Kent Stark Faculty Council Minutes
15 March 2013

Attendance by constituency: I. Kim Garchar, Carey McDougall, Leslie Heaphy; II. Erin Hollenbaugh, Deidre Warren, Julie Cremeans-Smith; III. Robert Hamilton, Gro Hovhannisyan, Relja Vulanovic; IV. Jayne Moneysmith, Brenda Smith, Mary Rooks; V. Verena Murphy; VI. Greg Blundell, Beth Campbell

Absent: Deb Shelestak, Jarrod Tudor

Ex-Officio: Dean Walter Wagor, Assoc. Dean Ruth Capasso

Guests: Theresa Ford

I. Call to Order was given by Carey McDougall at 2:04 p.m.
II. Roll call and determination of quorum made by Mary Rooks.
III. Leslie Heaphy made a motion to approve the agenda. Jayne Moneysmith seconded. The agenda was unanimously approved.
IV. With minor corrections, the minutes of the 18 February 2013 meeting were approved.

V. Chair’s Report
   a) Chair McDougall invited Jayne Moneysmith to provide an update from the ad hoc committee on SSI norming. Moneysmith reported that the committee will create a database and input SSI numbers (with the help of faculty secretaries) from the fall semester for trial runs using various norming scenarios. One issue of debate has been the question of what scenarios to run—having this kind of database allow for flexibility. She thanked Dean Capasso for her support in these efforts. The committee has begun to input the data and may have a report for the April meeting. They will also provide an annotated bibliography of their research. During the ensuing discussion, McDougall noted that RCFAC is interested in the committee’s findings and there is support for getting rid of the norms because students respond to the descriptors without an understanding of what the numbers mean. Dee Warren asked if a Likert scale might be more accurate. Beth Campbell suggested that students may not understand or agree on what each of the current categories means. Gro Hovhannisyan suggested that the peer evaluation process might be revised so that more emphasis might be placed on peer evaluations. Ensuing discussion focused on the need to look at alternative models for evaluating teaching.
   b) Chair McDougall noted that the TT Faculty Excellence Awards were distributed. She thanked Dean Wagor and the review committee for their hard work.
   c) The emeritus proposal that was supported by RCFAC and clarifies the RC role in emeritus recommendations is sitting with Faculty Senate. The provost and president’s office supported the change but wanted further clarity in the policy about the gendered use of the words emeritus/emerita.
   d) Iris Harvey from University Relations has been working with Stark campus and a company called See Ideas Consulting to investigate how we meet and can better meet the needs of our community. Thus far, the representative from See Ideas Consulting, Steve Schwadner, has met with and gathered thoughts about our campus from faculty, staff, students, parents, advisory board members, community leaders, and students. Next Thursday, the Design Team will meet to develop Community/stakeholder needs and requirements (as identified through the research) and develop opportunity and innovation initiatives to address those needs. The following people are the Design Team: the deans, Mary Southards, Tina Biasella, Carey McDougall, Iris Harvey, Wanda Thomas, Chris White (Canton Repository), Tracy Stevens (from our advisory board and Dominion
East Ohio), Faith Sheaffer-Polen (Corporate University), Brent May (Superintendent of Plain Local Schools), and student and SLAB member K. Thomas.
e) Chair McDougall reported that she sent out a survey about grants from our Grants Administrator, Theresa Ford, present at today’s meeting to hear feedback about the survey. Discussion ensued.
f) Chair McDougall reported that, as a result of campus discussions about our various review processes (in both the pre-discussion meetings with FTNTT and TT faculty and at the all faculty meeting), Cabinet would like Council to recommend that Committee II create a proposal that would change the FTNTT review committee so that 1) promoted FTNTT faculty on Council sit on the FTNTT review committee, and 2) full professors on the FTNTT committee will be only those who sit on Council. This would give FTNTT faculty a voice in the NTT review process and it would mean all full professors would no longer be obligated to review FTNTT files. Like all other reviewers on the committee, FTNTT and full professors would serve if elected to do so. Currently, the handbook reads as follows when describing the FTNTT review committee: “Members of the committee are all tenured members of faculty council plus all tenured full professors who are not members of faculty council.” The handbook also mandates that “any modification of this handbook must be approved by a vote of the Faculty Council … A vote of the proposed modifications will be conducted by Faculty Council, who must set a specific date for discussions of the proposed changes after all faculty have been made aware of the changes and have had convenient access to the proposed changes to the handbook for a minimum of ten (10) days before the discussion and vote.” Approval of the suggested changes requires a 2/3 positive vote of the members of Faculty Council. Upon Council’s approval of the suggested changes, the revised handbook language will be sent to the Campus Dean for approval. Jayne Moneysmith moved that Committee II be charged with creating handbook language to revise the review committee for FTNTT files following the above recommendations. Beth Campbell seconded. Discussion ensued. The motion carried unanimously.
g) Chair McDougall reported that the AASP committee is presenting the university with the draft of the Strategic Plan today. She invited faculty members to take advantage of multiple ways to give the committee feedback: anonymously, through the Civic Commons, emailing her, or visiting her in the Library Conference room on Monday, April 8 from 3-5pm.
h) Chair McDougall noted that it is time to conduct Faculty Council elections. The plan is for Secretary Rooks and Julie Spotts to send out a call for nominations on April 1st, with a deadline of April 8th. Voting will begin on April 12th and end April 22nd. At the last Council meeting it was recommended that we share a description of the various responsibilities that serving on Council entails (said description was distributed to Council prior to the meeting). McDougall invited discussion. Council expressed support for the schedule and sending out the description of responsibilities as presented.
i) At the request of Chair McDougall, Mary Rooks reported that Cabinet held a meeting to discuss the results of the call for faculty nominations for the search committee for Associate Dean. Prioritizing diversity and a wide range of perspectives (representatives from a variety of disciplines, ranks, levels of experience, and constituencies), Cabinet recommended the following nominees to Dean Wager: Don Thacker, Brenda Smith, Jayne Moneysmith, Claudia Khoury-Bowers, Clarke Earley, Jim Seelye, Jack McWhorter, Thomas Norton-Smith. Dean Wager thanked Cabinet and reported the composition of the committee as follows: Thomas Norton-Smith, Jayne Moneysmith, Clarke Earley, Don Thacker, Rob Karis, Heather Hentosz, and Heather Guarnieri.

