KUMC Faculty Assembly Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2009

Minutes

52 Faculty Members Present (Archived Roster):

Jeff Radel
Omar Ahmad
Linda Griffith
Susan E. Carlson
Kelli Kramer Jackman
Ken Davis
Rita Clifford
Cara Busenhart
Leonie Pallikkathayil
Denise Zwahlen
Huey F. Fisher (?)
Rakish Sw.... (?)
Alexey Ladokhin
Matt Reese
G.M. Cudza (?)
O.N. Nadeare (?)

Sandra Bergquist-Beringer
Steve Jerrigan
Jan Hudzicki
Venus Ward
Ann M. Davis
Anita Wingate
Erik Plautz
Allen Rawitch
L Buchanan
Henry Yeh
Beth Levant
Heather Leidy
Adrienne Moore Baxter
Joshua Mammen
Beth Gregg
Paul Arnold
A.Artigues

Kim Peter (?)
Carla Sabus
Linda Denney
Liskin Swint-Kruse
Patricia Kluding
Wolfram Zueckert
Joshua Freeman
Joe Fontes
Mark Fisher
Debbie Ford
Winnie Dunn
Giulia Bonaminio
Helen Connors
Deb Clements
G Smith (?)
B Vail
Denise Johnson

Guests: Karen Cole, Director - Dykes Library
Senior Vice- Chancellor and Dean Karen Miller

1(a). Call to Order, Agenda Review and Introductions

Karen Wambach, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., provided a review of the agenda and distributed committee reports that had been filed. This was followed by introductions of the Faculty Assembly Steering Committee members. She also informed the assembly that Dr. Gary Doolittle, Chair-elect offered his regrets for not being able to attend.

1(b). Report number of members of Faculty Assembly 2009-2010

Karen informed the group that the current total Faculty Assembly composition is 888 faculty members, requiring a 20% (178 faculty members) quorum for any formal action to be taken. This is the first of two annual meetings, as required by the by-laws. Additionally, the by-laws allow a special meeting to be convened at the request of 10% (88 faculty members).

2. Committee Reports

- Elections Committee (Matt Reese, Chair)
  An updated committee roster was distributed to the Faculty Assembly. The elections committee plans to recruit nominees for vacant committee positions beginning January 2010. A formal call for nominations will be issued in February, followed by online elections in April. The election results will be announced in May 2010.

- Research Committee (Ann Davis, Chair)
  Research awards were made this year in the amount of $17,000. Faculty Research Day was a success, with special thanks to Kelly Robertson, Administrative Officer of the Research Institute. The KUMC annual researcher recognition awards were also selected by the committee. Shared Biomedical Equipment funds were unavailable for distribution this year due to budget restrictions. Faculty requested and was given a further explanation on why the Research Institute budgetary restriction has
occurred. The committee is seeking to develop a more active voice in research matters on the campus. A sub-committee is currently working on record retention and a research advisory board is being created. Travel awards were funded at the same level as last year.

- **Information Resources Committee (Ken Davis, Chair)**
  The committee reviewed its purpose, recommending an amendment to the existing by-laws. The committee adopted a revised Library Collections and Management Policy, and disseminated a list of library journal subscriptions scheduled for reduction in January 2010. An appeals process was followed for retention of cancelled items. The committee mobilized faculty and institutional support for establishing a Kansas Library Consortium, which was proposed to KBOR by the Deans and Directors of Regent Libraries. Karen Cole, Dykes Library Director provided a report to the Assembly on the rationale for the proposal and Drs. Allen Rawitch and Karen Wambach offered progress reports, including support from the KBOR Academic Affairs Committee and Council of Faculty Senate Presidents.

- **Faculty Concerns Committee (Jeff Radel, Chair)**
  The committee is active, but thankfully not busy! The committee has established a secure confidential electronic communications process for faculty. The submissions are triaged and assured appropriate follow-up. The committee is seeking to increase committee visibility and improve communication of faculty concerns.

3. **Report on Fall 2009 Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) and Council of Faculty Senate Presidents (COFSP)**
- Karen Wambach provided an update on the budgetary discussions at KBOR, which are affecting many Kansas academic institutions. She has provided KUMC Faculty Assembly representation at three monthly meetings in the Fall (September, October and November). The focus remains on the 5 Strategic Questions for higher education in Kansas: 1) Educational Alignment; 2) Participation; 3) Persistence; 4) Outcomes; and 5) Economic Alignment. KBOR also remains focused on admission standards and student retention.

  COFSP has reconsidered prior policies related to a Regent-wide faculty award, which would have required each institution to annually nominate faculty (2 nominees) for consideration. Criteria was to be established within each institution, however this has not happened. The award has never been implemented and COFSP is reconsidering the decision whether to have such an award. The Council wants KBOR to establish uniform criteria, but policy would need to be changed in order for this to occur. At present, the matter has been tabled without resolution. A second issue that has been discussed in a system-wide faculty input (morale) survey, which was conducted once, however, never replicated. The matter is under review, although the current fiscal environment is not ideal for faculty input.

4. **Faculty Assembly Steering Committee Goals for 2009-2010**
- Karen Wambach provided an update and expressed her appreciation for the FASC members’ efforts on the goals and annual committee agenda. These goals include:
  - Improve communication between KUMC faculty and administration - monthly meetings are being held with the EVC in order to facilitate this communication.
  - Review and revision of bylaws
  - Establishing procedures for an adequate grievance process
  - Support of CODDL’s proposal for a Kansas Library Consortium

5. **Report from the KUMC Furlough Committee and KUMC Budget Update (Senior Vice Chancellor and Dean Karen Miller)**
- Furloughs are defined as mandatory time off without pay, which is a temporary solution to the current budget crisis. This option is being considered as an alternative to salary reductions, program reductions or student reductions. This is in response to projected loss in state revenue, which has lead to budget constraints in the current and future fiscal years. The budget discussion includes three major areas of focus, which incorporate the concept of furloughs:
  - Current Kansas revenue projections may require devolution of funds in order to meet a balanced budget in FY2010 prior to June 30, 2010. The total amount required and how soon the devolution will occur affects this decision, specifically the furloughing of state employees.
  - Future budget reductions in FY2011 are anticipated beginning July 1, 2010, especially with the required offset of Federal stimulus funding, which was received in FY2010. This amounts to $2.7 million in the KUMC budget.
  - Changes are being implemented in the KUMC Research Excellence Policy, which will direct affect the School of Medicine departmental budgets.
• The core mission of the university remains the primary focus of these discussions, taking into account a number of fairness and equity issues across the enterprise and between campuses. The Kansas Governor is expected to announce the amount of the budget reduction before Thanksgiving. The magnitude of the reduction will have a direct impact on what measures will need to be implemented in order to meet these fiscal demands. There is no easy answer to this situation and all optimal solutions are being considered.

• A vigorous discussion took place among faculty and several ideas and concepts were shared during the meeting.

6. **Adjourn**
   The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.