**General Faculty Meeting**

**December 8, 2015 – 2:00**

**Hamblin Auditorium**

1. **Call to order:** The General Faculty Meeting was called to order by the Senate Chair, Dr. Tim Ruhnke at 2:06 p.m.
2. **Approval of August 11, 2015 General Faculty Meeting minutes:** Minutes from the previous General Faculty Meeting were reviewed. Dr. Rebecca Francis moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Ronald Baker seconded. **Motion to approve minutes carried.**
3. **Approval of agenda: Motion to approve the Agenda was made (Fultz/Banks) and carried.**
4. **Board of Governors update:** Dr. Guetzloff provided the update of activities of the Board of Governors (BOG). Dr. Ann Brothers Smith is now Chair of the BOG. The annual evaluation of the President was completed. Discussion was made about the budget, including the $200,000 received annually by the athletic department even after the Community and Technical College left. There was a 4% reduction in funding in the fall and there will probably be another cut (possibly 6-8%) in the spring. Some revenues include the ESL program, drilling and Learning House. The Oasis contract is over and half of the classrooms will be returned to use in the spring semester. The other half will return to use in the fall semester. The university received reaffirmation of accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission. Dr. Guetzloff thanked all who worked on the accreditation process.
5. **Review of Senate Work:** Revisions to the General Education curriculum are complete and the catalog will be revised for the Spring 2016 semester. An audit of the Constitution and Bylaws needs to be completed. There will be a presentation on the Retention Plan (with time for questions) at the General Faculty Meeting in January. Discussion was made of the reduction in office hours from 10 hours to 5 hours. Three to 5 hour requirements are common at other institutions. Additionally, faculty are more accessible through electronic means and the reduction in hours allows for faculty to be available for committee work. Be sure to post office hours and be available during those hours. Note that students can also make appointments if they are unable to meet during published office hours.
6. **Online System:** The Provost noted thanks to the three professors (Drs. De, Guetzloff and Wilson) who went to Learning House for a visit. Faculty had opportunities to comment on selection of the company to be used for the online system. There are minor details to be worked out in the contract and it needs to be reviewed by Mr. Jones and lawyers. The contract will be signed by the President “hopefully soon”. Learning House will move all Sakai except courses with a Web10 designation. The Center for Online Learning will help and will be hiring a Graduate Assistant from the Media Studies program. The proposed agreement is for 7 years and will start in the fall. There are currently 3 completely online programs with plans to add the Masters of Instructional Leadership and Accounting degrees. The platform is Moodle which is open source but needs a platform. Discussion was made about Learning House helping to recruit student, ease of use, and availability of training materials. The Provost will put together a committee regarding online courses and programs which will consist of administrators and faculty members. Further discussion was made about the standards for quality on Learning House classes and the Quality Matters rubric.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Emily Waugh, Secretary