

Faculty Senate Personnel Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2009
3:00 P.M., PH 406I

Attendance: Kevin Haran, Chair; Jeffrey Allen, Arlen Chase, Charles Kelliher, Angie Bushy, Debopam Chakrabarti, Seth Elsheimer, Lee Ross, Cory Watkins, Lin Huff-Corzine. Guests: Diane Chase, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs; David Harrison, Vice Provost for Regional Campuses; Joyce Dorner, Associate Vice Provost for Regional Campuses

I. Regional Campus / Orlando Campus

The committee met to discuss the relationship between Regional campus and the Orlando campus regarding faculty assignments. Dr. Harrison explained that Regional faculty appointments are made at the College or Department level (in consultation with Regional Campus administration). Teaching load and schedule are then determined by department chair.

Travel: Dr. Harrison said that Regional faculty travel is determined by a college-level M.O.U., based on available faculty lines, which department chairs then allocate. However, at the dean's request, Regional administrators may work directly with individual faculty. Concern was raised over disparity of travel funds available for Regional vs. main campus faculty. Dr. A. Chase mentioned that the way travel rates vary are a concern shared across campus. It was also noted that a lack of communication existed between some Regional faculty and home department and that distance to the Orlando campus was a problem. Regional faculty do not have the consistent day-to-day proximity that main campus faculty enjoy.

Web Courses: It was mentioned that most web courses are now assigned to regional campuses and that some colleges are unhappy with this arrangement and attempting to correct it. Main campus graduate teaching assistant funding comes with large regional web courses; this has been driving the growth of web courses on regional campuses. There is a concern with this because most students in web courses do not come from regional campuses and regional campuses earned a hefty share of the differential tuition based on these web course offerings.

Teaching Loads/Course Size: Questions were raised over equivalence of faculty load, which is a standard 3/3 for all regional campus faculty (except instructors who teach a 4/4). Course sizes were also discussed. Discussion ensued over the size of regional campus face-to-face classes versus on-line classes. Dr. Harrison noted that course sizes are driven by student demand.

Community College Issues: Dr. Harrison also noted that online course growth was occurring in conjunction with some of our community college partners, such as Valencia

C.C. West and Seminole C.C./Lake Mary. Issue of competition (for programs/courses) between UCF and other schools was raised. Dr. Harrison explained that this does exist for Daytona State College in terms of Education.

Annual Assignment / Evaluation: There was discussion of annual assignments and expectations for Regional faculty (and the ability for these faculty members to be promoted). Discussion focused on whether such faculty were instructors or tenure-track faculty, as this was a key to success on some regional campuses. The committee discussed the possibility of creating an promotion stream for non-tenure track faculty and proposed that the administration be charged to develop a new titles for non-tenure track teaching faculty (which would be apropos for both Regional and Main campuses). Dr. D. Chase offered to provide the committee with a list of faculty title codes used by the Board of Governors.

The committee agreed to meet in early November with the intent of arriving at a resolution that will be proposed at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. This resolution would identify alternate modifiers that could be used for non-tenure track faculty promotion.

II. Research M.O.U.

Dr. Chakrabarti proposed that an internal M.O.U. be created for faculty engaged in areas of research. The committee did not think this was a good idea, as it implies a lack of trust among colleagues. It was suggested that an optional form be developed. Dr. Chakrabarti will prepare an example and bring it to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Kevin Haran.