Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Meeting

October 23, 2014; Telepresence Meeting

Attendance: Martin Bohner (Missouri University of Science & Technology, S&T), Marsha Fischer (University of Missouri System, UMS), Mark Fitch (S&T), Hank Foley (UMS), Steve Graham (UMS), Matthew Keefer (University of Missouri-St. Louis, SL), Steve Knorr (UMS), Dennis Miller (University of Missouri, MU), Melanie Mormile (S&T), Zora Mulligan (UMS), Deborah Noble-Triplett (UMS), Craig Roberts (MU), Nancy Stancel (University of Missouri-Kansas City, KC), Keith Stine (SL), Oscar Tshibanda (UMS; Tshibanda & Associates LLC, Kansas City MO), Peggy Ward-Smith (KC), Tim Wolfe (UMS)

The meeting commenced at 9:35 am, and IFC members voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from September 25.

Steve Knorr reported on the President’s Show Me Value tour through rural Missouri to promote the value of education. He commented on the political party composition of the state legislature and provided background on ballot initiatives in the upcoming election. Mr. Knorr discussed the state economy and its potential impact on UMS funding.

IFC representatives from KC, MU, S&T and SL gave reports on their campuses to President Tim Wolfe. President Wolfe then responded to a question on strategic planning, and there was a general discussion on how funding initiatives can affect the balance between efficiency and quality.

The IFC and President Wolfe discussed an IFC request to the President to form a subcommittee that will develop policies and procedures regarding faculty and sexual harassment, discrimination and misconduct. The subcommittee will consist of Drs. Miller, Mormile, Stine and Ward-Smith. It will meet with the General Counsel’s office and consultants contracted by UM to a) review the current critical issues and problem areas at the four UM campuses, b) understand current federal statues and their interpretation, and c) review the current UM Collected Rules and Regulations and campus bylaws. Based on the research and consultation described, the subcommittee will work with the General Counsel’s office to develop revisions of collected rules, as well as policies and procedures. The President stated his agreement with this plan and encouraged the committee to work quickly.

The IFC and President Wolfe continued discussion of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and student conduct procedures. Discussion topics included the following.

- the work completed and to be completed by consultants contracted by UM on this issue
- feedback to the President from the campuses on Executive Order 41
- prevention efforts initiated by student groups

Dr. Noble-Triplett led a discussion on the responsibilities of faculty members as mandated reporters of sexual harassment, discrimination and misconduct (i.e., Title IX). She discussed the differences between mandated reporters and confidential reporters in our policies, the development of training modules on reporting, and the issues facing higher education regarding Title IX enforcement.
Mr. Tshibanda briefly reported on his work to study enterprise resource planning software (ERP) across the UMS. He is planning to meet with IFC members on their campuses to get faculty feedback on ERP needs and concerns.

Dr. Foley and Dr. Graham led a discussion on an Evaluation of the Ability to Work document. IFC members reported on the initial feedback they received from their campuses on the document. Drs. Foley and Graham were asked to consider document revisions and to prepare a letter that will explain the policy and its necessity.

Dr. Roberts encouraged the IFC to resume its discussion of faculty and academic titles.

The meeting concluded at 12:02 pm.

Approved 11/13/14