University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke, Mildred Horodynski (attending in the absence of Louise Selanders, Nursing), and Margie Aimery (attending in the absence of Elva Boyles).

Call to Order: Professor Moriarty called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Dickson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Aben. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Aben made a motion to approve the February 9, 2010 Minutes seconded by Dr. Jayaraman. It was noted that both Dr. Rodammer and Dr. Stamm did attend the February 9 meeting and their names should be added to the Minutes. The Minutes were approved as amended.

Old Business:
- The 9/9 Compensation attachments were sent out – some were distributed at the meeting. A general question and answer session followed based on FAQs and reactions to letters.

New Business: No new business was noted.

Other Questions:
Deborah Moriarty stated that Dean Rappley had forwarded the information (22 of 24 slices) we requested from her January 26, 2010 presentation on the College of Human Medicine. There will be an opportunity to address this again when UCFA is considering her current request to open new departments.

Announcements:
Deborah Moriarty – the Faculty Health Care Committee is progressing quite well and they are going through information from other groups that may be of value to what the committee aspires to accomplish. The information will be written up and reviewed by UCFA prior to it being shared with all other groups.
Of interest is whether people have changed from formulary to generic drugs since its implementation March 1, 2010. This “report card process” regarding the changing of drug usage is less complicated and should be available much quicker. Everyone will have access to the data and it could be used for research but it needs to be de-identified prior to being
released, and that could take up to a year to complete.

ECAC and Faculty Council – in Faculty Council, the main topic was who University Curriculum Committee reports to. The students are very concerned about having an opportunity of input on programs proposed for disbandment. UCC will report to Faculty Council except when there’s a question regarding disbandment of a program, and then they would report to Academic Council – there is no student representatives on Faculty Council, but there are students on Academic Council.

Prior to Faculty Council, the Faculty Liaison Group met with President Simon and Provost Wilcox and the basic topic of conversation was budget concerns. The current budget cuts are presently in academic; “other” types of reductions will come later. The conversation was informative and offered good hope for the future. They also spoke about raises and if there aren’t going to be raises, why hold the evaluation process. There was a discussion on evaluations of the deans done by the provost. The president and the Board of Trustees evaluate the provost (and other vice presidents) every five years. There is not an evaluation of the deans or provost by the faculty. Professor Curry elaborated further. Professor Moriarty felt that faculty would respond to evaluating the provost and faculty input would be a positive valuable communication tool. Does the average faculty member know the provost? The positive side is that the provost has visited UCFA several times and he is visiting many campus groups presently and hearing what others want to share with him.

Terry Curry - The request from the College of Human Medicine for UCFA to establish new College of Human Medicine academic departments in Grand Rapids requires us to review and recommend or not recommend support and move the request on to ECAC.

Meetings continue twice weekly with the Fixed-Term faculty regarding health care and what has been discussed in UCFA.

Finally, the system for criminal background check has been implemented for MSU employees.

John Revitte – no report today.

David Byelich – The president will speak at the Senate Higher Education Subcommittee Hearing in Livonia on March 1. He also stated that a group of people named the Communicators Group meets with President Simon about every two weeks. This group is comprised of students as well as faculty and they share information and ask questions regarding points that need further discussion.

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget: Shawn Nicholson, Chairperson Professor Nicholson reported that it has been reported that the governor has stated that the state appropriations will be flat for the coming year. The subcommittee it is important to maintain their effort and to support their past principles when they are considering updating the faculty merit and market pool memo.

Personnel Policy: K. (Jay) Jayaraman, Chairperson Professor Jayaraman reported that the subcommittee has begun work on the FGO review and approved the survey instrument to be used in the process.

After a brief discussion, Dr. Jayaraman made a motion that UCFA not meet until March 16,
Dr. Dickson seconded. The motion carried.

**Adjournment:** UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Aimery
Recording Secretary (in the absence of Elva Boyles)