



**Regional Campuses Faculty Affairs Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 8 2022**

10:00-11:26AM (via TEAMS)

*This month's Minutes taken by Noelle Bowles.*

Present: Rachael Blasiman, Noelle Bowles, Tamra Courey, Jay Jahangiri, Beth-Allyn Osikiewicz, Greg Smith.

Ex-officio: Peggy Shadduck, Vice President for Regional Campuses and Dean of CATS

- **Call to Order:** 10:03AM
- **Approval of Agenda:** Motion – Noelle, Tamra 2<sup>nd</sup>
- **Approval of March 2022:** Motion – Beth-Allyn, Tamra 2<sup>nd</sup>
- **VP for RCs and Dean of CATS Report**
  - **Report on Regional Campus Forums:** Excellent feedback from the RCs regarding use of space, skills, and other ideas. VPRC office is transcribing the feedback now and has put out a call for working group that comprises RC system wide representation. The working group will be tasked with selecting the priorities for implementation from the feedback.
    - Greg: Was there good input from faculty during the forums?
    - Dr. Shadduck: Turnout was good at most campuses – about 50/50 attendance between faculty and staff. About 200-250 in terms of overall participation.
    - Beth-Allyn: How were invitations for the working group made?
    - Dr. Shadduck: Invitations were a combination of volunteer and directed invitations
  - Dr. Shadduck reported that the President has asked her to share the forum process with PAC (President's Advisory Council) to let the wider university know what the thinking and direction is and to get buy-in from Kent campus with RC goals and projects.
    - Beth-Allyn and Noelle noted caution is needed in having people who don't know the regionals having input on RC guidance and suggestions.
  - **Budget:** The revised budget is based on lower enrollment predictions. Rather than having a five-year plan, the thinking now is to look at budgets annually on predicted enrollment.
    - Rachael: RC campus budgets have been effective. What is the benchmark for budgets to not be cut anymore?
    - Dr. Shadduck: Some of the issues lie in overruns in capital projects, and there will be savings in the consolidation of positions.
    - KSU is working on enrollment prediction models; there had been none before now. We hope that enrollments will be higher than predictions, but we need to plan conservatively. In this planning there is also the need to account for the differences between Kent and RCs – 2 and 4 year degrees, no graduate programs on the RCs.
      - Greg: The model needs to account for PT students also.
      - Dr. Shadduck: FTE is where the revenue predictions are based.

- **Class sizes and effective resource sharing**
  - Zoom room
    - Jay: noted the benefit of being on campus even if that student is alone in the Zoom room
  - Get the lower tuition rate for our RC students rather than WEB and tuition increase that accompanies that.
    - Noelle: the increased tuition is a self-constructed problem. Can we consider WEB courses for RC students only to allow for cost effective ways of teaching across the system?

### **Shared Dean Positions – questions from RCFAC members**

- Beth-Allyn: Five campuses now have limited access to their dean  
 Dr. Shadduck: Community relationship is central to the deans' role – and this where the emphasis will lie. Administrative duties may devolve to the assistant dean. Deans will look for collaborations across campuses and regions – and also to note the different needs of individual campuses.
- Beth-Allyn: Why are regionals always making the cuts in administration with Kent is continually adding administration?  
 Dr. Shadduck: Cannot answer
- Beth-Allyn: If deans are the face of the community, then how does sharing them make sense?  
 Dr. Shadduck: They are effective at leveraging partnerships.
- Rachael: The role of the dean is changing with some of the decisions moving toward Kent and centralization of decision-making. Is this a trend we will continue to see?
- Noelle: Gave Dr. Shadduck a head's up about the need to comply with the CBA in regard to consultation with faculty in the staffing of dean and interim dean positions. There was no faculty consultation in the decision to appoint interim deans.

After Dr. Shadduck's departure from the meeting, members had questions about multiple hires – PT enrollment management hire, hires in other RC system positions and wondered what is the benefit. Greg noted that since the positions are new, we will not yet see the benefit, though this a good question to track.

### **Chair's Report**

- Associate Provost of Academic Affairs search is on – want to finish the search by the end of the academic year. Greg Smith is on the committee.
- Tolling Request – from Kevin West's office asking for RCFAC input on these matters going forward.

Executive Session (discussion of request)

Unanimous vote in support of the tolling request from Stark campus

- Voting for RCFAC Officers – thoughts on procedures?
  - Continuing and incoming members vote for officers for AY 2022-2023, so elections will occur during the last meeting of the academic year.
  - Workshop – question about Fall workshop: Should we host one? What do we envision? Ideas are needed from RCFAC members as well as their FCs. If we want to do this, it will need to be a first item on the agenda in the fall.

**Motion to adjourn:** Tamra, Noelle 2nd

Adjourned 11:26AM