

Faculty Handbook Revisions Committee July 23, 2014

Members Present: Cynthia Waskowiak, Nancy Tate, Laura Stephenson, Pat Munzer, Matt Arterburn, Randy Pembroke, Jalen Lowry

Discussion:

Nancy passed out a Faculty Senate agenda item proposal that contains edits that will likely require little discussion. Marc will look it over for any Bylaw considerations or other legal issues. She also handed out edits to sections that will require further faculty input, sort of in a road show format with Nancy and another member of her sub-committee.

There are some accreditation requirements for faculty load that might concern Dr. Farley (or others), so we talked about when we want his input. Randy thinks he'd like to approve in concept before it goes to faculty affairs and after legal review, then allow faculty discretion to sort of word smith as long as it's in keeping with the concept. We'll check with him to see if he's comfortable with this suggested process.

Nancy will add "or re-accreditation" to section 5.1.A. It's sort of new language to the handbook to talk about accreditation, it's not really defined elsewhere. Randy asked if Deans would ever have conflict between graduate loads and accreditation requirements. Accrediting bodies are usually firm in their standards for load, although we feel like we need some flexibility. Someone suggested adding a disclaimer for non-accredited grad programs, Dean decides load. For accredited graduate programs, they typically follow accreditation requirements, but it depends on a program's need for accreditation and whether a degree from an accredited institution matters for students getting jobs or into grad schools.

We then discussed our next steps. Cynthia will check on faculty affairs actions regarding definitions and what's been passed and considered by them and Faculty Senate. We decided to wait to assign categories to certain sections until after General Faculty approves the definitions and appointment categories. After we decide definitions, P&T, R&R, then we'll work on other legal concerns, edits, and WUPRPM references.

Last, we discussed making sure we were supportive of the faculty governance process when submitting language to them for approval. We provide input to FAC, they decide what to do and move forward. Their charge is to take concerns from anyone, then are permitted to ignore or move forward. Matt's belief was they didn't want to take the time to craft language themselves, so we're okay to provide language. Randy concurred, saying that when he talked to FAC at the start of this revision process, they wanted us to bring them policy and language mostly done then they will work on it and give approval or not. We'll be supportive and provide notes of possible legal ramifications.

Decisions:

- Marc will review the proposed edits that R&R think require little discussion before they are sent to FAC for discussion.
- Marc will also visit with Dr. Farley about the timing and level of his input.
- Nancy will add language to Section 5.1.A.

Next meeting: August 27, noon, Shawnee Room (Union)