

Academic Senate//Faculty Affairs Committee, 2019-2020
Minutes meeting January 15, 2020

Present:

renée hoogland (Chair), Jocelyn Ang, Poonam Arya, Susan Davis, Wanda Gibson-Scipio, Ewa Golebiowska, Daniel Golodner, Xiaoyan Han, Marisa Henderson, Scott Tainsky, Linda Beale (Senate President), Annmarie Caño (Administration Liaison), Karin Tarpenning (UPTF Liaison), Shehr Asgar (Student Senate Liaison)

Absent:

Thomas Karr, Sarah Lenhoff, Justin Long, Ellen Tisdale, Patricia McCormick (AAUP-AFT Liaisons), Amanda Levitt (GEOC Liaison)

1. Called to Order 2:08 pm

Many members are missing from the meetings and renée acknowledges the difficulty in finding a meeting time that works for everyone. Ewa Golebiowka suggests consulting with members on meeting times, even if difficult in locking down a time. renée will take the suggestion into consideration.

2. The Minutes from December 12, 2019, were approved with amendments.

Policy committee has approved the draft Title IX and Consensual Relations policy, and renée will forward the draft with comments to FAC.

3. Discussion Report Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Transparency

Report as submitted.

The report from the Ad Hoc committee on Academic Transparency addresses issues raised by FAC in the past. The Ad Hoc committee was formed because of the purchase of academic analytics and academic performance databases. There are reports of incorrect faculty data and rising concerns on what the gathered information can be used for. The Ad Hoc committee recommends a more permanent committee to address privacy and need for transparency, for faculty groups to have access to the databases in order to be familiar with the database, and training for faculty members. On the basis of the submitted report, renée and many other members of the FAC are concerned about the usage of the databases at the University.

A motion was made, supported, and carried to support the recommendations. It will be passed on to the policy committee. In addition to the submitted recommendation by the Ad Hoc Committee, the FAC also recommends:

1. The Provost Office provides a report on the use and usefulness of data generated to date (by April 30th) and what purpose the data will serve.
2. The Provost Office provides a report prior to negotiation of new contract that reviews the use and usefulness of the system, including process such as data validation and

communication, with faculty before entering negotiation for renewal of contracts. (90 days before).

FAC voted on the two new recommendations with a motion made, supported and carried for approval.

4. Vote on Student Senate LGBTQ+ Resolution (discussed Dec. 11, 2019)

The FAC voted on supporting the LGBTQ+ resolution presented to the committee on December 11. A motion was made, supported, and carried with no further discussion.

5. Discussion Final Report 3N Committee on Online Teaching (June 18, 2019)

The FAC discussed the final report on the 3N Committee on Online Teaching produced in June based off the last academic year. Since Karin Tarpenning served on the 3N Committee, she was able to clarify some questions from the FAC.

renée is concerned that the report does not address if online teaching actually provides our students with the education they need. The group acknowledges there is a need for online classes, but many are concerned whether these courses are truly serving the right students and correctly. The group agrees that the report does not discuss fundamental issues, such as best practices, conflicting policies between Deans and Administration, possible exploitation of faculty.

The 3N report offers recommendations to the Provost concerning compensation, student service support, faculty training, and adjustments to current University policies concerning closures.

In order for FAC to make proper additional recommendations, the committee will need to gather more information about online program goals, gather data on online course performance so far, and conduct additional discussions with the Provost and Sara Kacin in OTL. With the RCM budget model pushing for people in seats, we owe it to our students to do the best we can for their success. The committee will revisit formulating additional recommendations in the future.

6. New Business

Susan Davis is concerned with clinical faculty participation on Promotion and Tenure and other review committees in her department. Daniel Golodner suggests taking her concerns to AAUP-AFT.

Adjourned 3:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by Marisa Henderson