Summary of Jan. 25, 2013 Faculty Subcouncil Meeting

Dr. Kay Clark:

- Update on status of Academic Affairs restructuring. The working group has met and studied the structure to make recommendations. The Chancellor has started the National search for the Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs.
- There will be a working group on Academic Freedom that will begin work this Spring with two representatives from the Faculty Subcouncil.

Action Items:

- Revisions to Guideline A-015 and Policy 2:03:00:00, High School Courses for Admission.
  - Raises the level of requirements for students graduating from HS in 2013.
  - 1 additional year of Math, 1 additional year of Science, 2 years of Foreign Language
  - Revisions approved on the condition that detailed data on Foreign Language enrollment be collected.
- Adjunct Faculty Task Force
  - Four parts to the proposal sent to the Subcouncil
  - Part A – would clearly and consistently define adjunct faculty in all related policies and guidelines.
  - Part B – addresses compensation for adjunct faculty. Revisions change the pay for the four levels to a minimum (instead of maximum) of $550, $600, $650, and $700. It also requires that these minimum rates be increase when the State provides for across the board Cost of Living Adjustments and raises.
  - Part C – addresses the need for a centralized online resource for training and development of Adjunct Faculty.
  - Part D – addresses the need for further investigation of means for better communication within the system for Adjunct Faculty resources.
  - The proposal was passed by the Subcouncil and will move to the Academic Subcouncil in April.

Discussion Items:

- Guns on Campus
  - With recent issues in school settings, the TBR legislative representative David Gregory looks for more gun bills to return this year. TN Chamber of Commerce and Education groups continue to fight against guns on campus. Will provide update on any new bills at April meeting.
• LGBT Rights on TBR Campuses – tabled until April meeting. Individual institutions need to determine stand by April meeting.

• Post-Tenure Review Process on TBY Campuses
  o There was much discussion surrounding issues at ETSU where post tenure reviews were being used to eliminate tenured faculty. Seems to be an isolated occurrence, but the Subcouncil is deeply concerned about the growing trend to remove tenured faculty and tenure-track positions.

• Faculty at Public Postsecondary Institutions Assigned to Teach at Sectarian Locations
  o Faculty at some institutions are being forced to teach at Sectarian locations where either parents or school object to portions of the curriculum. This is putting faculty in a hard spot. Do they have the right to refuse to teach in these locations? What if it is required to make load? Dr. Clark has requested that issues be funneled to him so they can be disseminated to the appropriate office in TBR for now.

• Status of Common A.A.S Curricula, Community Colleges, and Structured Learning Communities
  o There is a legislated directive to develop common core curriculum within the A.A.S programs based on outcomes and competencies. This would be similar to what happened with the Tennessee Transfer Pathways. There is much concern about this process as it unfolds within the system due to structured differences.

Information Items:

• Affordable Health Care Act. Implications for Adjunct Faculty
  o 2013 will establish eligibility
  o 30 hrs/week average will make them eligible for coverage
  o This will impact our premiums and copays
  o Possible that it may set a breakpoint where it is more affordable to hire full time faculty.

• Reverse Transfer Initiative – working group is still discussing mechanism for implementation.

• P.C. 967, Dual Credit
  o This is not the same as Dual Enrollment. Students would have College-level courses taught to them in HS by HS teachers
  o Great concern over who controls the curricula, credentials of HS teachers, and measurement of outcomes