has a chance to review

2. HLC Visit
   B. Dr. Sudkamp reminded the Senate of the upcoming accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission. A schedule of events and meetings are available on the Institutional Accreditation webpage.

Executive Committee Report

Last month the Executive Committee and Faculty Budget Priority Committee requested three items for delivery in March:

- Progress reports and working drafts of the comprehensive financial plan being developed by the Board of Trustees request to the Faculty Budget Priority Committee in advance of the June deadline, to facilitate Faculty input.
- Dr. Hopkins serving as Chief Operating Officer, Jeff Ulliman, Chief Financial Officer, and Provost Sudkamp have been invited to meet with the Executive Committee in advance of the April Faculty Senate meeting to learn what the priorities for remediation in University Hall are as well as the dean’s and vice president’s priorities.

- An account of actual income and expenditures at the present time as compared to the balanced budget presented at the June 2015 Budget workshop.

Anticipated:

- A report listing all administrative stipends from July 1, 2012 to the present, including any adjustments during this time period.

We are particularly interested in the purpose for which each stipend was given and whether the stipends are continuing for a limited term function (if so, the inclusive date).

Received—Faculty Budget Priority Committee will review to determine in regard to stipends, if a policy for determining the amount of stipend or increases to stipends beyond annual cost of living or merit should be recommended.

The EC is looking forward to April for the reports from the Library of the Future Task Force and the Select Committee on Research Initiatives.

The EC has reviewed and commented upon an MOU Xian University of Finance and Economics and the WSU Mathematics and Statistics Department.

The EC has received the new WSU Diversity & Inclusion Plan for comment and review and will be sharing with the Senate.

President’s Report Cont.

IV. Branding & Marketing

In response to faculty feedback submitted since the previous Senate meeting, Dr. Hopkins expressed that it’s important for Wright State not lose all of the research and work, and that “the brand, the marketing, and the messaging must move forward”. Dr. Hopkins went on to inform the Senate that it’s clear that the proposed new logo is not ready to move forward and has been suspended.

V. Faculty Stipend Request

Dr. Hopkins informed the Senate that the administration has compiled stipend data at the request of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Total annual stipends for undiscovered, classified, and faculty-range employees exceed $4 million and it’s clear that for some stipends that the equity for similar work is not appropriate. Dr. Hopkins indicated that he looks forward to working with the Senate Executive & Budget Priority Committees to develop policy to bring stipends under control.

VI. Budget Update

Dr. Hopkins informed the Senate that the administration will provide the FY2016-17 budget and a multi-year comprehensive financial plan to combat current fiscal difficulties related to declining SSI and reserves. The plan will require belt-tightening and pose more challenges compared to the post-Great Recession-recovery due to significantly less State support, however Dr. Hopkins stressed that Wright State cannot “cut [its] way to excellence”. President Hopkins, Provost Sudkamp, and Chief Financial Officer Jeff Ulliman plan to meet with the Senate Executive & Budget Priority Committees, before the next Senate meeting, in order to brief Faculty leadership and receive feedback to further develop the priorities of the comprehensive financial plan.

Old Business

Rehabilitation Services Admissions Policy

The Faculty Senate approved the new academic program admissions requirements for the Rehabilitation Services major for direct from high school applicants.

Curricular Items

The Faculty Senate approved two new minors for Forensic Studies and Veteran Services. The Senate also approved a new certificate in Arts Management as well as a new honors program in Leadership Studies in Education.

Faculty Line

Senate elections have been finalized. The new senator for CECS are Marty Emmert, Fred Garber, and Mateen Riziki. The full 2016-17 Senate roster is available at: https://www.wright.edu/faculty-senate/about/2016-17-members-and-officers

All volunteers interested in serving on the 2016-2017 Senate committees are encouraged to sign up via the online qualsform form. Faculty Senate meeting dates, agendas, and minutes: https://www.wright.edu/administration/ senate

By Faculty Senate Interns: Arica Rohn and Jonathan Dillon

CoECS Senators

CoECS Senators

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