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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008

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Approved Minutes
Arts and Sciences Faculty Meeting
Thursday, November 20, 2008

Members Present:


Guests: Sharon Agee, Joanne Vogel, Sharon Carrier, Micki Meyer

I. Call to Order—Davison called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes—The minutes of the October 14 2008 meeting of the faculty were approved as distributed.

III. Executive Committee Actions—With regard to Article VIII, Section D, subsection 2 of the Faculty Bylaws, Davison reported that the Executive Committee had determined the word “submit” to mean “the means of submission includes any form of submission, electronic or paper.”

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

1. Approval of Slate for Faculty Appeals Committee replacements—Davison reported that there are two vacancies on the Faculty Appeals Committee. Libby moved that John Sinclair and Edna McClellen be approved to fill these vacancies. The faculty approved.
2. Bylaws (see attachment 1)—Newman proposed changes to be added to Article V, Section 5 regarding membership on standing committees. The faculty approved. Newman proposed amending Article III, Section 1 concerning annual reports by standing committee chairs. The faculty approved.

VI. Reports

A. Dean of Student Affairs report—Davison reminded faculty of the bylaw change last year requiring the Dean of Student Affairs to report to the faculty each semester. Hater reported that Student Affairs had gone through a large number of changes this year. There are quite a few interims including her. She named the new individuals who have filled the vacancies that occurred at the end of the year. She wanted to thank staff for their ability to adapt to changes that have occurred. She had been working to bring her the core commitments of the division’s efforts with learning outcomes passed by AAC. She thanked Joyner for working so closely with her. She is trying to revise or create new policies to provide consistencies for students and also to enforce consistently policies that are already in place. Residential life and campus security have been on the same page. Multicultural Affairs have been building networks with students who might feel marginalized on the campus. They are also trying to recruit multicultural and underrepresented students. She wanted to encourage faculty to attend multicultural events on campus. They have also developed a number of diversity workshops for faculty and students. The division is also working on a Martin Luther King Day commemoration and a GLBT summer seminar. Career Services have moved to new facilities at “West Campus.” They are organizing a career expo and new online jobs system. Health Services have already handled a large number of cases. Also peer health educators are now working through that office. The Psychological Center also has seen an increased number of appointments. They are also participating in a large number of classroom programs. Student involvement and leadership has also been very active. Greek Affairs has instituted a new judicial hearing board for fraternities and sororities. They will consider violation of college policies regarding organizations rather than just individuals. A social event planning committee will attempt to coordinate student activities, bringing together a variety of resources to allow students to plan events better including risk management. Rollins
After Dark late-night entertainment will provide students alternatives to other less desirable activities. R-TV has been re-launched and has a new group of very excited students involved. SGA is also working very hard this year on a student accountability honor code. Also they are concerned about activities that work against community, such as certain web sites. Residential life continues to work with Living/Learning communities. Gunter has developed a number of very successful programs, especially coordinating study groups with TJs. Vandalism is down significantly. New residence hall guidelines require that all student dormitories are now alcohol free, including upper division students who enter these halls. No alcohol in rooms in which anyone is under 21 years of age. Community standards and responsibilities has experienced an increase in the number of hearings. Hater thinks that the increase has resulted because the staff has been more consistent about enforcing policies. There has been a decrease in the number of vandalism reports. The restriction on party buses on campus continues to be enforced. Most suspensions and dismissals of students have generally resulted from violations of the drug code. J. Davison asked about ATO getting their house back and rumors about their continued bad conduct. Hater said that ATO made an effort to stop violations although she admitted that how they are currently progressing is questionable. The new hearings on organizations can enforce accountability of what has happened in their house. She is considering the question of how groups should deserve special housing arrangements. Newman asked about vandalism cases that might be considered very serious. He also wondered about buses to clubs. Hater stated that all of the vandalism cases have not been serious so that nothing stands out. The college is no longer allowing buses on campus to take students downtown, although they will be allowed for registered events like a sorority formal.

B. Academic Affairs—128 credit hours for graduation—Brandon asked for responses to change graduation hours to 128. She thought it would be a controversial issue and so wanted to make certain that faculty attend meetings to discuss the issue. She will also be sending out information asking for a response from those who cannot attend the meeting.

C. Finance and Services—Faculty and student representation on the Board of Trustees—Gunter reported that F&S was working on a proposal for faculty and student representation on the Board of Trustees. He hopes to bring the proposal to the faculty soon. The committee is studying aspirant and peer institutions. Harper asked whether the representatives served on the board or on committees. Gunter answered that most colleges have representation on committees but not the entire board. Carnahan wondered what the odds were of gaining representation. Gunter observed that no institution has full voting rights on the Board of Trustees but virtually all of them have representation on trustee committees.
VII. Adjournment—the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Levis
Secretary

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO Article III, Section 1 OF THE BYLAWS OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

To be inserted immediately before the last full sentence in the present Section 1 of Article III.

The Standing Committee chairs shall submit an annual report to the President of the Faculty on or before May 30 of each academic year. The President of the Faculty shall, on or before June 15 of each academic year, forward to the Faculty, the Provost, and the Dean of the Faculty a copy of all amendments to these bylaws which have been approved by the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences in accordance with these bylaws.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, SECTION 5 of the Bylaws of the College of Arts and Sciences

The following sentence is to be added to Article V, Section 5:

Notwithstanding anything contained in these bylaws to the contrary, faculty members who serve on any Standing Committee of the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, must be tenured or on official tenure track in the College.