University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 18, 2008


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

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

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda used for the 2007-08 meetings was approved at the August 28, 2007 meeting. Two topics were brought forward to be added to the agenda: UCFA tenured/non-tenured members and the document distributed prior to today’s meeting – Motion to Faculty Council on 19 Mar 2008 – both will be placed under the Other Questions section. The approval of the agenda stands as altered under the Other Questions section.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Powell stated that seeing no corrections, comments, concerns, or alterations, and without objection, the March 11, 2008 Minutes stand approved as distributed.

Announcements:
- The Faculty Council meeting will be considering possible name changes to the large governing bodies. There will be some changes in committee responsibilities considered, too.
- The liaisons met with President Simon March 17 and discussed where the First Amendment comes into play in relation to speakers hired by campus student groups. They worked on defining on the university’s role in protecting both the student groups’ rights as well as protecting the general campus from being subjected to a feeling of verbal intimidation and personal threat.
- Communication and how to communicate more effectively with faculty on what academic governance is doing was another topic.
- Dr. Curry reported that there was a workshop held earlier today on the joint appointments and the different challenges in processing them. His office will be creating a draft of the recommendations derived from the meetings.
- David Byelich made a brief report on the latest legislature activity regarding the state budget. The budget problems are still on the horizon for this year.

Subcommittee Reports:
- Budget: John Dirkx, Chairperson Dr. Davidson reported the subcommittee continued their report on faculty salary recommendations, and they will continue that this today.
- Personnel Policy: Jason Merrill, Chairperson; David Solomon, Assistant Chair
Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee continued their review MSU policies and checked to be sure they’re up-to-date

**Old Business:** No old business was noted.

**New Business:** No new business was noted.

**Other Questions:**
- The discussion on Standing Committee memberships was discussed. The document, *Motion to Faculty Council on 19 Mar 2008*, was discussed at great length. There were questions raised and points shared regarding the overall premise of the document. Dr. Powell will attend Faculty Council later today.
- Representation on UCFA (and other Standing Committees) by the junior faculty in the smaller colleges was discussed. Obviously there are pros and cons to having junior faculty become active in academic governance. UCFA does require a larger time obligation than many committees and that can be a problem.

Dr. Davidson made a motion to adjourn to subcommittee supported by Dr. Dirkx. The motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary