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## College of Arts & Sciences Council Meeting : 2011 : 11 : 18

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# CAS Faculty Council

## Meeting Minutes for 18 November 2011

Faculty Council Members *present*: Chris Meindl (Chair), Sheramy Bundrick, Armando Hoare, Paul Wang, Julie Armstrong, Barnali Dixon, and Seth McKee.

Faculty Council Members *absent*: Dawn Cecil and Neil Matthiessen.

Guests: Susan Allen (Faculty Senate)

Dr. Meindl was late, so the meeting began at 1:50 pm.

The Faculty Council approved the draft 21 October 2011 meeting minutes without changes.

The FC reconsidered its proposal to change the by-laws to ensure that all Departments are represented on the Council. Given that re-arranging the council to represent each department would likely entail more problems than it is worth, the council now merely wants to encourage all departments to be represented each year.

The FC approves asking the CAS faculty to vote on the proposed change to the FC by-laws (see below):

Section 1.3.2.1: “The Academic Programs Committee shall consist of five members, appointed from among such Councilors and other candidates as the Nominating Committee shall recommend. **Substitute a comma for the last period in this section and add “with the requirement that at least one APC member should also be a member of the CAS Faculty Council.”**”

Section 1.3.2.3.: “The Committee shall be chaired by a member of its own choosing, **Substitute a period for the comma and delete the following text** ~~subject to the requirement that the member is also a Councilor.~~”

The FC approved that the following statement be sent to the CAS Dean:

“The Dean should allocate funding to the Departments based upon the total number of full-time faculty members, and Departments should be free to distribute this funding among their faculty as they see fit.”

Dr. Meindl reported that The CAS Tenure and Promotion Task Force is up and running. The FC had originally wanted more full professors than associate professors on this Task Force, but Dr. Meindl reported that there simply were not enough full professors and that he honored a request from one of the full professors who asked that one more tenure-line professor with grant experience be asked to join the committee. Accordingly, the Task Force consists of the following full professors: Jamie McHale, Gary Mormino and Tony

Silvia; and the following associate professors: Julie Armstrong, John Arthur, and Deby Cassill. Dr. Armstrong reported that Visual and Verbal Arts is the only CAS Department to have tenure and promotion guidelines. She added that they used those from the English department at USF Tampa and modified them as appropriate. Dr. Dixon suggested that all CAS Departments should adopt their own tenure and promotion guidelines and criteria.

Dr. Meindl announced that FC cannot find enough faculty to staff a General Education Task Force to review the Gen Ed portion of the USFSP curriculum. Nevertheless, the Faculty Senate Gen Ed Committee does need additional representatives from several academic disciplines before it begins the work of providing recommendations for revising (and presumably streamlining) USFSP's Gen Ed curriculum. He added that Department Chairs will work with the Dean to assign faculty from un-represented Departments to the FS Gen Ed Committee.

Dr. Meindl asked if the FC might invite administrators such as Norrine Noonan to the Spring 2012 CAS faculty meeting, because they might have something to say regarding issues such as summer school. The FC agreed to invite Dr. Noonan.

Dr. Bundrick asked that the FC add as an agenda item for its next meeting a discussion of the appropriate role of the Academic Programs Committee regarding the conversion of established classes into on-line classes. Right now, faculty members may take existing classes and create on-line formats without any need for anybody's approval. Is there sufficient quality control?

Faculty Senator Dr. Susan Allen expressed appreciation for being invited to the CAS Faculty Council meeting and suggested that she be built into the agenda of all future FC meetings so she can report on the Faculty Senate's activity.

Dr. Allen asked: should the Faculty Senate have a voice in discussions regarding either the possible extension Margaret Sullivan's contract OR hiring new campus leader after Dr. Sullivan's contract expires? The FC endorsed the concept of the FS having a voice in the selection of the USFSP campus leader.

Dr. Allen reports that the FS thought the Academic Affairs office would remind ALL faculty eligible for promotion (including associate professors who may want to apply for promotion to full professor) of the appropriate timeline.

Dr. Allen reported that the former FS Technology Committee has become a Task Force, which has produced a report commenting on the approval process and support for on-line courses. Dr. Dixon claims that states now are concerned about on-line classes being offered across state lines.

Dr. Allen asked the FC what it thought of the System's proposal to revise the policy associated with dismissing faculty members. Dr. Bundrick claims that the proposed new policy appears to be narrowed to cope with the dismissal of faculty accused of

“misconduct” and that administrators may feel free to dismiss faculty by closing departments. Dr. Allen thought the university now has a separate policy for terminating faculty by closing academic departments.

Councilors agreed on the following meeting dates for next term:

27 January (full CAS faculty meeting; if the FC needs to meet before then, it will).

17 February

23 March

20 April

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm. Respectfully submitted by Christopher F. Meindl