FSAC Minutes
3_20_08

1) Meeting convened at 1:00 PM.

2) Present:

   a) Maria Hess (Chair), Carlos Ayala, Janejira Sutanonpaiboon, Paula Hammett, Sunil Tiwari, Beth Warner, Helmut Wautischer

   b) Victor Garlin and William Poe visitors

3) Agenda was approved with the addition of adding PDS charge to document.

4) Minutes were approved with corrections.

5) Reports:

   a) Chair Hess: Excom commended FSAC on their progress of the RTP policy—lots of support and kudos for policy.

   b) Wautischer AFSC: HW stated that it remained unclear what was FSAC's charge to AFSC. This was clarified and added to last meetings minutes including IT and academic freedom, code of conduct in career fairs, and SSPs' role in senate committees and their ability to speak freely.

6) Agenda:

   a) Core Academic Policies: Art Warmoth asked FSAC to consider making a policy or statement about how RTP standards and procedures might accommodate limited budgets and in these statements how limited monies might be spent:

      i) Historically teaching load had not changed since the '70s while the importance of scholarship had increased. This increased scholarship might be a national trend that is self-fulfilling on the part of faculty. Since FSAC sets the stage for review criteria therefore it should consider these workload issues.

      ii) FSAC agreed to discuss the matter and to make a decision about FSAC's role in this matter and if FSAC agrees to be involved what that involvement should be and what the outcomes should be.

7) Transfers student information and advising:

   a) Beth Warner presented a transfer annonymous student's information and discussed with the committee the increased workload and lack of efficiency with the new transfer evaluation processes that have been implemented since the

adoption of PeopleSoft.   The new process is cumbersome and unwieldy because advisors have to go through multiple screens in order to get the information provided previously from A and R on one summary page. Discussion included whether or not faculty should be doing transfer student advisement or only departmental advising, the use of PeopleSoft and lack of connection between IT and academic affairs in general.

b) FSAC decided to prepare a letter to forward to EXCOM and the Provost about this issue in particular and in general the disconnect between IT and academic affairs. EXCOM will be asked to decide which committee should take on this charge.

8) RTP: Several RTP issues were brought forward and decided upon.

a) The committee decided to remove the language from the RTP policy about two year reappointments being only given if all levels of review agree with departmental initial recommendation. The department should initiate the request for two year reappointments and then each subsequent committee and the Dean will weigh in on the two year reappointment. Ultimately the President makes the final decision. Furthermore, the committee decided that two year reappointment can only occur once.

b) The committee decided that there were many structural revisions that do not change the substance of the policy but that make it clearer and easier to use.

c) The committee decided to add to the section about the brief evaluation a list of the materials that the candidate should prepare for their brief evaluation. These included a one page Statement of Teaching effectiveness and Professional Development, two statements about peer observations, and an updated CV. No SETES would be included because of timing issues.

9) Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.