

Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC)

September 7, 2016

began at 4:40 PM and adjourned at 5:25 PM; met in 502 RASM
notes by Sine Anahita

Members present

Andy Anger, JAK Maier, Jeff May, Jeff Benowitz, Val Gifford, Debu Misra, Josh Greenberg, and Sine Anahita.

Dean Paul Layer will be our ex officio member; he was not able to attend this meeting due to a time conflict.

Introductions

This being our first meeting, we introduced ourselves to each other.

Selection of chair

By consensus, we selected Andy Anger to serve as chair.

Notetaker

Sine volunteered to take notes for this meeting. We decided to rotate notetaking, and Jeff M volunteered to take notes at our next meeting.

Future meetings

We plan to meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month, 2:15-3:15 in 502 RASM. Andy will ask Jayne to arrange for google hangout or similar way of connecting with people at a distance.

Old business

Blue Book revision

- Val and Jeff said that planning is now getting started; Mara is out of the country, so the revision work will ramp up significantly once she returns
- redefining the types of faculty to make them consistent across campuses is a goal
- working on promotion options for non-tenure track faculty
- Jeff noted that with (UNAC) CBA negotiations starting, the sub-committee plans to meet with the negotiation team on the promotion issue

Faculty overload benefit rate

- overload benefit rate is normally 45% for FT faculty, but is only 11% for adjunct faculty or staff; therefore, some units are eschewing overloads for FT faculty to save money
- resolution now at Faculty Alliance to equalize the rate at 11%
- Debu noted that Strategic Pathways displaced the discussion of the faculty overload rate, but is on the to-do list

New business

- Policies across campuses: Chris Fallon asked the FAC to consider aligning policies across campuses. An example was given of students not getting summa cum laude awards; it was noted that this is not appropriate for FAC, but perhaps could be mentioned to SADA
- Faculty as mandatory reporters: Sine suggested that FAC discuss the problem of making faculty mandatory reporters for Title IX in the absence of governance input. Faculty were made into mandatory reporters in our individual contracts January 2016, but governance or unions were not involved. Many problems with this. Andy asked Sine to prepare a summary of the issues for next meeting.
- Adjunct faculty: Sine suggested that FAC discuss the multiple issues surrounding adjunct faculty with an eye towards improving the quality of worklife. Jeff B noted that Kate Quick had asked a question of the Provost about adjunct faculty at the Chancellor's Forum in early September. Debu said that there is the possibility that long-term adjunct faculty could serve on Faculty Senate, that the Provost has agreed to this. The issue is now in Orion's queue to open opportunities for someone to run. Andy asked Sine to make recommendations for future discussions.
- Process by which issues come to FAC and to Faculty Senate: Jeff M inquired about the process by which issues are taken up by FAC and/or Faculty Senate. Lively discussion ensued about how this may be accomplished. Consensus emerged to request that Orion send an email to faculty announcing the Faculty Senate meetings, introducing faculty senators along with their contact info. It was noted that FAC meetings are open meetings, and that Faculty Senate sets aside time for public comments.