University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte.

Call to Order: Chairperson John Powell called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda used for the 2007-08 meetings was approved at the August 28, 2007 meeting. Seeing no additions or corrections and without objection, the agenda for today remains as distributed.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Merrill asked that the word “quire” be removed from the Announcements section, the second bullet on page 2. Dr. Powell stated that seeing no other corrections, comments, concerns, or alterations, and without objection, the February 26, 2008 Minutes stand approved as modified.

Announcements:

- Dr. Powell gave an overview of the MULTI (Multi Unit Leadership Training Initiative) Session earlier today focused on Academic Governance System. The speakers were: Dr. Kathleen Payne, UCFT; Dr. Ralph Putnam, UCAP; Dr. Michael Schechter, College-Level Governance; Dr. Linda Stanford, Curricular Change and UCC; Dr. John Powell, UCFA; others: Drs. Robert Bank, Jacqueline Wright, E. James Potchen, and Harold Hughes. It would be good to have this type of forum on a regular basis to bring academic governance before the faculty and administrators and remind them that this aspect is also part of their responsibility – the faculty would like to know what they receive for participating and serving on a committee. Dr. Powell thought it be helpful for deans to write a simple note of thanks for participating faculty. Dr. Davidson brought forth the idea that young faculty aren’t encouraged to participate in academic governance so much as they are encouraged to write and bring in market/grant money. The faculty’s discouraged from being involved in anything until they are tenured. That’s more relevant for their future than participating in UCFA.

Professor John Revitte distributed copies of Excerpts From Annual Reports of the Faculty Grievance Office to the Academic Council, 2002-2003 to 2006-2007. This report is comprised of excerpts related to Provost/President

- Dr. Powell introduced Professor Lumen (Lou) Mulligan representing the MSU Law College and he will become part of the Personnel Policy Subcommittee.
- David Byelich reported that the “Grassley responses” (and other pertinent budget information) are up on the web – http://budget.msu.edu.
Subcommittee Reports:

**Budget:**  John Dirkx, Chairperson In the absence of Dr. Dirkx, Dr. Davidson reported that the subcommittee is in the midst of discussing faculty salary recommendations for next year.

**Personnel Policy:** Jason Merrill, Chairperson; David Solomon, Assistant Chair Dr. Merrill reported that his subcommittee did not meet last week.

Old Business: No old business was noted.

New Business: No new business was noted.

Other Questions: No other questions were noted. Dr. Powell reported he did have a response from Mike Rice’s office (Police and Public Safety) regarding putting in sidewalk for the parking spaces near Cowles House and the Music Building so people would not have to walk on Circle Drive. Mr. Rice's office responded saying he appreciated the comment and the information will be forwarded to facilities planning office. Dr. Powell suggested UCFA follow up and check on the progress of that project next fall.

Dr. Merrill made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees supported by Dr. Solomon. The motion carried.

Adjournment: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary