Administrative Evaluations

Sen. John Parker of the Ad Hoc Committee on Administrative Evaluation reported that 424 evaluation questionnaires were returned. The results are now in the hands of department heads, deans, vice presidents and the president. Sen. Parker acknowledged those who helped in the evaluation procedures: Tom Noser, Larry Caillouet, John Crenshaw, Betty Fulwood and Rose Davis.

Faculty Status and Welfare Committee

Sen. Barry Brunson presented an answer from the State Attorney General initially asked by a now-retired faculty member: "Must state university faculty submit to student evaluations?" The answer in short seems to be "no," according to correspondence with the Attorney General. The Attorney General pointed out that the evaluation procedure is not a written requirement in faculty contracts at WKU. All departmental senators have a copy of the correspondence. Sen. Brunson said this conclusion leads to a further concern: the effectiveness of the current student evaluation system at WKU, and how can teaching effectively be evaluated?

COSFL

Sen. Robert Otto reported on the COSFL meeting at Kentucky State University on Feb. 5. COSFL and AAUP will host a conference on March 7-8 at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Frankfort. All faculty may attend the conference. Harry Robe, Psychology Department, will handle reservations for WKU. He needs to know by noon on Tuesday, March 4, who will be attending. The cost for registration, the Friday night banquet, and all Saturday programs and luncheon is $27. Friday only is $19, and Saturday only is $10. Senators have the agenda for the weekend conference. A reservation form is attached at the end of the newsletter.

Sen. Otto said discussion at the COSFL meeting centered on uses of state money once it gets to various campuses. The discussion resulted in a resolution to be mailed to all state legislators:

Be it resolved that the 1986 Kentucky General Assembly appropriate adequate funding for salary increases so that at least six percent salary increases for the first year of biennium and at least seven percent salary increases for the second year of the biennium be available.
COSFL reaffirmed support for Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education and full-formula funding. Donations to COSFL will be used to host a reception on Feb. 25 for various legislators, the Council on Higher Education, and Board of Directors of the Kentucky Advocates. The estimated cost for the reception is $1500. COSFL has employed a professional lobbyist to take care of the arrangements for the reception. Faculty are again urged to write to local legislators to support the COSFL salary increase measure. COSFL is currently preparing a draft to request a faculty representative on the Council of Higher Education.

COSFL has collected $4000 so far, with WKU faculty and staff contributing $380.

General Fund Support

Executive Vice President Paul Cook discussed a summary of the 1986-88 proposed budget. Gov. Collins has recommended a total increase of $2,335,800 for WKU for 1986-87. She also has requested a one percent salary incentive fund for faculty and staff, totaling $365,400. This is a non-recurring, one-year-only request. For 1987-88, the governor is requesting an increase of $1,893,600, with an incentive request of $378,500. Dr. Cook said he or Harry Largen will be available to discuss the recommendations with anyone who has questions. Dr. Cook has a complete copy of the recommendations. He also mentioned that Bill Bivin has copies of any pertinent bills relating to education that are being considered by the General Assembly, and these are available to anyone interested.

Don't Pass the Hat

Sen. Brunson moved that a hat (Joe Glaser's, to be exact) be passed around to senators to collect money for COSFL, with Sen. Brunson donating the first two dollars. Nevertheless, his motion was defeated by a voice vote.

Letter to Attorney General

Sen. Brunson then moved that:

The chair of the Faculty Senate will communicate to COSFL and to the Kentucky AAUP the record of correspondence with Kentucky Attorneys General concerning mandatory submission by faculty to anonymous student evaluations.

With no discussion, the motion passed by a voice vote.
Motion on Faculty Evaluations

Sen. Brunson moved that:

Resolved that the Faculty Senate endorses the concept of anonymous student evaluations. Such evaluations should be reported only to the individual faculty members until the senate and university administration together develop additional ways of appraising teaching which are appropriate to the various disciplines.

The motion will be discussed at the next meeting.

Sen. Otto asked that his previous motion on faculty evaluations be removed. The Chair acknowledged and affirmed the request.

NEXT MEETING, DIFFERENT ROOM

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be Thursday, March 20, at 3:20 p.m. in the Regents Room of Wetherby.

REGISTRATION

NAME:__________________________________________________________

ADDRESS:________________________________________________________________________

INSTITUTION:_______________________________________________________________________

Please show your registration choice. (Checks payable to COSFL)

______ $27 (Entire Conference)

______ $19 (Friday Banquet Only)

______ $10 (Saturday Program and Luncheon Only)

Send registration form and money to local representative:

Harry Robe, Department of Psychology