

**Washburn University
Faculty Affairs Committee**

Minutes of January 30, 2006 Meeting
3:30pm Lincoln Room, Memorial Union

Present: Lee Boyd, Frank Chorba, Andrew Evans, Mo Godman, Ali Kahn, Park Lockwood, Michael McGuire, Nan Palmer, Brenda Patzel.

- I. The meeting was called to order.
- II. An update and discussion regarding the Academic and Sweet Sabbatical Committees and Sabbatical requests occurred. There were six sabbatical proposals and all six were recommended. Criteria for the acceptance of sabbatical proposals were discussed. Past criteria used to recommend sabbatical proposals will be reviewed in upcoming meetings. Generally, sabbatical recommendations are based on certain criteria as well as competition between applicants (i.e., only accepting a certain number or percentage of those who apply), however, it was proposed that sabbaticals should be accepted based only on the attainment of certain criteria / standards. Further discussion on this issue will occur during upcoming meetings.
- III. A discussion occurred regarding the Conflict of Interest policy at Washburn University. It was determined that the current policy is vague and needs substantial revision. The FAC is in the process of obtaining policies from other institutions as well as initiating discussion among the faculty in order to receive input that would help create a policy that is acceptable for this university.
 - A. The FAC will obtain a Kansas Board of Regents and an AAUP Conflict of Interest policy and distribute copies for comparison prior to the next FAC meeting.
- IV. There is currently a Benefits Committee proposal on the table involving insurance benefits for partners. The FAC will review this proposal and send it to the Faculty Senate at a later date in order to facilitate this process.
- V. The employee wellness proposal was briefly discussed. This proposal is currently at the administrative level awaiting a response.
- VI. Funding for major research grants was briefly discussed and will be an agenda item for next month's meeting.

- VII. FAC goals for this academic year include:
- i. Continued discussion regarding the faculty wellness initiative and faculty use of Petro.
 - ii. Continued discussion regarding insurance benefits for partners.
 - iii. Discussion regarding the teaching load / research / service requirements at Washburn.
 - iv. Discussion of the role of university Librarians. Should Librarians be considered “faculty”?
- VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.
- IX. Next meeting will be on Monday, February 20th in the Lincoln room at 3:30pm.

Submitted by Park Lockwood, Secretary of the Faculty Affairs Committee