
Academic Affairs Conference Room, 1-3 pm

Attending: Richard Senghas (Chair), Melinda Barnard, Paula Hammett (recorder),
Viki Montera, Richard Whitkus, Sandra Newton, Elaine McHugh (CFA),
Emily Hurd (AS)

Absent: Chip McAuley

Guests: Laurel Holmstrom 1:10 TC
Nathan Rank 1:25 TC

Convened: 1:00 pm

Agenda: Approved

Minutes: January 26, 2012 minutes approved

Reports

Chair (Senghas)

- Excom meeting – questions re whether or not FSAC considered the issue of disability retirements in respect to the Emeritus Policy. Senghas assured them we had; no further action required. More grim budget news; campuses have been instructed to plan as if the ballot measure in the fall does not pass, thereby resulting in another possible \$5M hit to AA. Everything is on the table; layoffs being mentioned. The Academic Priorities committee is a venue to discuss concerns.

AVP (Barnard)

- ORSP search cancelled; looking for alternative ways to meet the needs. Carol Hall doing a great job of keeping the internal grant cycles going forward, but no pre-award support to faculty available.
- Director of Institutional Research position open; no replacement planned.
- Counseling Department is changing its internship program and will no longer continue having their MA interns counsel undergrads.
- FSAC may need to look at Statement of Professional Responsibility and the Faculty Bill of Rights. Was approved in 1971, before the collective bargaining agreement. Concern that it is being used in student grievances against faculty. May need updating. May also need to define which “policies” students can use in grievances.

AFS (Newton)

- Changed their meeting date to again be on the off weeks from FSAC and Senate.
- Sponsoring Academic Freedom Read-In in March; hosting discussion on the book, “For the Common Good.”

PDS (Montera, Barnard)

- Faculty Expo is March 7
- Faculty development workshops – 3 to be held this spring: Gilinsky on Case Studies, Callahan on engaging students in the classroom (??), and Palsson on Media Literacy and Critical Thinking. Others will be held in the fall.

CFA (McHugh)

- Working to get more visibility for the CSU's budget woes in the local newspapers; letters-to-the-editor writing campaign.

ASI (Hurd)

- “Bucks start here” campaign coming to SSU February 23. Rally at noon.

Business

1. Excellence in Teaching Award guidelines revision (Holmstrom).
 - a. Removing all dates, since implementation of new academic year calendar makes dates problematic . Moved/seconded/passed
 - b. Remove references to nominations staying the pool for 2-years; confusing to all and not serving useful purpose. Moved/seconded/passed.
 - c. Some concerns about the committee selection process. Why just past nominees, rather than a broader pool from the entire faculty. Will wait to hear concerns from PDS.
2. Sabbatical policy revision --first reading (Senghas, et al)
 - a. Discussion of drafts of new Sabbatical Policy and new Difference In Pay Policy, which used to be combined into one policy. Separated out into different policies to clarify the distinctions and review process. Started fresh rather than try to revise current policy, which would be replaced.
 - b. Draft policies address ambiguities of current policy and align better with the CBA.
 - c. Removes several layers of review while establishing more accountability for remaining reviewers.
 - d. Flowcharts show how the workflow for the policies differ from current practice.
 - e. Question about how retirement benefits are accrued during leaves; Barnard will investigate.
 - f. Second reading in 2 weeks.
3. FSAC composition next year (Senghas)
 - a. Senghas will continue as chair. Other members whose terms are ending plan to run again, and if elected, will be back next year.
4. SETEs (Montera, Newton)
 - a. Setting up initial meeting of those who identified themselves as being interested. Six volunteers, in addition to 3 conveners. Will ask Holmstrom to gather samples of SETEs from other universities.

Adjourned: 2:58 pm