

Minutes
Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
May 5, 2009; 10:00 am, 1270 FAB

Present: K. Browne, S. Calkins (Administration Liaison), W. Crossland (Chair), A. Goodman (AAUP/AFT Liaison), P. Jarosz, P. Kernsmith, R. Parnell, A. Popadic, E. Puscheck, M. Sengstock, J. Wang.

Absent with notice: L. Keashly, K. Padmanabhan (Non-Senate), L. Romano (Policy Committee Liaison).

Absent: C. McNath (Student Council Liaison), S. Putatunda

[Information added after the meeting.]

1. *Call to order.*

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

2. *Approval of minutes of March 24, 2009 and April 15, 2009.*

Minutes of both meetings were approved.

3. *Smoke-free campus ♦ smoking survey results and preliminary report.*

The Chair brought the Faculty Affairs Committee♦s (FAC♦s) attention to an inconsistency between the smoking survey draft report data, compiled by the Student Affairs Committee, Elections Committee and FAC, and a copy of the PowerPoint presentation to be made at the Senate meeting on May 6, 2009. Furthermore, it was not clear whether or not the presenter would make a recommendation to the Senate regarding the proposal for a smoke-free campus or if a Senate member might propose approval of the smoke-free campus proposal from the floor. The FAC was concerned that its viewpoint might not be communicated to the Senate under those circumstances. To make the FAC♦s viewpoint clear, Professor Browne MOVED, ♦The FAC urges retention of the status quo of the current smoking policy and the enforcement thereof. ♦ The motion was PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. The Committee decided that the Chair should seek answers to the FAC♦s concerns prior to the presentation. If answers could not be found, the Chair would request a delay in the presentation. If no delay were possible, the Chair would request that the FAC♦s name be withdrawn from the presentation.

[The Chair learned after the meeting that the basis for inconsistency between the smoking survey draft report and the PowerPoint presentation was an error in plotting data in the survey draft report. Furthermore, the members of the other committees participating in the smoking survey presentation agreed to a process proposed by Professor Woodyard (Chair, Elections Committee) on May 6, 2009 that only the facts were to be presented in the Senate presentation (no opinions stated on whether or not to go ahead with the smoke-free campus

proposal), input would be gathered on the survey results from the committees and Senate membership before drafting any reports or making any recommendation to the Senate. A final report would be presented to the full Senate in the fall.]

4. *Mentoring*

Discussion of mentoring is incorporated in FAC Final Report (Item 7, below).

5. *Report on Forum on Retirement*

There were no changes made in the report.

6. *FAC Final Report*

The Committee proposed changes in the text of the section of the FAC Final Report dealing with mentoring. There was some discussion in the Committee as to whether the recommendations should be made and how the recommendations on mentoring might be implemented through the WSU administration. Professor Puscheck said that the suggestions were vital to bring attention to the importance of and need for mentoring and were broad enough to allow for flexible implementation in different academic programs at the college/departmental/unit level. Professor Sengstock added a statement that junior faculty should be encouraged to seek several mentors for various aspects of their careers.

The Chair explained that the last portion of the Final Report goes into some detail on the talk that Captain Hausner of the WSU Police gave (15 April 2009) on campus safety because of all the new information presented. The Committee recommended that the Senate request that the WSU Police present this information to the full Senate in the fall.

7. *Suggestions for 2009-2010 FAC topics*

- ◆ Faculty club
- ◆ Continued consideration of mentoring of junior faculty
- ◆ Behavioral problems in classroom
- ◆ Evaluate usage of Faculty Tab in Pipeline

8. *Approval of May 5, 2009 FAC minutes by e-mail?*

The Chair was granted permission by the FAC to obtain their approval of this meeting's minutes via e-mail.

9. *Other business*

The Faculty Affairs Committee heartily congratulated Professor Kernsmith for being promoted with tenure and Professor Puscheck for being promoted.

The Chair thanked all committee members for their hard work on the retirement forum, thoughtful

discussions of topics and collegial help in a busy year for the Faculty Affairs Committee.

10. *Adjourn.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.

As approved by the Faculty Affairs Committee