VI. Dean’s Report
a) Dean Wager reported that the announcement for the position of Associate Dean has been sent out and applications are coming in. The search committee will meet soon to be officially charged and to go over necessary information. Dean Wager encouraged applications and invited questions. Discussion ensued.
b) Regarding the last set of NTT reviews, Dean Wager reported that his recommendation, in all cases, was positive and has gone forward to the next level.
c) In response to questions raised at February’s Council meeting, new signage has been placed for a gender-neutral restroom in the east wing of MH.
d) Dean Wager provided an update on the science building. He noted that faculty members have been working with the architects on details and are making progress. On March 25th,
representatives will go before the Capital Campaigns Committee—we will have 30 minutes to present our information. We will be giving them a packet of information on the building and making an argument for why they should support it. Then, Dean Wagor will make a case for our multi-million dollar request to the foundations represented. Dean Wagor invited questions. Discussion ensued. Also, the Faculty Technology Committee was asked to help facilitate some discussions on campus regarding the best steps regarding technology in the new building and in all of our classrooms. Their suggestions and invitations for further conversation are forthcoming.

VII. Associate Dean’s Report
   a) Dean Capasso noted that the BA in Fine Arts has been approved by OBR.
   b) Michelle Etling is leaving Stark to accept a full-time position at Kent. We will search for the position after the end of the semester
   c) Search committees are making good progress: 2 verbal acceptances (English and Criminal Justice), one in negotiation, one close to negotiation, others in process of bringing candidates to campus.
   d) We have no new information regarding the formulas for summer teaching pay for full time faculty (enrollment contingent classes). Faculty members teaching summer classes are asked to look for an e-mail asking them if they are willing to teach for proportional compensation, though there are no numbers yet.

VIII. Committee Reports
   a) PAAC—no report
   b) Committee II—see Chair’s report
   c) Colloquium Committee—The display cases in MH have been updated. Faculty are invited to attend the next colloquium, tonight at 7:00pm.
   d) Treasurer/Social Committee—Faculty are invited to express their preferences for the spring social event to Deb Shelestak.
   e) Handbook Committee—no report
   f) Faculty Technology Committee—Erin Hollenbaugh reported that there have been 3 requests since the last meeting, all of which were approved. Also, four iPads are now available for faculty to check out (an e-mail announcement was sent out). Faculty are encouraged to provide feedback about their use of the iPads through the survey or by contacting the committee.
   g) Faculty Senate—Chair McDougall noted that Rob Kairis will be sending a report soon.
   h) Speaker Series Committee—Carey McDougall reported that no applications have been submitted for next year, though the deadline has passed. The announcement will be sent again.
   i) Academic Planning Committee—Dee Warren reported that the committee will meet on Tuesday to hear a proposal about the Master of Arts in Teaching for middle childhood education.
   j) Black History—Verena Murphy reported that six events were held during February - one held by Leslie Heaphy, on March 12, entitled: African American Women Pioneers in Sports. The Black List Vol, 1, 2, and 3 were held in the library conference room on Feb. 6, 13, and 20. On Feb. 20, Willie Brown, a cornerback from the Denver Broncos and Oakland Raiders held a seminar at the University Center. On Feb. 28, the Wallace Coleman Band, together with Jody Getz and friends, attracted more than 150 people for an evening of Electric Blues in the Main Hall Auditorium

IX. Old Business
   Greg Blundell summarized the results of the bookstore survey. A majority of the faculty members find that the bookstore meets their needs (made positive comments). The committee identified some areas of concern: a change in editions occurs without communication; number of books ordered does not meet needs; the bookstore does not provide desk copies; the ordering process is cumbersome; bookstore staff has a negative attitude when dealing with concerns. Blundell thanked Faith and Marshall for their work, and agreed, at the request of Council, to share these concerns with the
bookstore. Chair McDougall asked Dean Wagor if he will communicate and work on concerns. Dean Wagor agreed. Discussion ensued.

X. New Business—none

XI. Announcements—Leslie Heaphy reminded faculty that the deadline for submissions to the student conference is the 25th.

XII. Adjournment—the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 pm.