

DRAFT I

MINUTES FOR THE ESPG MEETING 01/25/08

The ESPG Division met Friday, January 25, 2008 at 11:30am in Davis 217. Those attending included: Mark Pezzo (Interim Chair), Jim Gore, Deby Cassill, Henry Alegria, Erika Asano, Joseph Dorsey, Chris Meindl, Jim Krest, Kathy Carvalho, Melanie Riedinger-Whitmore and Donny Smoak. Issues were recored in the order in which they were discussed.

SUNSHINE LAWS

Issue: Several faculty members questioned whether or not the Florida Sunshine Laws applied to our meetings and our voting procedures.

Discussion: Mark Pezzo presented the results of his discussion with an attorney on this issue. According to this attorney, with rare exception, Florida Sunshine Laws apply only when university employees are doing the business of the university Board or the President. Melanie Whitmore moved that the ESPG division abide by the Sunshine Laws anyway. Jim Gore seconded the motion. A discussion ensued.

Decision: A vote was taken and the motion failed. Several faculty members reiterated the need to continue regular meetings with discussions involving our program's growth and development.

ESPG VOTING MEMBERS

Issue I: Is Chris D'Elia eligible to vote on ESPG issues?

Discussion and Decision I: A faculty member reminded the group that our by-laws state that non-faculty administrators are welcome, but are non-voting members. There was agreement among the faculty that our by-laws precluded Dr. D'Elia, an administrator, from voting.

Action I: It was noted that Dr. D'Elia has made important contributions to our discussion and that he should be returned to our ESPG emailing list so that he could continue to attend our meetings.

Issue II: Which eligible non-tenured faculty should be voting members?

Action II: A ballot with five non-tenure faculty names (Randy Edwards, Thomas Whitmore, Eric Steimle, Rene Shumbusho, Louis Camara) was used for the vote. Ballots (unsigned) were placed in a box. Deby Cassill and Erika Asano counted the ballots and reported the results to the group. None of the six eligible non-tenured faculty received a majority vote. Thus, voting membership includes only ESPG tenure-track faculty.

ESPG DIVISION VERSUS POD

Issue: Which set of by-laws should we revise, the division or the POD?

Discussion: A discussion ensued about the difference and that today, we were functioning as a division, not a POD. Mark stated that he would email the ESPG division by-laws to us with the Tenure and Promotion verbiage highlighted in yellow. Those sections will likely be removed as the T&P decisions will be made at the CAS or the uber-division level.

ESPG BUDGET

Issue: what is our budget?

Discussion: The ESPG POD might have \$20,000 to \$40,000 for this year. Mark Pezzo clarified the budget crunch. No action was taken.

ESPG DIVISION CHAIR

Issue: We need to elect a chair.

Decision: Erika Asano and Deby Cassill are the nomination committee. Eligible members for chair are tenured ESPG faculty (Jim Gore, Melanie Whitmore, Donny Smoak, Chris Meindl and Deby Cassill). Eligible members for associate chair are tenured (see above) and non-tenured ESPG faculty (Jim Krest, Kathy Carvalho, Henry Alegria, Erika Asano, Joseph Dorsey, Barnali Dixon).

Action: Mark Pezzo offered to remain as Interim Chair of the division until such time as we have elected a Chair. Eligible members will be contacted in person or by email to determine their willingness to serve. Responses are due by the next meeting.

TEACHING LAB COORDINATOR

Issue: Will we replace our vacant position?

Discussion: Faculty with labs met in a sub-group (Kathy Carvalho, Melanie Whitmore, Henry Alegria, Jim Krest and Deby Cassill). The result of this discussion was general agreement that the position should be filled by a full-time person rather than by graduate student assistants.

Action: Once Mark Pezzo or our Dean gives us the go-ahead, we will reconvene as a committee to move forward with advertising and interviewing.

Meeting was adjourned by 12:45pm.