

Faculty Policies Committee Minutes---27 August 2007

Attending: Jim Benedict, Rob Bledsoe, Tom Colbert, Tom Crute, Charles Jackson, Wayne Mixon, Stephanie Myers, Carol Rychly, Jana Sandarg, Robert Smalley, Debbie van Tuyll, Steve Weiss *(Note: members are referred to by last name, since there are duplicate or near duplicate first names this year.)*

Minutes from 23 April 2007 were approved.

Subcommittee assignments were looked at again to decide if changes needed to be made. Current subcommittees, and their members, include:

<u>Committee on Committees:</u>	Benedict, Jackson, Sandarg, Crute, Rychly
<u>Student Grievance:</u>	van Tuyll, Crute, Weiss
<u>Elections:</u>	Sandarg, Bledsoe, Crute, Myers, Rychly
<u>Campus Committee Survey:</u>	Myers, Mixon, Colbert
<u>Mentor/Mentee luncheon:</u>	Jackson, Myers, Smalley, Rychly

Copies of the section of the Faculty Manual addressing duties of the Faculty Policies Committee and ASU's Strategic Plan (from the website) were distributed. The documents will be used to aid the committee in focusing on work appropriate to the committee. If we have questions about the strategic plan, Ray Whiting has offered to visit and address any concerns.

Rychly meets regularly with the president and VPAA. The purpose of these meetings is to keep the president and VPAA informed of issues being addressed by FPC. In the last meeting, they were reminded of pending issues, particularly the status of Cullum. The VPAA will bring his recommendations about Cullum to their next meeting.

Other issues pending before the committee include revision of the Faculty Manual with regard to the Academic Policies Committee. An attempt was made to clarify the language so that the duties of the committee were clear and to accommodate the changes in department structure. University Council also asked FPC to consider student representation on the committee. The current version will be discussed at the next meeting.

The question: "How do students get assigned to committees?" was asked. The answer is that the SGA president assigns them. However, several committee members reported comments from students who were not asked if they would like to serve on a committee before being assigned to one, did not know why or how they were assigned to committees and were not always enrolled when asked to serve.

Also pending is a Faculty Manual revision with regard to the Faculty Research and Faculty Development Committee. Bledsoe and van Tuyll will work on the proposal and

bring it back to FPC. They will also look at the issue of how quickly allocated money needs to be spent.

The Mentor/Mentee lunch will be Friday, October 5 at the Pinnacle Club from 1 pm to about 3 pm. New faculty, their mentors, the president, the VPAA, academic deans and the FPC are invited. Rychly will check with each department chair to be sure that the list of new faculty and mentors is up-to-date and correct. She will also check with Walt Alexander that all new faculty have been included in his emailing. For this event, FPC is responsible for extending invitations, confirming reservations and menu choices, generating place cards, and acting as hosts at each table. Jackson will make the place cards and FPC will decide how attendees will be seated. Members of the subcommittee will be responsible for obtaining RSVPs.

The possibility of on-line pictorial directory of faculty, possibly produced by Walt Alexanderson was briefly discussed.

The Committee on Committees met four times over the summer. Not all the rules for selection had been updated, therefore several iterations were required before a final slate of recommendations could be submitted. The question on the request form about upcoming applications for promotion and tenure was helpful. However, the information obtained from each faculty member about committee preferences could still be improved. It would be helpful if the list could be searched or sorted by name as it was being edited. Benedict will talk to ITS about possibilities for improvement.

There was a discussion about why faculty wanted to be assigned to committees. Reasons cited were: the need for service for promotion and tenure, campus-wide visibility, and the fact that the campus culture values service. The president and VPAA asked FPC to look at how service is evaluated and to consider weighing department service more highly. People who have served on the promotion and tenure committee reported that service to campus committees is more highly weighed than department committees and the “big ticket” committees also are given more weight. Evaluation is difficult because of the number of variables including work of the committee that year and member participation. Some of this could be addressed in each committee’s annual report, but that does not go to the department chair.

The subcommittee on Campus Committees promised to report progress at the next meeting.

Other issues that should be addressed this year:

Changes in the way Student Technology fees are spent. Colbert and Weiss will follow up on what, if any, changes have occurred for this year and what other changes should be made.

The safety policy about locking classroom and office doors needs to be addressed to determine what will maximize safety yet still be practical. Smalley is following up with Jasper Cooke to clarify the proposed policy.