

## Minutes of Faculty Priorities and Governance Committee

14 October 2016

Members present: H. Brooks, T. Good, F. Seaman, P. Propsom, B. Hanson, G. Kuecker. R. Hershberger was absent.

T. Good mentioned items under discussion by the Student Academic Life committee:

-- a policy about demonstrations on campus

-- background/history of the Bias Incident Response Team (BIRT)

The committee discussed whether any of these items were within the committee's purview. The general consensus was "yes". T. Good also mentioned that there appear to be items in the Student Handbook that this committee should probably review. G. Kuecker agreed but felt that the items listed above were more important at this time.

B. Hanson reported that FDC was not currently working on anything of interest to this committee.

F. Seaman reported that Curricular Policy and Planning has been discussing and fine-tuning the revised RAS process. The new policy is effective immediately. No handbook changes are anticipated. As part of this new process, members of CPP (is that the acronym?) will visit with departments to discuss their staffing requests much as the Review Committee visits in regard to choosing department chairs. The new process appears to be an improvement with regard to long-term planning.

Proposed handbook changes were brought by H. Brooks. The main changes relate to DSOM (Dean, School of Music) language. However, additional language has been inserted so that the description of the DSOM position is consistent with the corresponding language related to the VPAA position. These changes are the result of conversations that have been going on since last spring, and are intended to ensure that the Handbook reflect current practice and address issues in the SOM.

Homework: Committee members should read this document with fresh eyes for 1. general clarity and 2. parallel structures between the CLA and SOM. For example, the intent is that the DSOM and VPAA are comparable in role, the Associate Dean in the SOM is like a department chair, and so forth. In the CLA there are also assistant or co-chairs in some departments (communication, biology, English). Not sure how this would translate in the SOM situation. We also need to think about it from the RAS point of view, i.e. how the RAS process will operate in the SOM. Once we have

reviewed it, the document will go to the SOM faculty members and then the full faculty.

In regards to these matters, this committee will be meeting with the DSOM on governance matters in the near future. Besides the issues in the Handbook (just above), there are also questions of who has voting rights in the SOM. Part time faculty members with a certain number of semesters of service have voting rights in faculty meetings, but may not have them in the SOM internal processes. This should be checked and corrected (made consistent) in the relevant documents.

Homework 2: Please review the draft document that G. Kuecker provided. This will be discussed as soon as the Handbook document can be finalized.

Minutes submitted by B. Hanson