

Washburn University Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 2, 2013
3:30 pm, Crane Room

Opening Comments:

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of minutes from Monday, November 4, 2013 meeting.
 - Approved unanimously
- Approval of minutes from Monday, November 18, 2013 meeting.
 - Approved unanimously

Old Business:

- FA Agenda Item: Early Petition for Tenure
 - Agenda Item drafted by Jennifer, Sarah, and Diane
 - Review of language
 - Some small tweaks to language
 - Change to 3.IIE2 indicates that a faculty member can only go up early for tenure one time.
- Continued discussion of "Definitions" changes to Faculty Handbook (included as separate attachment to e-mail)
 - Diane expresses support for the newly defined positions of "Senior Lecturer." Indicates that she has discussed this in SAS and feels there is strong support for rewarding lecturers who go above and beyond.
 - Sarah expresses concern about processes. What will be the difference between a lecturer and a senior lecturer? Can someone be hired in as a senior lecturer? Are their pay differences associated with this?
 - Margaret expresses concern over how this change will make it easier for administration to hire less tenure track faculty.
 - Bill expresses that this is a general trend in higher education and there is little we can do.
 - Karen expresses concern over differences between tenure track and lecturers.
 - Ross expresses concerns as well.
 - Decision is made to ask for clarification about these new "roles"
 - We will bounce this back to Cynthia (University Compliance) with a request for clarification of the procedures for determining who a senior lecturer is, what their responsibilities are and an explanation of the processes that are or will be in place to evaluate the promotion of a person to this position.
 - Committee members asked to circulate to constituents over break so these can be discussed at first meeting of the Spring Semester (Feb 3)

- Goals and timeline for FA Committee Spring 2013
 - Tenure/Promotion Handbook Changes (prioritized List)
 - Definitions (put up for FAC vote Feb 3, first meeting of Spring)
 - VPAA meet with candidate regarding majority negative (9A)
 - Stopping Tenure Clock (Item 5) (draft language and put up for FAC vote before April 7)
 - Committee Membership (Item 7) (draft language and put up for FAC vote before April 7)
 - Adding Material to Portfolio (Item 9B)
 - Communication with Candidate throughout Process (Item 9C)
 - Chairs required to write letter (Item 6) (draft language and put up for FAC vote before April 7)
 - Contracts/Letters/Financial Exigency
 - University Attorney and VPAA will not address Faculty Senate on December 9.
 - Margaret will contact Matt to get a clarification of when this will happen.
 - Discuss issues raised in Faculty Senate (Early in Spring)
 - Research how other institutions have handled similar issues
 - Consider/draft language related to financial exigency for Handbook (put up for FAC vote before April 7?)

New Business:

- Travel Fund Recommendation (forwarded to FAC from CFC)
 - This matter was discussed and we determined that Faculty Development funds already serve this need so we will not be moving forward on the matter unless CFC-Faculty Development sub-committee would like to present the proposal in a different way.
 - Committee members are wary of raiding other grant funds for this purpose.
- Nominate and vote for new Chair FAC
 - Kelley Weber will be the FAC Chair in the Spring!!!

Announcements:

Next meeting, February 3, 2013, 3:30 pm, Crane Room (?)