University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 11, 2008


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte.

Call to Order: Professor Moriarty called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Merrill made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Morash. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Wyatt made a motion to approve the October 28, 2008 Minutes seconded by Dr. Merrill. The motion carried.

Announcements: Professor Moriarty made the following reports:

- October 29, the Faculty Liaison Group and the Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) At-Large Members met with the Provost and discussed the ECAC charge on the Academic Calendar Committee. The Provost definitely feels the Academic Calendar by itself is a faculty issue and should be decided by the faculty. This will go to Faculty Council today and the reviewing group will be decided then.

- The Provost, responding to a question on the future of the university in this time of economic difficulty, spoke about and promoted “areas of excellence,” and discussed some of the unique aspects of MSU.

- During ECAC, it was noted that there will be an “Oversight Committee” that will look closely on how Welcome Week affects the university, the faculty, the city of East Lansing, the students, and, in general, see how the Welcome Week changes will affect the overall university community.

- Also during ECAC, there was a health care report from Dr. Bill Davidson and David Byelich and it was well received. The Faculty Health Care Committee appears to be organized and doing well and appears to have the full support of ECAC.

- One other topic from ECAC, David Byelich was asked to comment on the financial risk for athletic bonding. David was very clear that there is no financial risk for the athletic bonding as the athletic budget is completed separate. If that budget cannot support the bonding, then athletics must cut a sport or coach to pay for their expenses. Athletics will take care of themselves.

- Dr. Curry gave an overview on the faculty figures regarding percents of men and women, minorities, as well as fixed-term and tenure system faculty. He pointed out
some interesting statistics derived from this reporting system.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

**Budget:**  *Ross B. Emmett, Chairperson*  Since Dr. Emmett was absent for the last meeting of the Budget Subcommittee, Professor Moriarty made the report. The subcommittee spoke about the health care report that was going to be given to ECAC. They also spoke limitedly on getting calories put on campus menus, and they may put together a resolution for that topic.

**Personnel Policy:**  *Jason Merrill, Chairperson*  Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee continued their discussion on the proposed revisions to the *Faculty Grievance Policy* and that will continue today.

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

**New Business:**  There were several topics in this category.

· SIRS Forms – UCFA Personnel Policy Subcommittee will review and discuss this first. It will then be brought to the full UCFA for more discussion. Perhaps sending a faculty survey regarding SIRS is a possibility. After some discussion, Professor Curry will contact Dr. Linda Stanford and Dr. Doug Estry to see if there is any move to revise these forms.

· Regarding November 18 UCFA, subcommittees will meet at 1:00 pm and the full UCFA will meet with Provost Wilcox at 2:00 pm in the Spartan Club on the 4th floor of Spartan Stadium.

**Other Questions:**  No other questions were noted.

Dr. Emmett made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees seconded by Dr. Merrill. The motion carried.

**Adjournment:**  UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary