

**Faculty Affairs Committee**  
**Minutes of 17 October Meeting, 10 a.m., 1270 FAB**

Present: W. Crossland, D. DeGracia (Policy Committee liaison), L. Keashly, P. Kernsmith, B. Markman, K. Padmanabhan, R. Parnell, A. Papadic, L. Romano (Administration liaison) M. Sengstock.

Absent with notice: M. Hamre, G. Kuhn, E. Puscheck.

Absent: G. DeBlase.

**Agenda**

1. *Greetings*

Introduction of Committee members

2. *FAC activities in 2006-2007*

a. *Faculty Tab revision (including SET scores)*

Results of the FAC progress in revising the Faculty Tab in Pipeline were outlined.

A working model of the revised Faculty Tab from Genetha Smith in C&IT was viewed by the FAC. Suggestions were made to delete the link to SET scores (its inclusion was tabled when presented to the Academic Senate last Spring), determine if there are additional webmail servers on campus beside those for the university at large and the medical school, to create an additional heading of Campus Webmail Servers to include those listed and to fix the "Schools & Colleges" dropdown menu so that it does not obscure other links under the Tab headings.

b. *Honors College*

Committee actions of 2006-2007 were summarized.

c. *Smoke-free campus*

Committee actions of 2006-2007 were summarized.

3. *Suggested projects to be undertaken by the committee*

a. *Retirement forum*

Suggestion is to hold a forum on retirement. Recent retirees (3 or 4) who could give suggestions on how to prepare for retirement, what strategies have worked or not worked for them. In addition we could invite someone from Benefits to describe the steps necessary for retirement, someone from AAUP/AFT, someone to talk about health insurance and medical costs. The target date would be February 2009. The FAC discussed the difficulty of anticipating faculty interest in the forum. If there is a large turnout we might consider holding separate themed forums (life style, financial management, health care, etc.) in the future.

Dr. Romano informed the committee that a 2N Committee on Health Care for Retirees voted to extend the voluntary early retirement program for faculty through the last two years of the contract. The 2N committee also voted in favor of a proposal to give retirees during a limited period of FY2008 a lump-sum one time payment toward health insurance (approximately 5 years worth). The proposal is pending approval by the Provost/President.

b. *Faculty development*

The committee discussed working on some aspect of faculty development but generally agreed that campus-wide or college-wide forums dealing with faculty development are

already available on topics of promotion and tenure requirements, professional development, grant writing and others.

c. *Others*

Dr. Keashly brought up the Respect Initiative advanced by the Dean of Students to deal with conduct in the classroom and around campus. What is the vision of this initiative, what does it entail, who is involved, what is the motivation for it? The committee moved to ask Dean Strauss or his designee to make a presentation to us on the Respect Initiative.

Dr. Padmanabhan raised the issue of faculty security and questioned whether there are protocols available for faculty faced with security problems. Dr. Padmanabhan and the chair will gather information on this question for a future meeting.

It was decided to move ahead with plans for the retirement forum. More specific plans will be offered at the next meeting.

4. *Adjourn*

The meeting was adjourned approximately 10:55 a.m.