Executive Committee Report

Commencement Committee

Commencement Committee chair Dr. Eric Rowley met with the Faculty Senate to discuss possible changes in Wright State’s current commencement driven by its increasing length and problematic trends, such as early departure from ceremonies and low participation from both graduates and faculty. In an effort to “make the experience better for everyone involved,” the committee is proposing separate commencements for undergraduate and graduates, both to be held on the same day. The Committee plans to circulate a short questionnaire to gather information from faculty and possibly students. Faculty members, who have suggestions concerning the commencement ceremonies, are invited to contact Dr. Rowley at eric.rowley@wright.edu.

The Executive Committee met several times over the summer to determine how to advise the administration with their plans to reorganize the upper level administration. The Executive Committee is pleased with the administration’s decision to appoint Thomas Sudkamp to Provost and Mark Polatjako to Chief Operations Officer.

The Senate will ask the University Buildings and Grounds Committee to follow up on parking spaces that were lost during the construction of the new buildings and the Parking Resolution passed on April 15, 2013.

The Library of the Future Taskforce is being formed and will be charged to review the Wright State Dunbar Library services and collections with respect to faculty teaching and scholarship needs and to the student learning and research needs. The GE Core Assessment Taskforce will conduct a thorough assessment of the current Wright State Core, with attention to student progress through general education and course availability. Last year’s GE review subcommittee report remains on the table until assessment is complete.

New Business

Distance Education Task Force Report

Dr. Sean Pollock presented findings from the Taskforce on Distance Education (TDE). The Taskforce found an increase from 4,608 students taking distance education courses in the fall 2013 to 6,357 students in the fall of 2014, an increase of 37.9%. The success rate for undergraduate distance courses was 83% compared to 82% for traditional courses, and 94% for graduate distance courses compared to 96% success rate. However, the report also showed that a startling 84% of courses had un-proctored exams, and only 8% had proctored exams. 5% of classes had proctored quizzes, and 3% had both. Such rates are determined by students choosing an A, B, or C in the course and does not measure performance to grade. The TDE report made a case for more centralized oversight support for developing effective distance learning and recommends universi-

From the Provost’s Report:

Fall Semester enrollment update:

- Undergraduate enrollment has increased .7%
- Graduate enrollment has increased 4.8%
- Direct from high school admissions increased 3.2%
- Total new undergraduate students increased 4.1%
- International Graduate students increased 16.8%

Dr. Steve Berberich, Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs will chair the 360 degree review of services to international students across campus. Policies, procedures, and support structures to assist these students will be reviewed in all areas across campus. An external group will be assembled to conduct a comprehensive review upon the completion of the internal 360 review. With the upcoming retirement of Dr. Stephen Foster, a search for leadership for the University Center for International Education will begin in November, 2015.

The Classroom Modernization prototype classrooms are now fully operational in 150 Russ and 135 Oelman; please take a moment to look at these classrooms and provide feedback. The university plans to update 112 Oelman and 101 Fawcett during the winter break and through spring semester.

The 5% Budget Bill Challenge is for each institute to identify a way in which students will have the opportunity to achieve a five percent savings in the cost of attendance. Wright State proposed to offer the following means to provide discounts for students and will submit their report to the Board of Trustees for review and then to the Chancellor’s Office in October, 2015.

- Offer a summer discount program to students who complete 24-credit hours during fall and spring semester
- Ensure all programs have 120-credit hour maximum
- Require course textbooks to be listed at the beginning of registration which will allow students to find a more economical means of purchasing books
- Offer College Credit Plus courses will allow high school students within a 50-mile radius to earn six credit hours while in high school

In addition to the student savings of the Budget Bill Challenge, the Board of Trustees will review courses and programs with low enrollments and report to the Chancellor’s Office by January 1, 2016. The development of an implementation strategy to incorporate coursework experience into curriculum will be developed, reviewed by the Board of Trustees and submitted to the Chancellor in December 31, 2015.