University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 18, 2005


Ex Officio: Robert Banks, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Co-Chair Susan Melnick called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda to be used for the 2004-05 meetings was approved at the August 31, 2004 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Brody made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 11, 2005. Dr. Powell seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved as presented.

Announcements:
- Professor John L. Revitte, Faculty Grievance Official, distributed copies of the End of Fall Semester 2004 Report, gave an overview of the report information, and answered questions.
- Dr. Melnick reported on attending the Board of Trustees’ breakfast prior to their board meeting on Friday, January 14, 2005. It has been interesting for her to be part of the faculty liaisons and meet with them on many varied topics during each session, such as a possible ban on open containers of alcohol on campus. Dr. Vickery made a motion to support in principle the Board of Trustees’ efforts to enact ordinances against open containers of alcohol, alcohol on campus except in designated areas, and public urination and defecation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Sticklen. The motion passed.
- Dr. Posner inquired how other UCFA members were coming along in signing up for long-term care with the John Hancock Company. There have been some problems with the company acknowledging receipt of sign-up information.
- David Byelich distributed copies of an outline regarding ongoing events within the state budget process as well as MSU’s budget process.

Subcommittee Reports:
- Budget: Shawnee Vickery, Chair. Dr. Vickery stated that Rene Rivard, from Human Resources, felt that the final sign-up number may number about 400 staff. Dr. Vickery had also written a thank you to President Simon for her support of UCFA’s initiative to provide faculty and academic staff with the option of purchasing a group rate long-term care insurance policy administered under the auspices of MSU. Dr. Vickery commented how very helpful Rene Rivard and David Byelich had been in this process. Susan Melnick and Mary Bresnahan will draft a shorter thank-you letter from the full committee.
Personnel Policy: Mary Bresnahan, Chair. Dr. Bresnahan said that Margaret Holmes-Rovner, chair of the University Committee on Faculty Tenure, will meet with her subcommittee today to discuss recommendations for the problem of declining faculty stream tenure, and what the subcommittee may do to be of assistance.

Old Business: Dr. Melnick brought up the letter from UCFA to Dr. John Hudzik regarding the Revision of MSU's Current Copyright Policy. David Byelich, per the request of Dr. Banks, asked to revise the letter by moving the second sentence of the first paragraph, “The following rationale for this change was approved by UCFA January 11, 2005,” and make it the first sentence on page 2, or the first sentence in paragraph 5. That was approved by the committee, so a copy of the revised letter will be distributed at the January 25 UCFA meeting.

New Business: Dr. Teahan made a motion to bring the tabled motion from the January 11, 2005 meeting regarding the motion made by Dr. Brody (and the Esquith Committee Report) back to the table, and Dr. Sticklen supported the motion. The motion was passed. Dr. Brody asked to amend his motion with the addition of point 3. Dr. Emmett supported that. After discussing the amendment, Dr. Posner called for the question. That action was approved. The amended motion was approved with ten voting “yes,” and one voting “no.” Dr. Vickery made a motion to table Dr. Brody’s motion, and arrange the agenda to arrive quickly to the “Old Business” at the January 25 meeting. Dr. Teahan supported. The motion was passed.

Dr. Emmett made a motion to adjourn the full committee to subcommittees. Dr. Brody seconded.

Adjournment: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary