Dr. Karen Kopelson, Chair, called the Faculty Assembly to order at 2:03 PM.

Dr. Kopelson recognized Dr. Tracy Eells, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, to talk about the University’s adoption of Interfolio. Dr. Eells began with a brief review of the platform’s history as a product to be used throughout all phases of a faculty member’s career. He noted that Interfolio is
currently being used by more than 250 universities. In the past 20 years, over 3000 tenure cases have been decided using Interfolio, more than 830,000 scholarly works have been entered into its faculty activities database, and 98% of its institutional contracts have been renewed.

The University of Louisville contracted with Interfolio both to use in faculty reviews of all types and to use its faculty activities database as a location in which faculty CV information can be entered. Dr. Eells traced the timeline of the University’s involvement with Interfolio, arguing that this has not been a sudden process as some have suggested:

- November 2013-December 2016: Early explorations/conversations about Interfolio/contract signing
- July 2017-June 2018: Product vetting and adoption
- July 2018-June 2021: Implementation and evaluation

The University decided to adopt Interfolio for several reasons. First, universities that have adopted Interfolio have reported a significant administrative time savings, which corresponds to a significant cost savings and frees faculty time for teaching and research. Dr. Eells stated that the University is anticipating a savings of $775,870 based on its ROI analysis. Second, Interfolio adoption should improve the faculty review process. Consolidating information in a centralized, accessible location, is expected to allow review committees to work on materials simultaneously under a secure login and materials. Furthermore, Faculty 180’s adoption should help faculty avoid the redundant entry of information across multiple platforms because Faculty 180 information can be used to create compliance reports, populate departmental websites, and generate CVs.

Dr. Eells insisted that faculty data in Interfolio are not shared with other institutions nor are they used to compare UofL faculty with faculty at other institutions. Moreover, the faculty activities database is not available via the Internet and is not searchable via the Internet. IT has reviewed and approved of Interfolio’s security protocols. Faculty were also assured that they would not have to transcribe their CVs into the system.

After his presentation, Dr. Eells responded to a series of questions:

- When asked if raises would be available since this new process will increase the amount of work that personnel committees will have to do during reviews, Dr. Eells indicated that he was unsure.
- When asked about the “urgency” of Interfolio implementation, Dr. Eells reminded the faculty that has been in process for more than 5 years, though he admitted that more training should have been done prior to implementation.
- Asked about Interfolio security and how the University’s adoption of Interfolio would impact separately-maintained, personal Interfolio accounts, Dr. Eells responded that IT is confident of Interfolio’s security and noted that personal pages need not be linked with UofL faculty Interfolio pages.
- When Dr. Cunningham questioned whether the projected cost savings is realistic, arguing that the time savings likely to be generated from Interfolio seems smaller
than Dr. Eells suggested, Dr. Eells responded that other adopting institutions realized cost savings, so he believes the same will be true for UofL.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 PM.