University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 20, 2009


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke, and Kristine Zayko, Office of General Counsel.

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

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Curry requested that a presentation on Slow Moving Vehicles be added to the New Business topics. Dr. Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Dr. Aben. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:
- Dr. Aben made a motion to approve the Minutes of November 18, 2008, seconded by Dr. Emmett. The motion carried.
- Professor Moriarty stated that seeing no corrections, comments, concerns, or alterations, and without objection, the December 2, 2008 Minutes stand approved as distributed.

Announcements:
- Professor Moriarty attended the Executive Committee of Academic Council on January 13, 2009 – nothing to report.
- Professor Moriarty also attended an Academic Calendar Committee meeting – it was announced that a survey would be sent out to Academic Council that will be a trial run that may also be sent out to the entire faculty and students – hopefully a very brief survey. The survey questions are set up to cover all the important points of view, and the goal is to accomplish the survey so the proposal may go to Academic Council in March 2009. She hopes to have a copy of the information being sent to the deans to share with UCFA.
- Faculty Council will meet after UCFA today, and Bill Davidson will be making a health care report. The bylaws changes will also be reviewed today. There are several significant changes being proposed.
- The Annual Awards Convocation will be held Tuesday, February 3, 3:00 to 4:30 pm in the Passant Theatre in Wharton Center.
- Professor John Revitte, Faculty Grievance Official, distributed copies of the End of FALL SEMESTER 2008 Report. He gave an overview of the report.
- Professor Terry Curry distributed copies of the Historical Summary of Faculty and Academic Staff – HEADCOUNT – ALL FUNDS. This report covers a 20-year span and gives an overview of the composition of the faculty between Tenure System and Fixed-Term Faculty; men and women; the different levels of faculty; the numbers and percents; and, many interesting statistics pertaining to the current faculty. Professor
Curry pointed out and explained many different points made in the report and responded to questions.

- David Byelich distributed copies of the *Administration Estimates Michigan Economic and Revenue Outlook, FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10, January 9, 2009*. He explained the current state budget situation, the possible proposed federal “bailout package,” and how these influence the preparation of budgets for next year. You may access the above named document and budget developments on the Office of Planning and Budget web site:  [http://opbweb.msu.edu](http://opbweb.msu.edu)

- Professor Moriarty welcomed Kristi Bowman, the College of Law representative, attending her first meeting (replacing Barbara O’Brien, the 2009 fall semester College of Law representative).

**Subcommittee Reports:**

**Budget:**  *Ross B. Emmett, Chairperson*  Dr. Emmett will wait until the February 3rd meeting to make a report.

**Personnel Policy:**  *Jason Merrill, Chairperson*  Dr. Merrill is absent today, so his report will also be made February 3rd.

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

**New Business:**

- Slow Moving Vehicle Report – (The proposed policy was distributed to only the Personnel Policy Subcommittee; the full UCFA needs to have a copy to fully understand what is being discussed.) Kristine Zayko, Office of the General Counsel, reported that there have been accidents involving golf carts owned and used by the Grounds Department or Physical Plant employees and student workers, as well as non-university employees. Consequently, some drivers have not observed driving laws and have driven the carts disregarding safety. The proposed policy will support state laws whereby the golf cart must be licensed and have turn signals, brakes, etc.

- UCSA Civility Draft - this discussion centers around a UCSA response to President Simon’s statement on (Civility) *Diversity and Inclusion*. After a brief discussion, Professor Moriarty decided she would clarify what is expected of UCFA regarding this statement.

- COS Profiles – this discussion centers on Professor Sheila Teahan’s e-mail to Professor Moriarty regarding the *Community of Scientists (COS) Profiles*. She would like UCFA to support her point of view that the inappropriateness of requesting all faculty, regardless of their field, to complete *COS Profiles* in order to apply for intramural grants. It was decided that Dr. Ian Gray, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, would be invited to attend UCFA February 3 (or February 17) to speak about his knowledge of the history of the *COS Profiles*.

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

Dr. Davidson made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees seconded by Dr. Zelevinsky. The motion carried.

**Adjournment:**  UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary