

Faculty Governance Committee
Meeting Minutes
Nov. 24, 2015

Present: David Alvarez, Bridget Gourley, Glen Kuecker, Marnie McInnes, Pam Propsom, Scott Thede, Sheryl Tremblay

Approval of previous minutes.

Faculty meeting agenda. Pam presented a draft proposal for the December Faculty Meeting . Bridget will modify to include old Handbook language.

Admissions Committee. Update that John Berry's question had to do with authority of faculty to set admissions criteria. His idea is to have an open forum and see what faculty want, and then work with administration to see their response; try to hammer out faculty role in the admissions process. Bridget said Cindy Babington has indicated lots of inquiries regarding her admissions presentation so she is considering doing another. Maybe this can be a topic for a lengthier January discussion: how can faculty have input into admissions?

Lunch with Anne on Thurs., Dec. 10. Pam emailed Anne regarding having the latest version of the Academic Handbook online and Anne said she will prioritize this in Academic Affairs. Governance Committee members discussed potential topics for our Dec. 10 lunch meeting with Anne Harris. Although a number of interesting topics were raised, we didn't feel that the Governance Committee had positions on all of them yet and we didn't just want to ask the VPAA about her positions or suggestions.

We decided on the following: What is the VPAA preparing for the Winter Board of Trustees meeting? We would then like to discuss the process of the Governance Committee and the VPAA working together on issues of shared concern. We will share our list of potential topics with the VPAA and then plan how we can work together to address these issues by the end of the year.

OURSCA. We will meet with Amity Reading and possibly other members of the Ad Hoc OURSCA group at our Dec. 1 meeting. We discussed issues we would like clarified:

--Lori submitted a "write in" suggestion that this be named a "working group" rather than "task force" or "advisory board."

--We want to indicate that we appreciate their enthusiasm and we're supportive of their efforts to raise the visibility of this high impact practice.

--We also had some questions for the group:

--Has this group already decided how integrating research will be implemented? Should every student have an independent research experience or should research be integrated into our regular classroom and lab experiences?

--Does this add another layer of administration and require more release time?
What do we already have in place that we could better utilize and coordinate? For example, how could this fit in with Hubbard Center, FDC, and CTL?

--How will the Ad Hoc group solicit expressions of interest from other faculty, especially those who might have differing perspectives or other models?

--If this represents a culture change and has institutional commitment, does this need to get included in tenure and promotion review criteria? This proposal is consistent with the advertisement for a new president suggesting that the university is promoting a "teacher-scholar model."