University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008


Ex Officio: Terry Curry.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Chairperson John Powell called the meeting to order at 1:04 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: Dr. Merrill amended the Personnel Policy Subcommittee report to read (amendment in bold and italicized):

The Personnel Policy Subcommittee completed their review of the FGO survey documents that will be used in the spring to evaluate the FGO.

Dr. Powell stated that seeing no other corrections, comments, concerns, or amendments, and without objection, the January 8, 2007 Minutes stand approved as amended.

Announcements:

- Dr. Powell announced the MSU Board of Trustees will meet this coming Friday, January 18, with the Board liaisons meeting Wednesday.
- The Secretary for Academic Governance sent an announcement to faculty regarding the Health Care Report meetings schedule for Thursday, January 17, 3:30 – 5:00 pm in the Kellogg Center Auditorium and again the second meeting will be Thursday, January 31, 10:30 to 12:00 pm in the Radiology Auditorium.

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget: John Dirkx, Chairperson Dr. Dirkx reported the subcommittee discussed the academic year schedule with respect to “non-monetary adjustments to help us keep pace with the faculty salary averages in the Big Ten.” Extending the mid-year break was reviewed against other Big Ten schedules and all schools were quite close in their schedules. They also spoke briefly about the very tentative budget model figures for next year and looked at other areas consuming parts of the budget. He also reminded the subcommittee that Dr. David Gift attends their meeting next week, Dr. Link will attend January 29, and Mike Rice will address the full UCFA on February 5.

Personnel Policy: Jason Merrill, Chairperson; David Solomon, Assistant Chair Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee had reviewed at their list of spring topics and they prioritized the list adding some discussion dates. Today they plan to finalize the FGO survey and so that can go forward.
Old Business: Dr. Merrill made motion, supported by Dr. Solomon, that UCFA approve the use of the on-line modified FGO survey as the instrument for data collection for the annual review of the FGO. The motion carried.

New Business: No new business was noted.

Other Questions: Dr. Dirkx brought up that the Angel course management system has become very problematic and frustrating to depend on to use for class work. There were several committee members who shared they were having the same experiences. It was also noted that students are using other systems of communicating rather than using regular e-mail. This will be shared with Dr. Gift during his visit to the Budget Subcommittee next week.

Dr. Dirkx made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees seconded by Dr. Merrill.

Adjournment: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary