

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting - 4/26/02

submitted by Andrea Stierle

Attending: Senators Rick Appleman, chair; Rick Donovan; David Carter; David Hobbs; Mary MacLaughlin; Jim Handley; Andrea Stierle; Kate Miller (12:45)

Faculty members: Rick Douglass; Jack McGuire

Minutes from 4/19/02 meeting were read and unanimously approved

- Rick Douglass was invited to discuss the Collegiate Evaluation Committee with the Faculty Senate. Concerns were raised earlier in the year about the role and mission of this group (see minutes, 4/12/02). As a member of this committee Rick D., described the history and current role of this committee. He indicated that it is largely advisory, and was developed to help faculty create their self-evaluation materials for promotion and tenure in a standard package that can easily be assessed by the various levels of review. Rick was very clear that each application packet was thoroughly read by each member of the committee. Their suggestions were largely directed to format of the applications, although if a faculty member clearly did not meet criteria for promotion and tenure as outlined in the Faculty/Staff Handbook, the committee would recommend that the applicant should withdraw the application.

It was suggested that the procedure outlined in the Faculty/ Staff Handbook should be the model used by faculty. Jim Handley suggested that the committee sit down with applicants at the beginning of the year to guide them through the application process. Rick D. agreed. He also suggested that the Faculty/Staff Handbook should have a clear summary of how the application should be formatted, an "instruction to authors". Rick D. agreed to create these instructions.

- Rick Appleman summarized the results of the general Faculty meeting called by the Senate on April 23, 2002. It was a very well attended meeting and several issues were discussed and passed. These include: salary committee's current salary model; North campus part-time faculty pay increase to \$1000/credit hour; and removal of the North campus academic dean positions. Rick A. was sending a letter to Chancellor Gilmore summarizing these agenda items and their outcomes.
- The signage page for the Faculty/Staff Handbook was discussed. Several members of the senate would like the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor to sign as well. It was also suggested that state EEOC hiring policies and laws be included in the Handbook. Hiring policies have certain legal mandates that must be followed by state institutions. Although certain appointments are at the discretion of the Chancellor (Dean appointments, for instance) new hires mandate an appropriate search.
- The creation of a general campus "meeting block" was discussed. Several models were suggested including a weekly 2 hour block that would be available on a priority basis -- general Faculty meetings, Faculty senate meetings, committee meetings, etc. An hour every day was also suggested.

- Vice-Chancellor Figueira will be invited to the May 3, 2002 Senate meeting to discuss the Research Salary Plan.
- Rick requested Senate input concerning the Vice-Chancellor search before the general VCAAR discussion meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2002. We will meet with each of the candidates before this time.
- Rick A. mailed the Chancellor's evaluation to Dennison, as requested by Dennison.
- Rick A., Senate chair received threatening e-mail from a faculty member and was ordered to keep it confidential from the rest of the Senate. The Senate felt this was coercive and non-collegial. The Senate is an open body and communications are not restricted to individual members. This could create problems. It was decided unanimously that all communications to the Faculty Senate should be open among Senate members. There are no "secret minutes" or "privileged communications".

minutes submitted April 30, 2002