
College of Arts and Sciences: College Council
Meeting Minutes

College of Arts and Sciences (COAS)

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College of Arts & Sciences Council Meeting : 2009 : 12 : 08

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**College of Arts & Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting**

December 8, 2009

DAVIS 100 Conference Room - Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Present: Thomas Smith, Chair
Susan Allen
Kathy Arthur
Martine Fernandes
Thomas Hallock
Jill McCracken

Absent: Julie Armstrong
Ella Schmidt

Follow up on international affairs issues

- The Faculty Council decided to respond to Dr. Noonan's answer to the Council's October 2009 request to provide financial support and revive the international affairs office at USFSP. Faculty members continued to express concern about this lack of support that has an immediate effect on the World Languages program's goal. Dr. Noonan stated that due to the budget constraints she is unable to fund a full-time staff member.
- The response will include more specific priorities and strategies that could be incorporated while making use of existing resources such as the agreement that exists with the Tampa Office of International Affairs. Suggestions for this response: request training for qualified staff on legal issues, procedures, support with students while traveling, etc.
- The subcommittee that drafted the first request will work on the second request to be submitted to Dr. Noonan.

Allocation of research funds to departments

- Much discussion on how to establish department budgets. Discussion focused on the possible allocation of remaining travel funds for 2009-2010 (approximately \$9,600) with pros and cons about dividing the funds among departments. The Council would like to open a discussion with Department Chairs about establishing department budgets. The Council will meet with the Department Chairs in January 2010 to discuss this issue.
- The Council decided not to divide the \$9,600 among departments at this time. The travel award application process will not be changed at this time. Faculty will be notified to submit a spring 2010 travel application by January 18, 2010. The application will also include a request for research funding that is non-travel related.

Follow up on research discussion with Dr. Noonan

- Dr. Noonan will revive the internal award program in the Office of Academic Affairs.
- The Council agreed to continue to strive for support and communication about research concerns from faculty. Thomas Smith will begin another friendly discussion with Dr. Noonan, first thanking her for her time at the previous campus research discussion and then to follow up on suggestions that may not work at USFSP.
- Examples of concerns:
 - Lack of on-going conversations between VCAA and junior faculty so that faculty member's needs and area of interest can be shared
 - Lack of senior faculty to work as grant-writing mentors for junior faculty
 - Need for financial support to attend research mentoring programs at other universities
 - Lack of experience of Assistant Professors to work on large collaborate grant proposals
 - Lack of faculty books displayed at Barnes & Nobles

Report on the meeting with President Genshaft

- President Genshaft said the purpose of her meeting with USFSP constituents was to get feedback on extending Chancellor Sullivan's contract beyond the original end date of January 2011. Her interest in keeping Dr. Sullivan in place is to secure strong SACS Accreditation leadership through the re-affirmation process scheduled in 2012.
- Thomas Smith and Kathy Arthur expressed concern over some of the faculty's response at the meeting that seemed to be over in favor of extending Dr. Sullivan's contract. While she has proven to be an effective SACS leader, the faculty is also concerned about her lack of initiative on other campus issues and feel that there is no vision from the Chancellor about the future of USFS beyond securing accreditation.
- Concerns were expressed that President Genshaft has already made her decision about extending Dr. Sullivan's appointment for a total of 4.5 years. Her visit to USFSP was made in vain.
- The Faculty Council has agreed to request via the College Faculty Senate representatives that the USFSP Faculty Senate make a formal request to start a search for a permanent Chancellor for USFSP.

Update on College Tenure and Promotion & Academic Programs committee activity

- Tenure and Promotion:
 - The College T/P Committee will review the remaining six cases on Thursday, December 10, 2009. This will conclude their meeting schedule. The Committee chair reports will be due in the Dean's office, Friday, December 11, 2009.
 - There will be a College wide Tenured-Faculty vote. This vote must be held because this is a policy that is stated within the Collective Bargaining Agreement, 2008-2009. The deadline to submit the ballots is Friday, January 8, 2010.

- Pat White Butcher will attempt to create “personalized” ballots for each tenured faculty member so that each voting member is clear about who they can and who they cannot vote for at this level.
- Academic Programs Committee
 - The Academic Programs Committee is waiting to receive the pre-health program proposal. At this time there are individual course proposals being submitted however the Committee cannot make an informed decision before know the overall program requirements.
 - Thomas Smith will follow up with Dean Biafora and Associate Dean Pezzo to find out the status of the program proposal.

Plans for spring semester

- Thomas Smith will follow up with Anita Sahgal-Patel from the Counseling Center to schedule a classroom safety information and training session. Faculty expressed that the addition of telephones in the classrooms provides an increased feeling of security.
- Spring Faculty Meeting: Thomas Smith plans to provide a draft of by-law amendments to address new policies and procedure for tenure and promotion, annual review, staffing standing committees, among other things. Thomas will also work with the Dean to revise the College website to bring visibility to the College Mission Statement.

SCH model of assigned duties

- The Council agreed to discuss the SCH model for department management with the Department Chairs during their joint meeting in January. Discussion of setting a base SCH for departments with incentives for increasing SCH.

Onward & Upward: Something to strive for

- Thomas Smith presented the idea to strive to become a Phi Beta Kappa chapter campus. He will look into this process and report back to the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.