

FSAC Minutes, October 23, 2014

1-3pm, Sue Jameson Room

Convened: 1:05

Present: Richard Whitkus (chair), Ed Beebout, Paula Hammett (recorder), Kyuho Lee, Melinda Barnard (AVP), Birch Moonwomon (CFA rep), Christian George (AS rep)

Absent: Eric Williams

Agenda: approved

Minutes: approved

STANDING REPORTS

Chair (Whitkus): No report

AVP (Barnard):

- New tentative agreement for faculty contract is complicated and interesting. Electronic RTP and WPAF files explicitly permitted. Minor changes in cumulative review process; policy will need updating. Release time for new faculty; max # units set to 18 per year for years 1 and 2; not clear how it would apply to librarians or if it would put librarians at a disadvantage in the RTP process if they are not included. Faculty hearing panel to be elected from pool of all FT faculty. Minor language change regarding remote work assignments for librarians (does not imply waiver of CSU's telecommute prohibition policy). Nine different places in the contract with financial implications, so detailed calculations will need to be made as to which increase is implemented first, so as to maximize benefit to individual faculty. Systemwide equity pool; no details yet.
- Faculty online absence management for other than 12-month has been temporarily halted until an arbitration decision is made.
- Background check for all new employees to be implemented by next fall to include employment verification, criminal background (doesn't require fingerprinting), and education verification. CSU policy. Details not yet available, but will slow down hiring process. MB work with HR to create practice that works for faculty hires.
- Questions from the deans re sabbatical rankings. URTP ranks based on approved criteria; deans and department chairs discuss program implications, not quality of proposal. Clarification that individuals can ask URTP for feedback on their proposals including suggestions for improving proposals for next round. Deans cannot go to URTP to ask for reasons for ranking decisions.

AFS (pending): No report.

FSSP (Lee): Meeting coming up this week.

PDS (Beebout): Third New Faculty meeting held last week on tips for grading. Fourth meeting in early November will be an open discussion.

URTP: none

ASI (George): Last week was Spirit Week/Lobofest designed to increase school spirit (Blazing Blue Thursday). ASI resolutions: 1) endorse Sustainability Executive Committee, and 2) express concern about transportation issues around campus for students with injuries or physical disabilities. Continuing to examine student services issues and civility on campus.

CFA: (Moonwoman): Tentative agreement was completed. Voting the first week in November. Salaries prioritized to maximize base salaries. Salary reopeners scheduled for years 2 and 3 to further address salary inequities. Retroactive to July 1, 2014. Workload relief fund set up CSU-wide for faculty with extraordinary service or excess contact hours.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. SETE policy with edits from first reading. Minor edits and word changes for clarity of intent. Taken to Senate for second reading. Questions came up about Extended Ed and its use of SETEs, but we were reminded that those are two separate processes. FSAC may want to send completed policy to Ext. Ed to encourage its adoption of the policy and to state that evaluation of faculty teaching ExEd courses should require more than just student evaluations.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Role of Lecturers in Faculty Governance Policy – ExCom sent back to FSAC for more detail about how departments would decide how lecturers would vote in department elections. Discussion ensued. Having discussed the concerns, FSAC recommended taking it back to ExCom, without such detail. Reasons include: workload issues of tracking and approving departmental procedures; occasional grievances can help clarify policies and should not raise concern.
2. RTP Policy revision discussion – ExCom approved request for FSAC to review RTP timelines and levels of review in an effort to streamline process and reduce workload. Tenure and Promotion can be combined into one document. Many issues discussed and much work is needed to figure out the solutions.
3. URTP feedback on Sabbatical process – URTP chair sent list of questions and issues that came up in this round of review. Discussion ensued. All issues could be addressed by adjusting the procedures and application form.

4. SETE taskforce report – postponed till next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:55

Respectfully submitted by Paula Hammett, 10-23-14