

# **Faculty Senate Agenda – December 10, 2019**

## **Room – TCRC 1000**

- **Call Meeting to Order: 6:00 PM**
  
- **Approve minutes from November 12, 2019 meeting**
  - Postponed to the January meeting
  
- **Introductions from the Chancellor – Chancellor Glenn Boyce**
  - Dr. Boyce spoke of his commitment to shared governance, focus on facilities and equipment, and support for faculty, staff, and students.
  - The administration is focused on enrollment and new approaches to recruitment.
  - Dr. Boyce is committed to completing the STEM building and suggested we are very close to moving forward.
  
- **Enrollment update – Provost Noel Wilkin**
  - SACSCOC reaffirmation is complete.
  - 6-yr graduation rate for the 2013 cohort is 65.8% (a record & state high)
  - Retention rate for 2018 cohort is 86.8% (record high)
  - 2019 Fall Enrollment:
    - Undergraduate
      - Total: 16,545 (-5.0%)
      - The number of Freshmen applications increased over last year (+~950), and higher admission #
      - New Freshmen number down ~190 from last year (-5.6%). Many peer institutions have seen declines (Arkansas -9%), and some have seen an increase (LSU +5.4%; Kentucky +6%)
    - Graduate
      - Total: 2,746 (27.5%)
      - Oxford: 2,138 (-0.8%)

- Double digit growth in graduate programs of Accountancy (10.8%) and Journalism (33.5%)
  - Pharmacy only decline (-5%)
  - Graduate applications are down (921) from 2017 high of 1026
- Number of faculty has continued to increase consistently.
  
- **Update on recruitment process for campus sororities – Director of Fraternal Leadership and Learning Arthur E. Doctor**
  - Sororities are considering shifting rush to the week before classes rather than week 6 of the Fall semester. We are the last SEC campus that has rush after the semester begins. This may take place as early as Fall 2020.
  - Fraternities are considering moving rush up to week 2 of the semester.
  
- **Academic Innovation Group – Executive Director Robert Cummings**
  - Associated groups
    - Externally Funded Academic Innovation Projects: Patti O'Sullivan
    - Quality Enhancement Plan: Josh Eyler
    - Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Nancy Wiggers
      - CETL has a series of lunch Sessions in Spring 2020
      - Also a Teaching for Inclusion Institute in May 2020
      - (events noted above are listed on CETL website)
  
- **Discussion of changes to Faculty Grievance Policy – Associate Provost Rich Forgette**
  - A modification to the policy that provides procedural guidelines for these hearings that are based on the unique situation and not derived from the T&P appeal policy for which these proceedings are quite different.
  - Policy will be referred to Faculty Senate Governance Committee and the edited segment, as well as other sections of this policy, will be reviewed and considered by Senators.
  
- **Discussion of changes to the PROMOTIONS (Research Professors and Research Scientists) Policy - Associate Provost Rich Forgette**

- This is a new policy document that details promotion of Research Professors & Scientists.
- **Discussion of changing annual review reporting period from March 15 – March 14 to Jan 1 – Dec 30 – Associate Provost Rich Forgette**
  - It was noted that the primary effect would be to pre-tenure/promotion faculty in their final year as they go up for tenure/promotion. For these individuals, they would need to ensure that all efforts/work that should be considered in the dossier (submitted Sept. 1) will be added in addition to their most recently completed annual review.
- **Committee Updates**
  - Academic Instructional Affairs (chair: Corina Petrescu)
  - Academic Conduct (chair: Vivian Ibrahim)
  - Finance & Benefits (chair: Joseph Carlisle)
    - A consulting firm hired by U.M is looking to identify 1 or 2 vendors that would provide 403b retirement accounts with significantly lower fees than existing providers.
    - Legacy providers will no longer be supported. Future funds will be routed to new provider once selected.
    - Any fees to move existing 403b funds to new provider will be borne by the account holder (=Faculty member).
  - Development & Planning (chair: Jon-Michael Wimberly)
  - Governance (chair: Angela Green)
  - Research & Creative Achievement (chair: Thomas Peattie)
  - University Services (chair: Brad Jones)
- **Old Business**
- **New Business**
- **Adjournment**
  - Motion: Corina Petrescu
    - Second
      - Vote: all in favor

**NEXT MEETING: January 21, 2020 @ 6:00 209 Bryant Hall**