Kent Stark Faculty Council Minutes
May 2, 2014

I. Call to Order: 2:00 PM

II. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:

Absent: None

Ex officio: Dean Walter Wagor, Assistant Dean A. Bathi Kasturiarachi

Guests: Clarke Earley, Brendon Vaccaro

III. Approval of agenda:
Motion to approve the agenda: Councilor Lloyd
Second: Councilor Fox
Vote to approve the agenda: 17 Y, 0 N

IV. Approval of April 18, 2014 minutes
Motion: Councilor Moneysmith
Second: Councilor Birch
Vote to approve the minutes: 17 Y, 0 N

V. Chair’s Report
Chair Norton-Smith began by providing a thank-you to all who served council in the 2013-2014 academic term. He then proceeded to make specific mention of various individuals (copy of the report found in the attachment to these minutes).

Councilor Fox put forth a motion to thank Chair Norton-Smith for extraordinary leadership.
Second: Councilor Finer
Motion carried unanimously: 17 Y, 0 N

VI. Dean’s Report:
The Dean touched upon five specific areas:
(1) KSU (Kent) may run a deficit next year, however there are no plans for a (“real”) tuition increase.
(2) Scheduling (Kent) discussions continue. KSU is designated as a standard term institution with a typical academic calendar.
(3) The KSU Stark advancement director has been hired and is in place.
(4) The search for the new facilities manager is underway.
(5) Scheduling conflicts are a concern. It is important to coordinate schedules within departments.
VII. Assistant Dean's Report:
The Assistant Dean touched upon five specific areas:
1) Schedules are being examined with an eye towards expanding LER (core) offerings in the evenings. We are also looking to expand V1 and V3 offerings. However, room and computer lab availability issues are a consideration.
2) Searches completed include HDFS, Music, Math, and Sociology. Searches continuing include BSCI and Reading.
3) Instruction of online classes will require faculty training. Opportunities to be announced.
4) New programs include several new minors, and the new music BA. Twenty-three articulation agreements are in place with Stark State.
5) Four faculty resignations (no names mentioned) have been received.

VIII. Committee reports:
Due to the lengthy nature of the PAAC, Committee II, Colloquium Committee, and Treasurer’s reports, complete copies of those reports are found as an attachment to the minutes.

a. PAAC: attached
b. Committee II: attached
c. Colloquium Committee: attached
d. Treasurer/Social Committee: attached
e. Handbook Committee
   a) Councilor Moneysmith emphasized that there were no policy changes to the handbook only updating of language. The list of changes was initially identified by Sue Averill with the committee working (thankfully or thanklessly?) over the summer (2013) to discuss these changes.
b) The Handbook Committee will leave clarification of PAAC duties (travel approvals made during the summer) for the next council to wrangle with.
c) Councilor Moneysmith presented new language to council regarding NTT performance reviews and faculty excellence awards.
   1. Motion to accept the changes recommended by the handbook committee: Councilor Hovhannisyan
   2. Second: Councilor Tobias
   3. Vote: 18 Y, 0 N (numbers changed due to a late arrival)
f. Technology Committee:
   Professor Cho has resigned as committee chair.
   Councilor Birch moved that Clarke Earley be appointed as the new Chair
   Second: Councilor Moneysmith
   Vote: 18 Y, 0 N
   Newly minted Chair Earley reported that the IPad cart has been approved and that the committee is taking technology requests.

IX. Old Business
a. Memorial Committee discussion:
   a) Committee member Vaccaro presented a summary of the group's modified proposal which included mention of the brick memorial area around the campus clock as well as recognition of individuals (not yet dead) who have served the campus.
   b) Discussion ensued: Council Finer noted that the clock area was created in recognition of the campus's 50th anniversary with donations being made to establish the particular area. She objected to “repurposing” the site and also was
not comfortable being part of a “memorial” given she had not yet departed (physically or otherwise) the campus. Councilor Norton-Smith moved that the memorial committee’s report be discussed by next year’s cabinet and Dean.
Second: Councilor Ruff
Vote: 18 Y, 0 N

b. Tobacco policy discussion:
Councilor Finer reported that she had spoken with Brent Wood (a tobacco policy committee member) about the Kent committee charged with recommending a new tobacco policy for the university. The committee (which Finer noted had few faculty members and no members from the College of Public Health) sent their final report to the President in August 2013, yet no action has been taken. Finer reported that given the use of e-cigarettes by students in Stark campus buildings, the existence of a proactive all-inclusive tobacco policy at OSU (banning e-cigarettes and smokeless tobacco), the inaction of Kent administration as well as recent regulatory concerns about e-cigarettes by the FDA, she has decided to formulate her own policy for her syllabus regarding tobacco use. Councilor Finer is happy to share the statement with colleagues.

X. New Business
a. RC statement on bad debt
Dr. Wagor provided councilors with a summary of the RC (7 campuses) bad debt analysis including write-offs for FY2008-2013 and tuition revenues for FY 2006-2012.

Councilor Fox made a motion to express our concerns about the service fees the Stark Campus is charged being based on revenue we do not receive in cases where that revenue is actually “bad debt.”
Second: Councilor Hovhannisyan
Vote to support the motion: 18 Y, 0 N
Discussion ensued. Dean Wagor mentioned the historical aspect of bad debt and that its current impact was related to a policy change (initiated by Kent) in the Kent system.

b. Election of new officers

Nomination for Chair
Thomas Norton-Smith
Second: Gro Hovhannisyan
Vote: 14 Y, 1 N

Nomination for Vice Chair:
Keith Lloyd
Second: Mitch McKenney
Vote: 15 Y, 0 N

Nomination for Secretary:
Jayne Moneysmith
Second: Pete Dorff
Vote: 15 Y, 0 N
Nomination for Treasurer:
Leslie Heaphy
Second: Scott Tobias
Vote: 15 Y, 0 N

XI. Announcements:
   a. Effective June 30, 2014, Dean Walter Wagor will step down as Campus Dean.
   b. Councilor Khourey-Bowers invited faculty to an open house from 2-6 PM on Sunday, May 4th to bid farewell to Moon Huem Cho.

XII. Adjournment: 3:56 PM
     (because of the surprising nature of announcement a, the councilors making the motion and providing a second were not recorded-apologies!)
     Vote: unanimous