University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, December 02, 2008


Ex Officio: David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke, Paulette Granberry-Russell, and David Gift.

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. Davidson. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Davidson made a motion to approve the November 11, 2008 Minutes seconded by Dr. Emmett. The motion carried.

Announcements:

- Professor Moriarty thanked Professor Barbara O’Brien, MSU College of Law UCFA representative, for serving on UCFA for the 2008 fall semester.
- Professor Moriarty reported on the meetings of Faculty Council and the Academic Council. The Academic Calendar will be changing fall 2009 and the Welcome Week will be the only change in fall 2009. If there are to be additional changes to the Academic Calendar, the proposed changes must be started through academic governance by March 1, 2009. Presently the membership is just being solidified and she hopes to learn more about that during ECAC later today. The Provost did not make his scheduled presentation regarding the budget due to the upheaval and uncertainty of the car industry which caused Provost Wilcox to hold his presentation. Hopefully he will make his presentation at the first spring semester ECAC meeting in January 2009.
- The Faculty Liaison Group met with President Simon and there was a discussion of writing grants – grant writing seems to be moving “in house” money around presently. This doesn’t seem very beneficial.
- President Simon also brought up concerns regarding students and finances and what the future bring. Financial aid is a major concern at this moment.
- Professor Moriarty reviewed the 2009 UCFA spring semester meeting dates, and those dates are: January 20; February 3, 17; March 3, 17, 31; and April 14, and 28.

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget: Ross B. Emmett, Chairperson Dr. Emmett reported that David Byelich did a presentation during the November 11th meeting to the subcommittee regarding that MSU weathered the financial crises better than many other schools did. Potential threats were recognized and discussed. During the November 18th meeting, administrative salary
increases and the structure of administrative pay was discussed. David will be presenting some additional data to the subcommittee.

**Personnel Policy: Jason Merrill, Chairperson** Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee reviewed and approved two proposed changes to the MSU College of Law procedures during the November 18th meeting. Then they continued with their review of the faculty grievance procedure.

David Byelich gave a brief overview of the budget activities in the state – no Executive Order from the governor as yet and noted that RSQE conference was held in November. Also the Medicaid formula is being recalibrated with the incoming staff of President-Elect Obama. He noted, too, that the state carry forward money may be a larger amount than first thought.

**Old Business:**

a. Paulette Granberry-Russell distributed a copy of the updated and expanded FAQ and after review by the deans, directors, and chairs the hope is that it will become effective May 15, 2009. This document is “always a work in progress.” David Gift noted that the FAQ language has been simplified and it appears to read much easier. He went on to clarify or explain different policy points. It is still being reviewed, but hopefully the main work is complete now.

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

**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 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary