University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 27, 2007

Members Present: Mei-Wei Chang, William Davidson, John Dirkx, Jason Merrill, Deborah Moriarty, Wei Peng, John Powell, Hayder Radha, Joanne Westphal, and Vladimir Zelevinsky.

Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Chairperson John Powell called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda used for the 2007-08 meetings was approved at the August 28, 2007 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: There was a word missing, a single quotation mark, and a professional title correction to be made. Those being noted, Dr. Powell stated that seeing no other corrections, comments, concerns, or alterations, and without objection, the Minutes of November 20, 2007 stand approved as amended.

Announcements:
- Dr. Powell reviewed a recent meeting he attended with other liaisons and President Simon. President Simon noted that UCFA continues to handle a heavy weekly agenda.
- David Byelich briefly reported on the state tax and budget activities.

Subcommittee Reports:
- Budget: John Dirkx, Chairperson Dr. Davidson reported that the subcommittee continued to work on the cost for faculty to take MSU classes at no charge for them.
- Personnel Policy: Jason Merrill, Chairperson; David Solomon, Assistant Chair Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee continued their review of the FGO survey.

Old Business: The Health Care for MSU Faculty Report received many comments that indicated amazement at the report depth and admiration for the committee’s continued perseverance to obtain the correct information. There is concern that the report is lengthy and a bit daunting to read and comprehend with one reading. There will be continued review and discussion as the time draws closer for moving the report on.

New Business: No new business was noted.

Other Questions: Dr. Powell opened the discussion on how well the faculty governance communication system works (or does not work) and can it be improved. There were good suggestions that would be helpful.
- UCFA Minutes and other information could be posted on an ANGEL site.
- Individual college advisory committees could be contacted and given information to be shared with their faculty.
- UCFA members could send out information to their respective college faculty (we have done that in the past).
- The MSU News Bulletin could have a reporter attend UCFA or a report on UCFA activities could be submitted for publishing.
- At the beginning of each semester, UCFA could put out what future topics will be addressed by UCFA; at the end of that semester UCFA could report what has occurred in regard to the topics listed at the beginning of the semester.
- Several times a year, UCFA could also ask if there are timely issues that should be addressed by UCFA, such as the Health Care report.
- UCFA could start the process by forwarding a copy of the report that Dr. Powell is about to submit (regarding UCFA activities for the fall semester) to the Office of the Secretary for Academic Governance.
- UCFA could also show the Academic Governance diagram indicating where UCFA is within the academic governance system.

**Note:**
- *Dr. Powell asked if UCFA members would check by December 4 to see how many faculty advisory committees would be accepting of the combination faculty advisory committee/UCFA member for whatever term they are elected.*

**Adjournment:** UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary