

Kansas State University Faculty Senate
Faculty Affairs Committee
Minutes
February 16, 2016
4:00 – Union 205

In attendance: Betsy Cauble, Gayle Doll, Todd Gabbard, David Lehman, Mindy Markham, Jackie Spears, Jeff Stevenson, Brian Niehoff (Provost Liaison), Charlotte Self (HCS Liaison)

- ❖ Betsy Cauble called the meeting to order
- ❖ Jeff Stevenson moved and Jackie Spears seconded the approval of the February 2, 2016 Minutes. Approved unanimously.
- ❖ Old Business
 - Social Media Storm Policy MOU: The committee reviewed comments returned from Cheryl Strecker from the General Counsel's office. The following discussion topics were covered.
 - The term "partnership", used in the title of the MOU is a legal term and not appropriate for this MOU
 - Strecker asked specifically why the MOU was desired. She was told that it was to assure that the president would get advisement in this situation. Strecker tried to use this within her language changes.
 - President will have consultation by legal counsel and will confer with faculty senate president
 - The committee liked putting the Faculty Senate President after the colon (see MOU revised handout)
 - We're proposing that everyone from the list following the colon be consulted at once.
 - Add:
 - "the following university employees or their designee"
 - "Vice President of Human Capital Services or designee"
 - "will be convened for consultation in person or electronically"
 - Remove "temporary" and replaced with "immediate" sanctions.
 - Jackie Spears moved approval and David Lehman seconded. One opposed. Approval passed.
 - Personal Conflicts of Interest Policy
 - Brian Niehoff had some conversations including one with the provost—and asserted that we shouldn't use conflict of interest language—maybe use amorous relationships. General Counsel thinks that the Human Capital policy is too long and wordy. The policy would go in the PPM but referred to from Section D.
 - Employee/Student Amorous relationship policy was given to Niehoff by general counsel (Mindy Markham forwarded to the committee)
 - Section C
 - Markham reported that general counsel's office Lindsay Chapman reviewed Section C and responded with many comments including:
 - The professional staff affairs committee had changed the title for unclassified professionals but they can't because that has a legal meaning in the state.
 - There were many changes were made by the committee about how professional staff is evaluated and Chapman wants to make sure that HCS gets to review this.
 - Some changes are simple and need to be addressed by us—others will go to the professional staff affairs committee.
 - Because of these changes section C will not be going to faculty senate in March. We might be able to get to it in April for the first reading.
 - Faculty Affairs Leadership
 - Cauble and Markham will not be here next year so we were challenged to consider leadership.
- ❖ No New Business.

❖ From Committee Members:

- Charlotte Self went to the grad school about the appeal process for grad students. General Counsel thinks the supervisory process seems to be working well and additional changes are unnecessary. Dean Shanklin seems in favor of a more explicit policy. Jeff Stevenson gave an example of how students may be abused by faculty. Self will go back to the grad school for further advisement.
- Jackie Spears brought up a subject from her caucus--TEVALs. They mentioned venomous open-ended feedback on open-ended questions and threats from students to rate instructors poorly if they do not receive good grades. Can the teaching and learning center revisit the TEVAL evaluation? How do we work on students' decency and civility? There was a suggestion from Niehoff that SGA be engaged in teaching students about TEVALs and how to fill them out so that they are valid as professional development opportunities. This will be added to the agenda.

❖ Next Meeting: March 1, 2016 Union 205 at 4:00