

FSAC Minutes

November 30, 2006

1:00-3:00pm in Sue Jameson Room

Meeting convened at 1:08pm

Present: Carlos Ayala (Chair), Carol A. Blackshire-Belay, Sue Hayes, Geoffrey Skinner, Sunil Tiwari, Beth Warner, Helmut Wautischer

Absent: Maria Hess

Approval of Agenda: Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of minutes from November 9, 2006; approval of minutes from October 26, 2006 postponed until next meeting.

Reports:

Carlos Ayala reported that the Senate Executive Committee held a meeting with him as the Chair of FSAC and William Poe as the Chair of the University Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion (URTP) Committee. Questions were raised about the progress of revisions to the RTP Policy, and the report to the Committee from both Chairs was that everything was going well. The meeting with the Executive Committee went well too.

The Cost-Sharing Policy is up for a third reading.

Carol A. Blackshire-Belay was asked about the cancellation of some of the ongoing searches. Three searches in the School of Arts and Humanities have since been cancelled.

The Org Chart for the Division of Academic Affairs was presented and discussed.

Helmut Wautischer reported that the Subcommittee on Academic Freedom is working on a Freedom Policy and collegiality statement. Some concerns have been expressed about the Accessible Technology Initiative and access, and if academic freedom is being infringed upon. In order to be in compliance, this will place a burden on faculty pertaining to selection of classroom materials. Should the burden be on the instructor, or should it be placed on Information Technology to make the materials accessible? That is the question. Furthermore, is there a role for Administration and Finance to play in this process?

Concerns were also expressed about restriction of choice of teaching materials.

No report from Professional Development Subcommittee.

Provost Ochoa will visit FSAC at the next meeting, December 14 with a time certain of 2:00pm.

Business Item:

RTP Policy further discussed and insertion of added text in bold print for further editing and refinement.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.