Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
Minutes April 6th, 2010
In Attendance: Kaleen Knopp, Jennifer Askey, Bob Condia, Jim Nechols, Jim Bloodgood, Rebecca Gould, Elaine Johannes, Carol Kellett, Judy Hughey, Naqian Zhang
Guests: Karlene Varnadore, Michael Gros

I. The minutes from the March 23 meeting were approved unanimously.

II. Guests—Faculty Salary and Fringe Benefits Subcommittee (Varnadore & Gros)
The Faculty Salary Fringe Benefits submitted their report, their historical overview and their fact sheet to FAC. (see attached)
We discussed the items in the report and discussed implementation of select recommendations in the report.
Bob Condia volunteered to be the FAC representative on the FSFB sub-committee.
Faculty Senate will receive the Dependent/Spouse Tuition Waiver Report in the April meeting (next week) and we hope to vote on it in May.

III. Appendix G update (Knopp, Hughey, Gould, Johannes, Kellett)
The group is working diligently on modest revisions to the document. Elaine has suggested a modification to the time-line chart at the end of the document, indicating responsibilities per person along a common timeline.

Issues under consideration are (a) adding 5 days of time for the grievance chair to assess viability of the grievance; and (b) considering a two-tier system, in which full grievances would be amended by a modified grievance, conducted in a less expensive, less judicial manner.

These modifications are being discussed after interviews and discussions with users of the system from both the faculty and the administration.

IV. Technology & Textbook Committee (Bloodgood)
The implementation of linking Isis and the bookstores is taking place on time. Issues of concern: distance students; foreign books.

V. Open Access information sheet draft (Nechols, Askey, Urton)
Draft #2 was submitted to FAC.

VI. Language of Instruction (Nechols, Zhang)
Zhang recommended that we not rely on one test solely for our evaluation of language abilities. He recommended caution in determining guidelines.
The issue of remediation was discussed and how best to implement it and take care of the staffing issues of individual departments.

VII. University Handbook Committee (Hughey)
Subcommittee met and is working on the sections. This is a long-term project. Currently, the committee is reviewing sections that may be better placed in the PPM or in the virtual environment of an office such as Affirmative Action.

VIII. E-Portfolio Task Force (Gould)
The task force is meeting every other week and have received an extension until June 1 to deliver their report. They are currently creating a survey to go to Deans and Dept Heads.

IX. Dependent Spouse Tuition/Waiver Task Force
FAC has received the task force report. At our next meeting we will put forth a resolution to take to Faculty Senate. The current report and recommendations are a starting point, not a perfect policy. Nechols suggested that the resolution contain language that references the known results of the FSFB committee report as a justification for increasing this kind of benefit.

Hughey: Reports will be presented to Faculty Senate to be received. The wording within the documents will not be debated. Ideas, questions, and/or recommendations from the reports will be entertained. Resolutions and action items from the reports will be voted in separate action items from the reception of the reports.

X. Other Business

Johannes: Regarding the question of distance education students not having the opportunity to purchase an ID card: Amy Schultz met with Dean Bosco and Vice President Bruce Schubert and they gave verbal support to the idea of students being able to purchase an ID card.

Faculty Senate and FAC bought a certificate of appreciation and gift certificate for Amy Schulz for dedicated service of creative and dependable leadership.

Tom Zhang: Bill Hsu will rejoin FAC after he goes on sabbatical.

Rebecca Gould: Asked us to attend interviews for the CIO position. The next interviews will be on 15th and 16th.

Johannes: A position announcement for the Dean/Director of Agriculture /KSRE search should be out next week with interviews scheduled for summer.