MINUTES


Councilors Absent: D. Bonthius, K. Sanders.

Guests: J. Carlson (Office of the President), D. Heldt (Gazette), B. Ingram (Office of the Provost), T. Rice (Office of the Provost), L. Zaper (Faculty Senate).

I. Call to Order – President Dove called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm, http://www.uiowa.edu/~facsen/archive/documents/Agenda.FacultyCouncil.04.12.11.pdf.

II. Approvals
   A. Meeting Agenda – Professor Clark moved and Professor Billett seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
   B. Faculty Council Minutes (March 8, 2011) – Professor Clark moved and Professor Black seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
   C. Draft Faculty Senate Agenda (April 26, 2011) – Professor Black moved and Professor Morris seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
   D. Faculty Senate and Council Election Results (Ed Dove) – President Dove presented the results of the Senate and Council elections.
   E. 2011-12 Committee Recommendations (Richard Fumerton, Chair, Committee on Committees) – Professor Kurtz moved and Past President Drake seconded that the committee recommendations be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

III. New Business
   • Faculty Activity Categories (Ed Dove)
     President Dove directed the group to the handout. He explained that Associate Provost Tom Rice, along with his counterparts at UNI and ISU, had created this draft form to capture better the many activities in which faculty are engaged to carry out their jobs. The form currently in use does not allow for the same level of detail. President Dove indicated that Associate Provost Rice was seeking the Council’s feedback on this new draft form. Associate Provost Rice added that he and his colleagues had undertaken this task as the result of a suggestion by the Board of Regents. He further explained that this form would replace the
current form mentioned by President Dove. One quarter of the faculty are surveyed every other year via that form for a one-week period regarding how and where they spend their time.

Professor Murph and Professor Black commented that all faculty members in the Carver College of Medicine (CCOM) are surveyed for two weeks twice a year regarding how and where they spend their time. Associate Provost Rice indicated that he would speak with collegiate administration to learn more about the CCOM survey. Professor Murph added that there is much overlap between the collegiate form and this proposed university form, although the latter appears to allow for more details regarding service and outreach.

Associate Provost Rice went on to explain that questions had arisen among legislators during the recent debate over Career Development Awards regarding how faculty spend their time. Legislators had created a form very similar to this draft form to be filled out by faculty who were to receive CDA’s. The information gathered from those forms proved very useful in defending faculty activity to the legislature. The information collected from faculty in the future will create a compelling picture of faculty productivity. In response to several questions, Associate Provost Rice explained that once this form is adopted, one quarter of the faculty will still be surveyed every other year. A subset of that quarter will receive the form every other week through the end of the semester. Faculty members should fill out their activities for that particular week, rather than attempt to profile a “typical” week. Associate Provost Rice acknowledged that the activities described would vary widely, including teaching and grading, advising, conference attendance, and possibly even sick leave.

Vice President Fumerton suggested that a preamble be added to any report created from this information stressing how intertwined teaching and research are, and the difficulty of separately describing the two. He also asked whether paid outside advising work could be included under “private partnership projects.” Associate Provost Rice responded that it could.

Professor Cox observed that some members of the public are not familiar with the work habits of faculty. He compared faculty members engaged in research to farmers in the sense that both are judged on the results of their efforts, not on whether they work a set number of hours per day, as factory workers do. Associate Provost Rice indicated that along with the data, a series of case studies will be included in the final report, which would then be available to the Board of Regents, legislators and the general public. Professor Murph praised this format for the report, commenting that it would give an accurate picture of faculty activity. Professor Penny commented that he was glad to see the weekends listed on the form, as many faculty members work through the weekend as well, on grading and other activities. There was discussion of indicating summer activities, as faculty members often do the bulk of their research during the summer months since teaching consumes so much time during the academic year. There is no plan at this time to survey faculty during the summer, although Associate Provost Rice indicated that perhaps that could be done in the future. It was pointed out that nine-month faculty are not paid for the summer, yet they do much work then.
Senior Lectureship Proposal (Ed Dove)

President Dove explained that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is proposing the creation of a new rank, the Senior Lecturer. Individuals who have successfully served as full-time Lecturers would be eligible for review for promotion to Senior Lecturer in their sixth year of service. Senior Lecturers would be eligible for reappointment in increments of five years. The CLAS Faculty Assembly approved this proposal on February 23. If approved by the Faculty Senate, the Senior Lecturer rank could eventually be implemented in all colleges. President Dove added that the Council’s task today was to determine if the proposal was ready to pass on to the Senate or if additional information was required.

Professor Morris asked whether there was a quota set on the number of Lecturers in CLAS. Professor Cox responded that there was an informal quota of 10% of the tenured/tenure-track faculty. He further commented that criteria were sketchy for this new non-tenure faculty track. Although he supported the proposal, he felt that a formal quota should be established for the long-term health of the college, along with more detailed criteria for promotion. Professor Kurtz expressed the opinion that there was very little material presented to the Council about this new track and that the proposal was not ready to pass on to the Senate. Professor Murph agreed and commented that grievance procedures should be incorporated into the proposal. Professor Black expressed support for the proposal but also concurred that there was insufficient information for the Senate to consider it. Professor Billett noted that reappointment for five years relieved the service burden of having to reappoint for shorter increments. Secretary Garfinkel cautioned that, although he was not opposed to longer appointments, such appointments require a longer-term financial commitment from the college, which may hesitate to take on such commitments in challenging budgetary times.

Professor Cox observed that Lecturers have no university-wide representation. President Dove acknowledged this and mentioned that he and the other Faculty Senate Officers had been discussing this issue with the administration for months. He added that the number of Lecturers is rising at the university. Professor Morris requested that this data be included with the proposal in the future. Associate Provost Ingram commented that appointment for five years to the rank of Senior Lecturer may not guarantee that an individual would have courses to teach for that entire time period. She urged that this be clarified in the proposal. Vice President Fumerton pointed out that the distinction here is between three-year contracts and five-year contracts. Professor Penny wondered if there were raises implied with promotion to Senior Lecturer.

President Dove stated that the proposal would not be forwarded to the Faculty Senate. Instead, he would contact the CLAS administration and ask for additional information. Professor Kurtz questioned whether Faculty Senate approval were needed for a faculty track confined to one college. Past President Drake responded that the Faculty Senate should review the establishment of any new track. Associate Provost Rice added that he viewed a future Senior Lecturer track as applicable to all colleges.

IV. From the Floor – There were no items from the floor.
V. Announcements

- The next Faculty Senate meeting will be Tuesday, April 26, 3:30-5:15 pm in the Senate Chamber of the Old Capitol. Election of officers will take place.

VI. Executive Session – Past President Drake moved and Professor Clark seconded that the Faculty Council move to Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

President Dove announced the winners of the Regents Award for Faculty Excellence and the Michael J. Brody Award for Excellence in Service to the University and the State of Iowa. The Council also briefly discussed several personnel issues.

Past President Drake moved and Professor Clark seconded that the Faculty Council move to open session. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Adjournment – Professor Kurtz moved and Professor Cox seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. President Dove adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.