

Faculty Standards and Affairs Committee

Minutes 11/29/18

Members Attending:

Rita Premo (Chair), LIB
Angelo Camillo, B&E
Paula Lane, ED
Richard Whitkus, SST
Tom Whitley, SocSci
Elaine Newman, CFA

Absent:

Andy Collinsworth, A&H
Deborah A. Roberts, Faculty Affairs

Call to order: 1:05 pm

Agenda:

- Approved as written

Minutes from 11/8/18:

- Paula Lane name added as absent
- Percentage of sabbaticals numbers inaccurate, will be corrected

Reports:

Chair, Premo:

- Senate will provide PD on “signature assignments” which are required for new GE courses and will be part of the evaluation for GE status
- Senate Analyst Position has changed and communication about this development between administration and faculty governance entities seemed absent—this is an issue related to the Emeritus Dinner to name one example. It is under review and FSAC will engage as issue is discussed within the governance structure.
- Department Chairs Documentation and Duties project continues. Samples are being collected after an all-call was sent.
- RTP policies that departments wish to change are coming in and will continue to be under review. The deadline is February.
- Concerns have been raised over the current university POA language provided for in the template for all job searches. The language explains that we cannot accept applicants who might require the B1 visa, namely foreign nationals. The reasoning, a 15% rule for B1-visas, that we are, as an institution, approaching the maximum limit, is troubling. The moratorium (one year?) on this practice and reflected in the POA for all jobs, both faculty and staff, can greatly effect programs. CFA, Diversity Committee, FSAC and other groups are working on documentation that will outline the role of staff and faculty in the support of any

new faculty member who might be in need of the B1 visa once the moratorium is lifted.

- After researching complaints and some issues associated with the Excellence in Teaching Award practice and policy, we are drafting a new call. We aim to lessen the burden on the nominee, remove self-nomination, reduce paperwork required, include an observation of teaching, as well as a few other new steps. We hope to present the final new version at Senate in the spring.

AVP Roberts:

- Absent, no report

AFS Collinsworth:

- Absent, but sent in report that one complaint of infringement on academic freedom has come forward and discussion is underway with hopeful resolution. Final outcome will be presented later.

FSP Whitkus:

- No meeting took place

PDS Lane:

- New tech program called Yuja will be installed in several tech classrooms soon allowing for video recording of teaching and broadcasting of guest presenters from off campus.
- Committee working on resolution to submit to FSAC and eventually to President dealing with an Ombudsman Office. The document will lay out details of an office and person to lead it based on a campus climate of respect and civility. Many faculty agree the campus needs this support quite seriously.
- Ten faculty work in the Maker Space and with Faculty Center.

URTP (N/A):

ASI (no rep at this time):

CFA Newman:

- RTP concerns as Provost has sent letter to Dean suggesting/requesting that all departments place a greater emphasis on scholarship that is currently found in policies. It is the understanding of all faculty that the only policy that can be the basis for review of any TT faculty is, in fact, their department RTP policy on file.

Business:

1. URTP liaison

- We have secured a volunteer from the committee to sit as a non-voting member on URTP to participate in discussions of policy and practices—Tom Whitley. We learned that the provost has sent a letter to all Deans requesting (or suggesting?) that all department RTP policies reflect a stronger emphasis on research than what is currently outlined in existing documentation. We have been assured by

the Chair of URTP that all evaluations at that level remain based on current individual department RTP stated policies.

2. Emeritus policy

- Latest edited version was presented at ExComm and more revisions are requested to further clarify language and define terms. We intend to write final language at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:05 pm