University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

Members Present: Jonathan Bohlmann, Mei-Wei Chang, Yoonhyeung Choi, William Davidson, John Dirkx, Catherine Ernst, Clark Johnson, Terry Link, Anna Pegler-Gordon, John W. Powell, Hayder Radha, Patricia Schenck, David Solomon, and Vladimir Zelevinsky.

Ex Officio: Robert Banks, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Co-Chairperson John Powell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda used for the 2006-07 meetings was approved at the August 29, 2006 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Under the Announcements section, in the third bullet, the acronym FCOIO be corrected to FCOIIO (Faculty Conflict of Interest Information Officer). The Minutes for November 14, 2006 were approved as corrected.

Announcements:

- Dr. Powell reported that Faculty Council met November 14th and an interesting discussion ensued regarding the Task Force I recommendation of establishment of a Steering Committee comprised of 8 members-at-large elected by the university community as a whole. This committee would take on many of the functions of the ECAC, but their new role would definitely be more proactive then the reactive role ECAC has today. The proposed new structure is still being defined and refined even as it is being created. Dr. Powell encouraged UCFA members to read the Task Force I report before the end of the fall semester so that he can get a consensus of opinion.
- The Task Force V report regarding fixed-term faculty and their role in academic governance is yet another area that Academic Council will be defining.
- David Byelich distributed copies of the November 17, 2006 RSQE Forecasts (Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics run by the University of Michigan). The economic outlook for Michigan is not particularly positive at this point, and it has been clearly outlined and defined showing that one part of the core problem is that manufacturing interests have slowed and the service industry has built up. Since the service industry is not taxed, a tax revenue problem still remains. The other part of the core problem is the ongoing changes within the auto industry and how those changes might be handled.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Budget: John Dirkx, Chairperson Dr. Dirkx reported that David Byelich had worked with the subcommittee on similar information as the RSQE Report during their meeting.
Personnel Policy:  Terry Link and David Solomon, Co-Chairpersons  Dr. Solomon said his subcommittee did not meet last week. The “open” meeting will be today from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for faculty to attend and comment on the Faculty Outside Work for Pay policy as part of their subcommittee meeting. Kristine Zayko, of the General Counsel office, will attend as well to answer questions.

Old Business:
Dr. Ernst reminded UCFA members of Dr. Terry May’s Open Forum Session dates scheduled for the Faculty Conflicts of Interest policy and suggested that members plan to attend one session and, if possible, to remind their faculty also to attend.
- Tuesday, November 28, 3:30 p.m. in 1345 Engineering Building – Dr. Ernst plans to attend.
- Wednesday, November 29, 3:30 p.m. in 204 Natural Science Bldg. – Professor Link plans to attend.
- Friday, December 1, 2:00 p.m. in the International Center Library – Dr. Solomon plans to attend.
- Tuesday, December 5, 4:10 p.m. in 115 Eppley Center – no one has signed up yet.

New Business:  Professor Link briefly discussed the survey results regarding a proposal to recognize faculty length of service.

Here are the survey results:
Number of surveys returned 93 + 6 unreadable
Number supporting recognition 59
Number opposed 31
Number neutral 2
Number prefer separate event 36
Number prefer joint event 21
Ask staff first 1
Less than 20 years joint 1
Prefer reception 22
Prefer dinner 13
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New Business, continued

Prefer lunch 10
(some had multiple answers)
Colleges reporting
Agr and Nat Resources 37
Arts and Letters 16
Social Science 11
Natural Science 10
Non-College 11
Business 6
Nursing 2

Dr. Dirkx made a motion to move this proposal to the Personnel Policy Subcommittee for them to take under advisement and come back with a recommendation on how best to proceed or not to proceed. Dr. Ernst supported. The motion carried.

Dr. Radha made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees and Dr. Schenck supported. The motion carried.

Adjournment:  UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary