

Kilgore College
Faculty Association

Laney Mobley, President 2007-8

Agenda Faculty Senate Meeting **AFTERNOTES**

April 4, 2008

12:30 pm, Educational Room, Watson Library

I. Senate housekeeping

1. afternotes and agendas – afternotes from February 15 are on the web site (link is incorrectly stated as Feb 08)

In attendance: Brandon Walker, Tom DeLany, Paul Buchanan, Carla Gleaton, Dean Kinney, Virginia Booker, Karen Johnson, Susan Wilson, Debbie Williams, Laney Mobley; Guest: Michelle Wilder

II. Updates (old business)

1. reports from various meetings and committees

a) QEP and public awareness

Michelle Wilder presented a synopsis of the QEP and its direction. The WIKI (blog) and password will be made available to all full time faculty members. Several issues have yet to be addressed about the QEP, especially those that pertain to the strategies on the college environment. *Please read a copy of the draft.* Dr. Holda told me that the QEP is a work in progress.

b) dual credit update

Dual credit is here to stay. It is the newest area for increasing contact hour increases. Several senators expressed concern that their jobs may be in jeopardy because of DC. It was brought up that Kilgore College instructors should be given the “right of first refusal” for teaching a dual credit course on a high school campus. A concern for scheduling dual credit was also discussed because of the increased gas costs. Scheduling for traveling instructors needs to be extremely efficient. One other point was that Kilgore/Longview KC facilities should be used wherever possible.

c) SACS – is proceeding in preparation for the site visit Sept. 16, 2008.

d) other? – parking should not be provided or allowed for student or other classroom assistants at the expense of faculty parking. This is an issue where there are not enough faculty parking spaces.

3. timely notification of student absences – better? – this issue is still under advisement and has not been ignored. It will be readdressed once a new Vice President of Student Development has been selected. It is still a problem in selected areas with certain segments of student activities.

4. maintenance of buildings – better? – NO, this issue is still a problem because there is a paucity of persons to whom to turn in times of emergencies or in the daytime. The FSP (faculty senate president) will ask Dr. Holda for a better clarification of the building maintenance procedures for both night and day. The senators realize that the recent flooding has taken precedence, but the other issues have not gone away. The outsourcing and maintenance of an aging physical plant of concern.

5. travel/professional development dispersements – revisit – pitfalls and successes?

The issue with how travel monies for professional development are dispersed is rooted entirely in the *time frame for travel selection for professional development and the time of dispersements*. The senators agreed that the issue is not so much who controls the dispersements, but that it is impractical and not possible to always know in September what professional development opportunities will occur in the spring or the following summer (but in the same budget year). It is an issue of how to plan travel for April or May.

How can first come/first served be prevented, and, then what happens to the travel money if a faculty member's plans for April or May fall through? Should departments be allowed to use travel money in this case for supplies or will it be returned to the "Black Hole?" Should this money be redistributed to people who did not have all their earlier expenses met? *The major concern is equitable treatment.*

6. new president elect (to follow Debbie Williams) send Debbie and/or me names of potential candidates (not victims). Debbie and I can visit with them.

This is important for keeping open the lines of communication, even if the lines are electronic. Can we have an online Senate????? The requirements include:

- a) a faculty member or support staff in contact with students (This is our advocate.)**
- b) availability to attend IC meetings to provide a different conduit of information back and forth between the faculty and the administration (These are most interesting.)**
- c) conduct 2-3 senate meetings and a few association meetings. (These are fun!!!)**
- d) frequent visits with Dr. Holda (These are very informative.)**
- e) a stipend and a budget (These are quite useful.)**

III. New Business

1. report from Dr. Holda – this meeting was postponed until April 7. (I will present him with the AFTERNOTES instead of the agenda.)
2. report from IC – a brief rundown of the last IC meeting was discussed. **The FSP will ask that the IC minutes be once again distributed to the entire Faculty Association in a very timely fashion.** This thread of communication is very necessary.
3. update the faculty evaluation by students
It is time to rewrite the student evaluation of the faculty. Comments from this meeting included that the evaluations given randomly and infrequently to students during both long terms because when students have to fill out one for each instructor for each class (sometimes five or six evaluations), the evaluations get "black streaked" – i.e. the students run their pencils from the top to the bottom of the sheet without paying attention to the form. Also, the form is way too long, so students ignore the back. Lastly, by doing fall only, some classes are never given an evaluation. Should the faculty write this evaluation or is this a responsibility of _____?
4. support for proposal that rotation of faculty (new) computers be by departments/regions of classrooms to allow for easier use and technical repairs of these computers in classrooms used by same faculty.

Most senators agree with this idea, but with the following caveats:

- a. No faculty member should have a computer older than 4 or 5 years old
- b. Provisions need to be made for computers that crash leaving a faculty member without a computer or with an inefficient rebuilt one until his/her rotation time returns again
- c. That departments of one faculty not be left out
- d. That the question of the operating system be resolved before it (VISTA??) is put on the computers. Some people who have personal copies of Vista on their home computers have had terrible success with it.)
- e. That the initial rollover to such a system be as fair as possible. (Could this ever be painless?)

5. time for new budget preparation: 2008-09 budget announcements will be forth coming. There was a request that in house costs be established (and remain so) before the new budgets are written.

6. other items to be brought before the senate: These items were brought up the conclusion of the meeting for possible future discussion and concerns:
- a. All surveys for data assessment be provided to the instructors at the beginning of the semester. These surveys need to have the pre dates and the post dates included.
 - b. That Kilgore College consider a MW and TR tract of classes. Fridays were not discussed. Perhaps QEP could use Fridays for learning communities and tutorials, etc. to advance reading goals.
 - c. The reinstatement of the formerly-called-activity-period-now-called-something-else-for-QEP
 - d. The huge issue of maintenance, scheduling, technical care, set up and tear down of the Van Cliburn Auditorium and Dodson. The TLC and operation of these two much used KC facilities is like a giant ATV without a driver. The FSP will add this to the list.

7. Things I forgot to mention:

- a) There will probably be a change in the date of the Christmas luncheon from the very last Friday of the semester to the Friday before – the last class day of the semester.
- b) All faculty need to volunteer (is that an oxymoron – need to and volunteer) for at least one graduation in a (school) calendar year.
- c) Look at the QEP and make comments. If you need a full blown copy of the draft, let me or Michelle Wilder know. I will send the WIKI website and password in a separate email, since these afternotes will be on the KC web page.
- d) Send Dr. Holda and/or Karol Pruetz your comments about the interviewees for the Vice President of Student Development.
- e) The IT department and strategic planning committee is working on an “acceptable use” policy for emails and the internet, especially certain websites.

IV. Wrap-Up and Next meeting

1. BRIEF comments for afternotes about items above: The faculty senate is vital – more than vital. I will prepare a list of the issues and ideas (or some of them) from this past year to present to you in May.

2. Faculty Association meeting at end of spring term – set date:
BREAKFAST ON MAY 5 AT 7:30 OR 8 AM before exams start.
Please come, or you may be elected Faculty Senate President Elect!!!!!

3. Next meeting (May 5, 8:30 am) – try to send someone from your area!!!!!!!!!!!!