

Minutes
Kansas State University Faculty Senate
Professional Staff Affairs Committee
May 20, 2014
4 pm – Room 203, K-State Union

Present: Mary Anne Andrews (Co-Chair), Kelly Briggs, Danielle Brown (Chair), Kelli Cox, Ashley Croisant, Lisa Duer, Livia Olsen (Secretary), Stacey Warner, Megan Whitney

Call to Order

OLD BUSINESS

USS Report (Ashley)

- Nothing to report

“Professional Staff Affairs” title announcement

- It passed Faculty Senate and will now go on to the President and Provost

Section C of Handbook – Summer Committee

- Communicate with Chair of the University Handbook committee
- We can send updates, not procedural changes, to the University Handbook committee at any time without going through Faculty Senate which will help us understand which changes need to go through the Senate
- The Committee: Mary Anne Andrews, Kelly Briggs, Lynn Carlin, Jim Hohenbary (Chair)

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Prior Learning Assessment Conversation

- These are guidelines but there may be a future policy document
- If someone works in the business world for 30 years, how much college credit can you give them for that experience?
- Does it devalue a college degree, there is a high level conversation around this topic
- Professional staff who work with students, like advisors, will be impacted
- Let Danielle know if you know what is going on in your colleges on this topic
- From an enrollment management perspective, it would need to be a quantifiable assessment, like a portfolio that validates that experience
- Scholarship and theory is different than practical experience
- There would need to be someone in every department to quantify these things

- KBoR standpoint – Older adults working in the field, need a degree to move up in their chosen profession. This is more connected at the community college level. The Department of Commerce wants more degree completers in Kansas.
- It is still just a guiding document
- Will they have problems if they go on to graduate school? If so, it would reflect poorly on K-State.

Future Professional Staff Salaries Report

- Is this something we need to look at or anticipate?
- Anybody with a director title and above can be easily compared, other positions are more difficult
- Salaries are compared to ten peer institutions
- Salary is the biggest issue for professional staff retention
- Faculty Salary Fringe Benefits Committee request – They want to send a letter of support but need more information. What are you supporting or forwarding on? Do we have much to compile at this time? This theme that keeps popping up.
- Faculty Salary Fringe Benefits Committee is also looking for new committee members
- When the new Vice President for Human Capital arrives, invite them to this meeting to discuss the issues, keeping in mind that this person will be very busy
- Discussion about term professional staff will be picked up in the fall. Look at the report for your area and let Kelli Cox know if it doesn't look right.

Adjourned