Minutes for FDAR Council, November 14, 2014, 107 Lab of Mechanics


Absent:

Meeting called to order at 10:05am

Minutes from 8/24/14 were approved.

Committee Reports: none

Old Business
Dr. Bratsch Prince reviewed the nomination process for Distinguished Professors. Currently the review goes from the department to the college to the committee to the provost. The Executive board would like only the Distinguished Professor committee to review the nominees to expedite the process.

New Business

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee
Kimberly Zarecor announced that she would continue as chair of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee for this year. She had a couple of suggestions concerning the charge to the committee:

1) to become the faculty liaison committee for the new Chief Diversity Officer, who will be hired this year in the President’s Office. Whether or not this will be possible is not clear yet. Our committee was left out of the diversity report that was submitted to the President’s Office last spring, which is strange since our committee was a primary contact for faculty for the researcher doing the report, but I am going to ask Miles Lackey about this and see how we can be involved with the new CDO.

2) I would like to do some research on the service expectations for faculty members and how this work fits with the university’s stated commitment to work/life balance. This issue was brought to me by a friend who was elected to the Graduate Council for 3 years only to find out that the meetings are held from 5:15-6:30pm on Thursday nights. She has a child and finds the expectation that she attend evening meetings to be counter to the spirit of work/life balance. I would say that everyone, with kids or not, should have a right not to be at work in the evenings. I thought that we might try to find out how much service work happens outside of 9-5 hours and propose a policy about this to FDAR.
Extension of the tenure clock probationary period.
Dr. Bratsch Prince indicated that medical documentation required by department chairs to make tenure clock extension decisions should be considered confidential and would best be handled by human resources. In addition, clarity is needed in the type and timing of the documentation. A restructuring of the Faculty Handbook was proposed and the attached motion was voted on via email. It passed 7 votes yes to 0 no.

Good of the order - none

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Submitted by T. Derrick.