

# Washburn University Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2014

3:30 pm, Mabee Library/Rm. 204

Present: Kelley Weber (chair), Ross Frieson, Marguerite Perret, Diane McMillan, Bill Roach, and Jennifer Wagner.

## Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of minutes from Monday, December 3, 2013 meeting.
  - Approved unanimously

## Old Business:

- Continued discussion of "Definitions" changes to Faculty Handbook (included as separate attachment to e-mail)
  - Discussion focused on the Lecturer/Senior Lecturer category
  - Still a concern for what this category means for future tenure-track faculty positions at Washburn University
  - Everyone agreed there are current lecturers at Washburn who deserve recognition for their service by way of a promotion to Senior Lecturer.
  - Some debate on whether we needed to approve these definitions before that can happen or not
  - Motion to approve the definitions for Faculty Appointment Categories (excluding School of Law) as presented was made and seconded.
  - The motion passed.
- Extension of the probationary period
  - We fine-tuned some language in the policy – added "partner" to the list of family members and added "Divorce" to the list of extenuating circumstances.
  - Motion to approve this policy was made and seconded.
  - The motion passed.
- VPAA meet with candidate regarding majority negative (item 9A)
  - "A summary of committee and administrative concerns will be communicated to the applicant by the VPAA when a negative decision for tenure and/or promotion is to be made to the President. This will be delivered at the time the VPAA meets with the candidate to determine if the applicant wishes the application to be presented to the board."
  - It was noted that the current method (which does not include this step) does not work. Committee members are told not to speak with the candidate regarding his/her application, and the Dean often does not

have all the facts of the case. Candidates are often left wondering what went wrong.

- Also discussed who should be responsible for this step, the VPAA or the Dean. We concluded that the VPAA is the best person for this process.
- This policy was approved in concept, but not voted on.
- Committee members rank (item 7)
  - Not discussed due to lack of time.

New Business:

- New FAC member
  - Waiting for appointment by Humanities department to fill Sarah Ubel's place.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.