Faculty Senate Executive Committee (XC) Report
Dec. 7, 2022

Report submitted by Rob Detmering, FS Vice-Chair/XC Chair.

November was a relatively quiet month for the XC, with the semester winding down and a forthcoming transition in university leadership in the weeks ahead. While the XC met only once (on 11/16/22), we discussed a variety of issues with campus leaders as noted below. Full minutes for the meeting will be made available on the senate website.

Student Success Initiatives

Amy Lingo, Interim Dean of the College of Education and Human Development, provided an update on her work with the Provost's office to advance student success and retention. Lingo is in the process of creating a coordinated plan for faculty involvement in retention. She discussed several ideas, such as emphasizing the connections between teaching strategies and retention at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning, as well as forming interdisciplinary teams of faculty from different units that would work on retention-related projects. Lingo also highlighted the new Center for Engaged Learning as a hub for mentoring students and as a potential source for learning more about what students need.

Lingo noted that individual units will have their own retention goals and strategies, based on what makes sense in those units and the evidence of what works (such as building community with students). All faculty at the university would not be asked to adopt the exact same teaching strategies; rather, the strategies will depend on the context within the unit.

Faculty Accountability Policy

Cherie Dawson-Edwards, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, discussed use of the [Faculty Accountability Policy](#), which was adopted by the university last year. The policy has been employed very rarely up to this point and only for cases of serious or repeated concerns. While some faculty had been worried about the policy being "weaponized" by administrators or used for retaliation, there is no evidence of this so far.

Research Update

Kevin Gardner, Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation, summarized a number of initiatives and projects associated with his office, including the recently adopted campus-wide policy on the [Management and Sharing of Research Data](#) and the [Health Equity Innovation Hub](#) collaboration with Humana. Gardner also highlighted two databases for identifying funding sources: Pivot (non-limited external opportunities) and InfoReady (limited submissions, internal grants, and translational grants). Both resources are available on the Office of Research and Innovation [funding website](#).

Members of the XC have also been discussing and advocating for the development of a campus-wide strategic plan that would define research-related goals and priorities, especially in areas beyond the more visible focus on health sciences and engineering.

<u>Upcoming</u>
In December, the XC plans to meet with a faculty representative from the United Campus Workers of Kentucky to learn more about this group's concerns in relation to UofL. We will also discuss key issues for faculty advocacy as we prepare for the arrival of new UofL President Kim Schatzel.