

4-12-2007

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, April 12, 2007

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee

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4/12/7 Executive Committee Minutes

Members in Attendance: Tom Cook, Wendy Brandon, Cat McConnell, Larry Eng-Wilmot, Hoyt Edge, Lewis Duncan, Sharon Carnahan, Pedro Bernal, Lisa Tillmann

3/22/7 EC Minutes: approved

I. 2007-08 governance committees: asked by incoming A&S president D. Davison to convene

Student Life: will need tenured faculty member to chair; P. Bernal: in four years of service, I have been the only tenured faculty member.

II. VP/President positions: T. Cook: B. Levis has volunteered to serve as 2007-08 VP. R. Casey: we could explore by-laws change allowing untenured faculty to serve. Could be effective leadership development experience. T. Cook: could split VP and secretary roles, allowing secretary to be untenured. W. Brandon: current system protects our already overburdened junior faculty from additional responsibilities and from potential political conflicts. L. Duncan: perhaps president should come from EC--either VP or a committee chair.

III. Faculty Appeals Committee: need 2 members and 2 alternates from A&S and 1 from Crummer. R. Casey: members should be full professors. Candidates suggested: Bob Smither, Cecilia McInnis-Bowers, Carol Lauer, Patricia Lancaster, Lezlie Laws, Maria Ruiz, Bob Sherry, Eric Schutz, Charlie Rock, John Houston, Doug Child, Susan Lackman, Don Griffin

IV. Concerns about/suggestions for process generating FEC slate: L. Tillmann: FEC slate should be discussed at EC before being put forward to faculty; EC should develop multi-year plan for recruiting members. L. Duncan: FEC is arguably most important faculty committee. R. Casey: role of dean is complicated: dean is charged with overseeing process, yet according to current by-laws, FEC has domain over dean. W. Brandon: FEC should undergo training modules in evaluation procedures and in diversity. T. Cook: Common Vision has asked to meet with FEC. L. Duncan: For the purpose of establishing two sets of standards? L. Tillmann: for the purpose of helping the FEC understand that measures such as student evaluations occur in a social context. It is extensively documented that non-White, female, and non-heterosexual faculty receive lower evaluations than White, male, heterosexual faculty receive. S. Carnahan: with new CIE, those examining the data need to understand context/meaning of data. On consultant basis, Paul Harris is willing to create training module on new evaluation form. R. Casey: by-laws question is: who is responsible for establishing training for FEC? W. Brandon: department chairs as well. L. Eng-Wilmot: EC is appropriate body.

V. Annual reviews of untenured faculty: R. Casey: we need to clarify nature of reviews other than mid-course and for tenure. H. Edge: we have terms "formal evaluations," "informal evaluations," and "annual evaluations." L. Duncan: we need

comprehensive review of evaluation schedule. Some schools have gone to 2-year (teaching-focused)/4-year (scholarship-focused)/6-year (comprehensive review) plan. S. Carnahan: it's in a candidate's best interest to be reviewed each year. R. Casey: could indicate in letters sent out from dean's office that each annual review is formal. Could amend the language to say that evaluations are: 1) annual formal, 2) mid-course, or for tenure/promotion.

EC charged PSC with comprehensive review of faculty evaluation process.

VI. Proposed change to policy on academic probation and dismissal: to institute 1) Rollins' ability to dismiss students after one semester, 2) student's ability to appeal first-year GPA requirement in cases where circumstances for academic underperformance were not under student's control

EC determined that these were minor catalogue changes that need not go before full faculty.

VII. upcoming issues from AAC

A. Guidelines on off-campus courses

B. Summer work groups on curricular reform: AAC working through disagreement over role of staff & students