MUSKINGUM COLLEGE
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, November 20, 2007
TIME: 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: BSC 336
PRESIDING: Dr. Paul Reichardt, Vice President for Academic Affairs

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Paul Reichardt, Vice President for Academic Affairs. The invocation was then given by Dr. Rick Nutt.

2. The minutes of the October 20, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.

3. The agenda of the November 20, 2007 meeting was approved unanimously.

4. President Steele’s report included the following:

   A. Dr. Linda Morrow has been awarded the prestigious Ohio Professor of the Year award sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Linda is the first Muskingum College Professor to receive the award since its inception in 1981. A special reception hosted by the President is planned for Thursday, December 6 at 3:30 p.m. in PBC.

   B. The Board of Trustees has chosen the scripture verse for the cornerstone of the Chess Center: “...Test everything; hold fast that which is good.” 1 Thessalonians 5:21.

   C. It would cost $1 million to renovate the Little Theatre for classroom use during the time in which the new music building is under construction. A fabricated building would cost approximately $250,000 to erect as a temporary meeting place. The Board agreed that it would be a wiser use of funding to erect the fabricated building. It will be constructed behind the Layton House and should be completed in time to begin classes in the building for the start of the ’08-’09 academic year.

   D. The new music building will be named the Otto and Fran Walter Hall Music Building. The cost to excavate the land to add an additional 9,000 square feet to the building (during the original building construction) is $1 million. It is much cheaper to excavate while the equipment is already on the premises. The cost to finish the additional 9,000 square feet of the building would be $1.5 million. The Board approved the additional excavation costs. However, the finishing for the addition will be delayed until later. Groundbreaking for the new building will take place in April 2008. Usage of Johnson Hall will conclude into Summer 2008; the building will be razed sometime in August-September.

5. Dr. Walter Huber, Chair of Assessment Committee, shared the Committee’s plans to further the assessment goals. There are five steps to the plan:

   i. Every department with a presence in the LAE will identify one or more goals each of their LAE courses meet.
   ii. The Assessment Committee will provide workshops to the faculty to assist them in creating plans to assess specific LAE courses.
   iii. Departments will submit a plan to the Assessment Committee.
   iv. After plans are compiled and approved, a preset number of sections will be chosen to be assessed each year.
   v. The Assessment Committee will report the results of assessment to the VPAA and faculty.
Recommendation from Curriculum Committee:

A. The motion to add BIOL 1XX: Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credits) and BIOL 1XX: Anatomy & Physiology II (4 credits) to the permanent offerings and the Scientific Understanding category of the LAE was approved with 4 abstentions. There was discussion pertaining to the courses’ link to the Nursing degree, Biology major, and Physical Education major programs and how it would impact students’ ability to register for the courses. A motion to limit the discussion was approved with 3 abstentions.

B. The motion to drop Biology 228: Human Anatomy (3 credits) and Biology 129: Physiology of Exercise (3 credits) from the permanent offerings was approved unanimously.

C. The motion to remove PSYC 151: General Experimental Psychology (4 credits) from the Scientific Understanding category of the LAE was approved with 8 opposed and 4 abstentions.

D. The motion to add 10 minutes to the meeting was approved unanimously.

E. A motion was made to change LAE Goal 4 learning objective from “Muskingum students will demonstrate knowledge of physical wellness and of ethical and spiritual concepts” to the following:
   a. Students will demonstrate an ability to understand and apply specific principles and practices that promote physical wellness.
   b. Students will demonstrate an ability to assess critically ethical and moral issues in society.
   c. Students will demonstrate an ability to describe the distinguishing traits of a religious belief system.

A motion was made to amend part b) to “students will demonstrate an ability to assess ethical and moral issues in society critically”. The motion to amend part b) was approved with 10 no votes. LAE Goal 4 as amended was approved with 5 abstentions.

F. A motion to add 5 more minutes to the meeting was approved unanimously.

7. Dr. Reichardt reported on the following items:

A. The language of Bylaw VI regarding evaluation for promotion in rank in the Faculty Handbook is in conflict with current practice. The Professional Development Committee and Faculty Affairs Committee will work on revising both the Faculty Handbook and the Academic Policies and Procedures manual. The President affirms the current evaluation practice and approves its continuance in the interim. The Department Chairs, Division Coordinators, and the Faculty Affairs Committee have traditionally been involved with promotion decisions relative to all “tenure-track” faculty. Evaluation for promotion for limited period faculty will continue to involve department chairs and division coordinators to avoid any legal complications.

8. Meeting adjourned at 12:18 P.M.

Submitted by Celeste Warne, Assistant to the VPAA