FAC Meeting 11/17/06 Minutes


1. Steve Gordon reported on the luncheon for new faculty to be held on January 19th at the Price House. We will have a FAC meeting from 10:30-12:30, followed by lunch with new faculty at 12:30. Tentatively, we will introduce the college deans, who can tell new faculty what support the deans can provide (if the deans haven’t already done this at their own meeting with new faculty). We will also informally survey the new faculty as a part of their invitation to the luncheon in order to find out what their needs are.

2. Michelle proposed five meeting dates for the spring. This is a change from the 7 meetings we have had in the past. We agreed to meet on January 19, February 16, March 2, March 23, and April 27 during spring 2007.

3. Steve G. presented Draft I of the FAC White Paper, “A Proposal to Decrease the Summer workload at Texas State University-San Marcos to Nine Credit Hours.” FAC members will share with their faculty colleagues to gain additional input.

4. Michelle presented the faculty governance survey raw results. Discussion ensued regarding how to present these results to the college, deans, and chairs. We agreed we will do an analysis and interpretation of the data. We agreed Michelle will present the raw data to the dean and inform her that we will provide an analysis and interpretation of the data. We will follow the same procedure in presenting the information to the chairs. We will ask Lisa Lloyd or Larry Price, and Annie to analyze the data.

5. Discussion of the “Levine Report”. Michelle provided a copy of the report and mentioned some of the critiques, including that the report was not peer reviewed. Steve G. noted that the UCEA had also produced an analysis of the report.

6. Dean Barerra arrived to discuss the Levine Reports – one on teachers and one on school leaders. She described their content and the education professions’ response. She noted that a third report is coming out due August 2007 from the National Research Council. Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act delayed its release until 2007. The report is expected to ask for more accountability for teacher education and advocate looking at 5th year teacher education programs, for looking for more partnerships between colleges of education and the public schools, and for re-examining curriculum. However, accountability will be its overwhelming focus, particularly, looking at teacher quality in terms of student achievement. Levine was biased in favor of research one universities, which are taking on clinical faculty to address the need, rather than relying on their research faculty. The Holmes report will emphasize meeting the need using the professional development model with college faculty being more onsite in the schools. Dean Barerra is looking more at the NRC Report because it is a congressional activity which will probably bring with it congressional mandates.
Miguel pointed out that this should be looked at as a political move – not about education, but about politics.

The dean will be looking at the state scene next week. She is looking at our programs in terms of enrollment management and needing more resources if we are going to grow in the graduate student arena. We cannot maintain our teacher education program and grow as a graduate school without additional resources.

Michelle suggested that these issues be brought to the Teacher Education Council. John reported on the history of TEAC and NCATE and Texas universities.

The dean discussed that the university has lost enrollment in graduate education, including the College of Education. The students that leave here go to Texas A&M.

Michelle asked when we would have information about funding of needed resources asked for during strategic planning process. Gwynne asked about money for recruiting students. This university is trying to put its resources into science, engineering, and math because they bring in more dollars and we are in competition with others. Education is not necessarily a priority. The Mitte chairs and targets of opportunity allotments will be to those areas. Academic Excellence dollars going to developing as a research university. Money to buy out faculty for research, endowed chairs in science, and money for graduate students. Help with recruitment money, go through the dean’s office to Mike Heinze, let the campus level be involved. If we want to send our folks with their recruiters, go ahead. Faculty also need training and informational support for grad recruitment orientation.

College is now sending out minutes of College Council, we meet with new faculty, looking at promotion and tenure guidelines, FAC is body regularly informative to the dean’s office, 4 meetings per year with the dean, opened up committees with associate and assistant deans, Michelle will be coming to college council. Good news communication at the end of the month, Kathy Fite is the media person for the college. We’ll do more commendations of faculty. College Advisory Board will come together on December 1. Hearing from Larry Price, Virginia Resta about stewardship and student scholarships. Dean would like to use the FAC website for this. Development function and with development officer important with decreasing funds. Advisory members selected for ability to provide funds or lead us to funds. Bob Covey will be chair. He is CEO of American Alloy in Houston. Board member with Cypress Fairbanks. Named other advisory board members.

We just got approved for a $500,000 grant in area of bilingual science education. Looking in area of urban education in C&I – push of Forgione. Hall of Honors. Do more with the LBJ connection. Steve Awanji looking at Hall of Honors for College of Education.