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## College of Arts & Sciences Council Meeting : 2012 : 02 : 17

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# CAS Faculty Council

## Meeting Minutes for 17 February 2012

Faculty Council Members *present*: Chris Meindl (Chair), Sheramy Bundrick, Armando Hoare, Paul Wang, Julie Armstrong, Neill Matthessen, and Dawn Cecil.

Faculty Council Members *absent*: Seth McKee (Barnali Dixon could attend only a few minutes).

Guests: Louie Simon and Richard Stefanik

Chris Meindl called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm

Sheremy Bundrick noticed that the College of Arts and Science did not have a single applicant for the Chancellor's Award for Teaching, and she commented that current guidelines prevent previous winners of the Chancellor's Teaching, Research, and Service awards from ever winning them again. She suggested that we ask the Faculty Senate to revise their guidelines to allow previous winners of the Clinical Teaching award (for full-time instructors) to compete again not less than 3 years after winning the award; and to allow previous tenure line faculty award winners to apply for these awards not less than 5 years after they win. Furthermore, the Faculty Council agreed that the Dean should encourage Department Chairs to nominate deserving faculty from their Departments for the Chancellor's awards. All present approved of these suggestions and Chris Meindl agreed to contact both the Faculty Senate President and CAS Dean on behalf of the Faculty Council.

Neil Matthiessen, Paul Wang and Chris Meindl agreed to meet at 1:00 pm on 27 February 2012 to review Clinical teaching award applications for the purpose of recommending the Dean advance one file to the campus competition.

The Faculty Council was asked by the Dean's office if it might be interested in pursuing a separate set of awards to students in the College of Arts and Science. On one hand, councilors are sympathetic to the idea of recognizing top students in the College. On the other hand, councilors wrestled with the mechanics of how to identify such students and questioned the value of such awards if they carried no monetary value. Councilors tabled the issue for discussion at another time.

Julie Armstrong claimed that the old Language, Literature and Writing (LLW) Department tried to engage in modest fund raising and distribution of a newsletter to alumni—but the Department was told that the Development Office would review this newsletter and then distribute to alumni with a B.A. in English. Unfortunately, the Development Office never followed through, so the Department's efforts to help raise funds and distribute a newsletter to alumni were wasted. This particular incident has already been resolved but Dr. Armstrong asked councilors if other Departments were having problems with the campus's Development Office. Dr. Meindl reported that Fla.

Studies has hosted a couple of fundraisers over the past few years without interference from the Development Office; however, Fla. Studies did attract some recent donations of \$1000, but Development never notified the Florida Studies Program so that we could offer our own thanks. Other councilors suggested that like virtually every other office on campus, the Development is likely overburdened and understaffed—but perhaps they should be encouraged by the administration to refrain from blocking constructive activities in the academic Departments. The Faculty Council recommends that the Dean ask all Department Chairs about possible problems with the Development Office, and then he should communicate with the Development Office to resolve these problems.

Dr. Meindl then reviewed the Faculty Council's charge to the Tenure and Promotion Task Force the Council called for and assembled in Fall 2011. The Task Force had completed its work and delivered a report; Meindl asked Julie Armstrong to summarize the Task Force's report because she sat on the Task Force (TF). Dr. Armstrong revealed that the TF could not develop even a minimum standard for tenure and promotion (T&P) for the college because each academic discipline views scholarly productivity differently. TF members agreed that candidates needed to produce a body of work of high quality in order to be tenured—but that the Departments should establish its own specific standards. Indeed, Dr. Armstrong pointed out that the USF system requires that all departments establish reasonably clear standards. Dr. Armstrong added that faculty in the USFSP Department of Visual and Verbal Arts have created standards for tenure and promotion; that they began the process by reviewing the USF Tampa Dept. of English T&P guidelines and adopted them with modest and appropriate modifications. She concluded that annual review guidelines should probably mirror those of T&P. The TF did not formally recommend when USFSP Departments should complete T&P standards—but Dr. Armstrong contended that it should be done before end of the school year because faculty are held to whatever standards were in place when they were hired, and the longer we fail to develop standards, the more the university may have problems during the T&P process.

Armando Hoare noted that the St. Pete campus ESPG Dept. prevented assistant professors from participating in drafting standards and Dr. Armstrong countered that that was not right. Sheremy Bundrick asked if Faculty Council should appoint another TF in Fall 2012 to review the work of all the Departments in establishing standards later this year. The Faculty Council will instruct Department Chairs to have their Departments craft standards for T&P not later than 30 April. Dr. Armstrong agreed to receive all sets of standards and to deliver them to the Fall 2012 TF—who will review the standards. The Faculty Council thanked Dr. Armstrong for her service on the TF.

Dr. Bundrick asked what workload discussion in then agenda means. Dr. Hoare suggested that some faculty members appeared to be compensated extra for managing graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs) who teach lab sections related to their lecture courses; meanwhile, other faculty members with TAs are not provided extra compensation. Dr. Armstrong claimed that some Departments are forced to have visiting faculty teach four classes each term while visiting faculty in other Departments teach

only three courses. Given the late hour, the Faculty Council decided to resume discussion about workload at its next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Chris Meindl