

## February 15, 2012 Minutes

Members present: Sriraman, Sanders, Feakes, Wilson, Morey, Kimmel, Stone, Furney, Cavitt, Czyzewska, Conroy, Ash, Hindson

Guests: Sigler

Meeting called to order at 4:00.

### **Announcements:**

1. The Chair distributed information on University Advancement plans, TRIP funds, and SB 1414 (a law requiring that all counselors at camps enrolling participants under 18 must complete training).
2. A group photo of the Senate will be taken on March 21.
3. Associate Provost Opheim will return to the Senate on Feb. 22.
4. The Committee Preference Survey is being finalized. The faculty perception on Chairs is already underway.

**TSUS Meeting Report:** Items discussed at the Feb. 10 meeting of interest to faculty include the process for gaining full approval of revisions to faculty handbooks, which can take up to a year; possible system-wide criteria for post-tenure review; review of the General Education core; revisions to the Coordinating Board's definition of "low-producing programs"; and a proposal from the Legislature that 10% of formula funding be based upon a school's graduation and retention rates.

**Adjunct Faculty Meeting Report:** The Chair of the Adjunct Faculty Committee reported that the first meeting of the new committee attested that members are committed and energetic. Among the activities at the first meeting was developing a system for shaping future agendas based upon the concerns of adjunct faculty. Adjunct faculty will be polled on issues of concern, and the results will be organized under a few broader categories that Committee members can explore. A TRACS site has been created so members can share ideas and information. In addition, all members have been charged with creating a communication system for reaching their constituents. The members would like to develop a liaison system similar to the Senate's that would allow individual departments to funnel concerns to Committee members. There is also interest in exploring the possibility of creating a separate Presidential Excellence Award for lecturers.

The Committee's next meeting is April 13. The Chair of the Senate noted that a possible topic for discussion is the issue of service requirements for adjunct faculty.

**University Curriculum Committee Report:** Mr. Supancic, Chair of the UCC, shared the Committee's endorsement of three proposals:

1. Change the Department of Criminal Justice to a School of Criminal Justice
2. Add Master of Science major in Exercise Science and phase out the Master of

Education major in Physical Education specialization in Exercise Science

3. Add an undergraduate certificate in Location Analysis

The Senate will vote on these recommendations at its Feb. 22 meeting.

Mr. Supancic also reported that the Committee approved changes to PPS 2.18, with a recommendation that the Vice-Chair of the Committee also be selected by the Senate.

**Excellence in Diversity Awards:** The Chair solicited nominees to serve on the selection committee, and will contact the faculty suggested by Senators.

**Joint Meeting of Faculty Senate, CAD, and Council of Chairs:** CAD members have requested a joint meeting on March 28, but from 3-5 PM. The Chair asked Senators to think of possible topics. In addition, Senators wondered whether it would be more beneficial that this joint meeting be limited to the Senate and CAD only.

## **BREAK**

**PPS 8.11, Tenure and Promotion Review:** Review of the University policy will continue throughout the spring semester. Three particular proposed revisions were of interest at the recent CAD meeting:

1. *Paragraph 34:* This proposed change alters the order of voting on tenure and promotion. First would be votes on candidates for promotion to full professor. After this vote, Associate Professors would be asked to join the meeting for votes on tenure and promotion of Assistant Professors.
2. *Paragraph 46:* The proposed revision requires external letters for candidates seeking promotion to full professor, and suggests them for candidates at the rank of Assistant Professor seeking tenure and promotion. Senators noted that it is important the process is consistent across campus to insure fairness, and urged as well that the process be stated explicitly in the PPS. One Senator suggested that the Administration research the procedures for external review used at other Emerging Research Institutions.
3. *Paragraph 53:* The proposed revision states that members of College Review Groups may not vote on candidates for promotion to a rank higher than their own. The Senate considers this a problematic suggestion, particularly for smaller departments, and recommends it be removed.

## **New Business:**

1. A Senator noted that there seems to be insufficient janitorial staff or inefficient use of that staff, since a number of maintenance tasks are no longer being completed, such as cleaning blackboards. Senators shared a number of concerns about the ways current Administration policies are affecting the maintenance of an effective, safe teaching and work environment.

**Minutes of 2/1/12 approved.**

**Adjournment.**