March 28, 2012 Minutes

Members present: Morey, Sanders, Feakes, Melzer, Wilson, Sriraman, Furney, Hindson, Ash, Stone, Cavitt, Czyzweska

Guests: Clark (Star), Deans, Opheim, Sigler, D. Brown, R. Brown, Thorne

Meeting called to order at 3:00.

Announcements:

1. Associate Provost Opheim contacted the Chair of the Senate about review of PPS 1.05, Workload Credit for Chair of the Faculty Senate. Currently, Senate Chairs receive three workload credits per semester. The Chair asked the Senate to consider if nine workload credits per academic year would better reflect the amount of work performed by Senate Chairs.

2. April 10 is the Provost’s Open Forum on Strategic Planning.

3. Senate elections are underway.

Joint Faculty Senate / Council of Academic Deans Meeting:

1. Planning for Growth – The Chair asked the Deans to outline their plans for enrollment growth should they not receive the new faculty lines requested in their strategic plans. All Deans stated that they would initiate enrollment management plans. The Provost added that any money for faculty hires would be used to respond to increased enrollments in particular programs.

2. Presidential Award Selection Process – The Chair asked Deans to explain their processes for selecting nominees for Presidential Excellence Awards. All stated that actual selection of college nominees is made by their College Councils, comprised primarily (or, in some cases, solely) of the various department chairs. Faculty involvement in most colleges occurs at the department level. Health Professions maintains a committee that solicits nominations. In Education, the Assistant Dean solicits nominations.

3. Faculty Development Leave Process – The Senate requested that Deans and Chairs rank Leave applicants from their units, which will assist the Senate as it creates it rankings of all applications and also will provide useful data for the Provost’s Office in awarding supplemental Leave funds. All Deans were amenable to this request. The Provost noted that he is considering making Senior Lecturers eligible for Leave.

4. College Council Representation – The Senate inquired about the ways Deans insure that issues raised at college councils are shared with faculty. All Deans noted that council meetings are open and Senators are welcome to attend; a number of Senators already attend meetings. Most also explained that they post meeting minutes online for faculty review. The Dean of Liberal Arts meets with Senators from his College once a semester for lunch.

5. Updates from the Provost –
   a. The President will update budget issues on March 30; tuition and fees increases have been proposed for 2013.
   b. Some money may be available for fall faculty salary adjustments. Deans will be asked to work with Chairs to select eligible faculty. He hopes personnel committees will be consulted as part of the selection process.

BREAK
CAD Meeting Follow-up:

1. Presidential Award – The Senate would like to see a standard process included in the relevant PPS, so that there is consistency in the way nominees are selected. Further discussion explored whether there should be award committees in each college that are composed of faculty rather than administrators; all Senators agreed that the process should be faculty-driven.

2. College Councils – Senators agreed that Deans should publicize electronically the dates, times and agendas for council meetings.

PAAG Agenda Development: Senators suggested the following topics for the upcoming PAAG meeting:

1. The search for a new Dean of the Graduate College.
2. Ways to increase the competitiveness of stipends offered to graduate assistants.
3. The potential for new doctoral programs.

New Business: A Senator asked whether the post-tenure-review clock can be stopped for medical reasons.

Minutes of 3/21/12 were approved.

Adjournment.