

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
Faculty Council Meeting
Friday, November 18, 2005 8:10AM
Library Conference Room – 3rd floor

Present: Ambe Njoh, Bonnie Braun (substituting for Kim Stoddard), Jim Fellows, Deb Henry, Deanna Michael, Gary Patterson (substituting for Jim Spence), Kathy Weedman
Absent: David Naar
Guests: Dr. Sandra Harper, SACS Committee Chairperson
Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi
Dr. Mark Durand, RVC Academic Affairs

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM.

Announcements

Ambe announced that he will represent Faculty Council and faculty at the December 18, 2005 graduation in Tropicana Field.

New Business

Minutes from October 28, 2005

Minutes had been distributed to members prior to meeting. Jim F. motioned to approve the minutes, Deanna seconded. Minutes were approved and will be posted to the FC web site.

SACS

Dr. Mark Durand accompanied SACS Committee Chairperson Dr. Sandra Harper to the FC meeting at 8:22 AM and made introductions. Dr. Harper described her experience with SACS accreditations. She explained the stages in the process of accreditation and offered advice on important information that is needed for a successful application. Dr. Harper stressed that exceptions should not be the rule. She covered items such as the offsite review, the Compliance Report, the onsite review, faculty credentials, the importance of evidence documenting all the university's efforts, assessment practices and following through with actions as indicated. USF Tampa's Quality Enhancement Plan was discussed as were student learning outcomes and teacher evaluations (peer reviewed, not student).

Mark reminded Council that the onsite visit is scheduled for February 17 – 18, 2006.

Mark and Dr. Harper left at 9:02 AM.

Committee on Committees

Student membership on FC committees and councils continues to be problematic. A member of the Committee on Committees will explore the possibility of getting work study students to participate.

USF St. Petersburg Sabbatical Committee

Bonnie Braun requested that the FC members from CAS and COE seek volunteers to serve on the Sabbatical Committee. Jim Fellows has already volunteered to represent the College of Business and to chair the group. Members must be tenured faculty. A suggestion was made that recent sabbatical earners would be good candidates.

Faculty Council web site

Deb asked if the council would be interested in posing for a new photo for the FC web site. Council agreed that would be nice. Deb will arrange.

College/Library Reports

College of Arts and Sciences

Ambe explained the advocacy system in the Tenure and Promotion process that operates within the College of Arts and Sciences. Other members of Council were very interested in the process.

College of Business

Jim F. announced that Dr. Hill was asked to step down as Dean of the College. He is taking administrative leave of absence through the end of the semester. The COB Executive Team is stepping down as well. Mark Durand will be the accountable officer until the acting Dean, Dr. Blaine Brownell is on board. It is unclear at this time how long Dr. Brownell will be available. The administration will find an interim Dean. The Chair of the search committee for a permanent Dean will be a non-COB person. The COB Faculty are teaching and conducting research as usual.

College of Education

The College is busy rewriting constitutional amendments. Discussion over the interpretation of voting eligibility has been a difficult one but hopefully this issue and others will be resolved soon. New graduate course proposals are also being prepared.

COE weighed in on the ethical guidelines issue. They suggested that all existing documentation relevant to Tenure & Promotion conduct be reviewed fir in old business.

Library

The library is currently conducting a search for a library faculty member to head the Access Services Department.

Old Business

Tenure and Promotion Ethical Guidelines for USFSP and other T & P issues

Faculty Council's work was halted when the CAS faculty decided not to participate in the formulation of guidelines. CAS did agree to review existing T& P guidelines

Deanna reminded the Council of the strong connection to UFF/NEA and that there may be guidelines at the level that need to be considered as well. She suggested that we continue to review existing documentation so that the correct ones may be referred to as needed. She offered to collect existing materials and start the review. She asked that FC request that the College Councils provide copies of any in-house material that apply.

Ambe suggested that Faculty Council could send a memo to the T& P committees prior to the process, reminding participants as to appropriate behavior as dictated by these documents. The campus T&P committee is preparing guidelines at this time. Faculty Council will review these.

It was suggested that Mark be invited to an FC meeting as soon as possible to address and clarify important issues and concerns such as collaboration and campus-wide criteria.

USF SP 'Faculty Council' name change to 'Faculty Senate'

Jin F. moved to approve a name change from Faculty Council to Faculty Senate. Ambe seconded. All members approved. Kathy volunteered to explore ways to present the issue to the general faculty for a vote. Deb will forward Kathy a copy of the governance documents with the name change highlighted.

Faculty Council Survey

Deanna started evaluating the survey results again and shared that collegial relationships seem to be one of the most important issues. Areas of concern are course loads, Faculty council independence and support for research. One clear direction was identified. Faculty Council needs to reach out to new faculty in a more aggressive way. More follow up is needed.

Faculty attendance at campus activities

Discussion shelved for next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM.

Next meeting

December 9

Library Conference room (3rd floor), 8:10 AM

Future meetings:

January 13 & 27, 2006

February 10 & 24

March 10 & 24

April 7 & 21

Prepared by Deb Henry