MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate
February 1, 2011

Present: Senators Bartnik, Begley, Blaylock, Bloomdahl, Busija, Byers, Coffelt, Farrell, Fawzy, Goggins, Guyer, Herr, Hoover, Jung, Kleinhans, Koren, Locke, McCreary, Norris, Ortega, Ortmann, Papajeski, Pittman-Munke, Rogers, Swisher, Washington, S. White, Yarali, and Regent Rose.
Absent: Senators Binfield, Bodevin, Porter, Robertson, Schell, Lt. Col. Simon, Smith, Stambaugh, and A. White.

Guests: Ann Beck, Chair, Faculty/Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee, and Josh Jacobs, President's Office.

The minutes of January 18, 2011, were approved.

REPORTS

Academic Policies—no report**.**

Finance—Chair Blaylock reported that the committee met on January 31 with Vice President Denton and Jackie Dudley, Senior Director of Finance and Administrative Services. The committee continues to gather data and focuses on long-term identifiable sources of information that can be relied on to make comparable recommendations in the future. The administration has responded favorable to any requests for information.

Governmental Affairs—Chair Guyer reported that no legislation has been passed during this session.

COSFL—President Pittman-Munke reported that COSFL is supporting state-wide access to data bases for all school districts. A resolution supporting more equitable tuition adjustments across the state will be forwarded to CPE President King February 27. CPE will meet February 3-4.

Handbook and Personnel—no report.

Rules, Elections, and Bylaws—Vice President Koren reported that the committee unanimously approved a revision to ARTICLE VI of Senate Bylaws to accommodate online balloting of faculty governance positions. Procedures to be used for administrative assessment of the provost and university president have been developed and the assessment will be conducted soon. The committee has developed the procedures to be used in this year's selection of the BOR Teaching Excellence Award Recipients. Seven awards will be given this year as in recent years. A distribution schedule will be revised for the future that includes the newly formed School of Nursing; an eighth award has been recommended.

Board of Regents--Senate leadership has discussed raise scenarios with the president. The board will begin budget discussions at its next meeting February 25. A retreat will be held on February 26 to look at the direction of the university, to examine strengths and weaknesses, and to present a vision for the future. Regent Rose has gotten an affirmative answer from the president on adding an eighth award to the teaching excellence recognition by the board. Dr. Rose will support the payment of unused sick leave upon retirement being added into next year's budget. Tuition scenarios are being discussed across the state.

Academic Council

Undergraduate Studies—routine business for this year's catalog revision.
Graduate Studies—no report.
Library and Academic Support—no report.

Residential Colleges—no report.

Insurance and Benefits—Dr. Ann Beck, chair of the university committee, reported that the committee had recommended the payment of unused sick leave to faculty enrolled in KTRS and optional retirement plans (ORP) upon retirement. The administration is considering options for participants in both KTRS and ORPs.

The committee met on January 14 and continues work on a tuition assistance policy. A recommendation has been made to the committee to waive the parking permit fee for any faculty or staff member with twenty or more years of service.

The committee also continues to work on extended family benefits and awaits language from Staff Congress.

Faculty were encouraged to take advantage of health screenings associated with the health fair on March 9.

International Studies—no report.

New Business

The senate will investigate removal of the AAUP censure. Campuses are being encouraged to establish new chapters to be become more active across Kentucky. The president's office has shared its correspondence on the censure.

The senate adjourned at 4:45 p.m.