

Faculty Policies Minutes---September 10, 2007

Attending: Jim Benedict, Rob Bledsoe, Tom Colbert, Tom Crute, Charles Jackson, Wayne Mixon, Stephanie Myers, Carol Rychly, Jana Sandarg, Robert Smalley, Debbie van Tuyl, Steve Weiss. Guest: Maureen Akins

The committee was asked to address the question: "Should we create a committee for oversight of on-line courses?" Maureen was present to provide information on the current status of on-line courses for the committee.

Final recommendation: FPC will send a letter to the VPAA recommending formation of an ad hoc committee of this sort that may eventually include or replace the distance learning committee. This committee should address faculty control of decision-making, quality of the class, meet BOR and SACS reporting requirements and allow faculty members to "opt-out" and not participate in on-line courses.

Faculty minutes were approved with corrections of minor typos.

The VPAA supports the idea of Cullum and recommends that it possibly be housed in one of the dean's offices. He stated that it is the responsibility of his office to see that it is funded and that he will look at funding options including the foundation and general fund. It was agreed that the funding available must be made known before proposals are solicited. Sandarg will determine which departments have offered Cullum courses/programs in the past and let the committee know so that we can recommend the appropriate dean to be put in charge. Jim will send the Cullum report (from last year) to the whole committee so that everyone will know what the recommendations were and the reasons behind those.

FPC was asked to consider establishing a Green Committee. It was noted that a "green committee" is much broader in scope than the current recycling committee. The committee agreed to recommend formation of an Ad Hoc Green committee, with members that have particular interest, knowledge and enthusiasm for the idea. It is possible that it may be combined with the recycling committee in the future.

RSVP from the committee for the Oct 5 Mentor/mentee lunch were taken. A letter has been sent to other invitees from Carol with a September 24 deadline for RSVP. Invitees who have not replied at that time will be contacted by subcommittee members.

Dr. Dodd asked the committee to approve several changes to faculty membership of committees. The committee did so.

Smalley reported that Jasper Cooke is continuing to work on the classroom safety policy.

Myers provided a summary of responses to the committee survey. It was agreed that the summary be edited to include the type of committee (standing, permanent, etc). Last year's committee chairs will be asked one more time for a response to the survey. Requests will include the name of the committee the information is being requested for. End-of-year reports, if not already submitted, will also be requested.

Once all the information has been gathered, the committee will be asked to approve the charges of all committees not detailed in the faculty manual. All the charges can then be posted on the website so that the committee members and the campus at large know the responsibilities of each committee. Changes recommended by the survey will also be discussed and approved (or not).

The Committee on Committees suggested that developing a more useful format for the data needed in making committee assignments be given to a computer science class as a project. FPC agreed to pursue this option with the instructor of the computer science class.

Status of other pending business

Revisions to the section of the faculty manual for the Academic Policies Committee—
There was some problem at the university council level. Rychly will talk with Cathy Tugmon (last year's chair) to determine the exact issue

Student grievance policy—almost done

Faculty Research and Faculty development committee—will be presented at the next meeting.

Sandarg will bring snacks to the next meeting.