

FSAC – October 24, 2019
1-3pm, A&F Conference Room

Present: Paula Lane (chair), Stefan Kiesbye, Mary Wegmann, Richard Whitkus (recorder), Tom Whitley, Angelo Camillo, Deborah A. Roberts (Faculty Affairs) Carmen Works (CFA)

Absent: Emily Twisselmann (AS)

Convened: 1:01pm

Agenda: Approved

Minutes: Approved

Standing Reports:

Chair (Lane)

- Met with Provost Vollendorf and Senate Analyst Holmstrom on logistics for receiving feedback for URTP policy revision.
- Few attendees at last Executive Committee meeting. Reports and discussion centered on power shutdown and campus response.

AVP (Roberts)

- Three additional tenure track positions to post out of total of 16 approved.
- RTP calendar dates moved back by 3 days in response to campus power shutdown.
- Sabbatical and DIP application moving through review process. Have 20+ applications, including DIPs.
- Launching lecturer pool refreshers in spring. Attempting to put departments on a 3-year cycle for refresh.
- Provost to report to Academic Senate today on current fire conditions (the new norm for California).

AFS (Camillo)

- Covered under business item.

FSSA (Whitkus)

- Review of RSCAP call for proposals.

PDS (Wegmann)

- Review of survey on PDS – main points of interest in survey: teaching effectiveness, RTP schedule, professional development around issues of diversity/inclusiveness, inclusion of off-campus personnel in providing professional development training.
- Discussion around more effective support for professional development on campus.
- Discussion on putting out information to campus on items related to professional development, such as campus calendar.
- Discussion of what happened to previously available teaching grants for innovation? Response from AVP Roberts – funds came from one-time monies in Provost Office.

- Visit by Ed Lyons (FSSA Chair) upcoming to discuss collaboration between PDS and FSSA.
- Question raised on status of ombuds office resolution passed by Academic Senate (4/4/2019). Response from AVP Roberts – still in President's Office.
- PDA considering a resolution on inclusion of professional development into URTP policy. Thought is to make it clear on how professional development is included in the WPAF and how it can be evaluated. Response from FSAC – what is the need that PDS sees needing to be addressed aside from how professional development is already part of narrative by candidates? Response will be taken back to PDA for further discussion.

URTP (Works)

- No recent meeting. Upcoming meetings with Provost, ranking of sabbatical proposals, and review of 2nd probationary year faculty packets.

CFA (Works)

- No report

Business items:

1. URTP policy revision

- Senate Analyst Holmstrom indicates we can use Google docs to receive feedback on policy revisions, but this will not be anonymous.
- Provost indicates appendices will still be part of official policy.
- Consider Qualtrics survey to obtain feedback, or forum on Canvas. All have some issues with anonymity.
- Suggest bringing to Academic Senate for response about concern of anonymous feedback.

2. Review of Joint Statement Concerning Teaching of Sensitive Material (AFS and PDS)

Background

- Students brought concerns through AS resolution, requesting faculty provide notice in course outline about sensitive materials. At least inform class about upcoming sensitive topics.
- FASC sent resolution to AFS to address.
- Last year, FASC discussed issue on trigger warnings.
- PDS wrote a notice sent to all faculty. Did not request faculty members do anything extraordinary, but requested mindfulness about the issue.
- AFS did not fully concur with PDS notice and worked on updating the statement, which FSAC reviewed at this meeting.

Discussion

- Issue about exposure to materials that will be on test, but causes trauma in student. So how should accommodation be made?
- How to measure the level of accommodation needed.
- Are clear boundaries being outlined?
- Can students speak up/talk with faculty about personal concerns of course materials?

- CFA sees workload issue for additional accommodations.
- Should not attempt to identify trigger warnings with disability (legal distinction).
- See a need to clarify joint statement. Discuss dealing with trigger warnings, but separate out from actual disabilities (PTSD).
- Harmonize joint statement with student resolution, but maintain the overall structure of the joint statement (trigger warnings, then, PTSD).
- Encourage faculty to reassure student that sensitive materials may not all have clear trigger warnings.

3. Travel Policy – did not address

4. EEEA applications, discussion and review

- One application completed. Reviewed with respect to matching stated criteria. Unanimous acceptance of proposal as it met all criteria. Faculty Affairs will send out letter.

Adjourned: 2:46pm