

Meeting Minutes

Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
August 20, 2014 – 2:00 pm | 34 Peachtree, 1123 conference room

Members Present:

Gary Bingham
Lynda Brown-Wright
Mourad Dakhli
Harry Dangel
Irene Duhaime
Laura Fredrick

Shelby Frost
Gerald Gay
Maria Gindhart
Lynda Goodfellow
Harley Granville

Kathryn McClymond
Sarah Pallas
George Rainbolt
David Sehat
Bethany Turner-Liver
Russel White

Members Absent:

Vladimir Bondarenko
Fred Brooks
Annette Butler
Lisa Casanova
David Cheshier
Conrad Ciccotello

Mark Geil
Harley Granville
La Loria Konata
Marian Meyers
Linda Nelson
Risa Palm

Joe Perry
Jerry Rackliffe
Wayne Reed
Corneill Stephens
Mary Stone

Cherian Thachenkary
Marta White

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by committee chair, Kathryn McClymond. Minutes from the May 20, 2014 meeting were approved.

The committee reviewed the subcommittee assignments. Irene Duhaime requested a correction: Marta White should be identified as faculty in the College of Business. Duhaime also suggested that White might prefer to be on the SEI subcommittee. McClymond will follow up on this.

George Rainbolt, Chair of the Administrative Evaluation Subcommittee, recapped the subcommittee's charge to revise existing and develop new evaluation instruments for four administrators as required. Rainbolt noted that changes would need to be made in several "waves," beginning with the evaluations needed for the current cycle. For the first "wave" of changes, he began by reviewing suggested revisions from the subcommittee for the Dean of the Honors College evaluation instrument, noting that the Dean of the Honors College and the Dean of Libraries are in a unique situation in that they do not supervise faculty members. The approved suggested additions/revisions are reflected in the documents that the Faculty Affairs committee is sending forward to the Senate Executive Committee.

The full committee also discussed the subcommittee's suggestions for revisions to the evaluation instrument for Academic Deans and the instrument for Vice Presidents, Vice Provosts, and Associate Provosts. The final suggested form of these evaluation instruments are reflected in the documents sent forward to the Senate Executive Committee.

Shelby Frost asked if there is a notice that goes out to appropriate faculty and staff noting that one can volunteer to evaluate an administrator. The committee responded: "no." The suggestion was made that Mary Nell Stone arrange for an email to go out, noting upcoming evaluations and informing faculty and staff that they can participate in an evaluation.

Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs Lynda Brown-Wright provided the committee with updates from the Office of Faculty Affairs. The New Faculty Orientation will be held on August 21, 2014. The new faculty is made up of a very diverse group. After reviewing feedback from past attendees, a new orientation start time of 11:00 am has been implemented. In addition, the OFA is holding an orientation for appropriate staff and unit heads regarding how the Affordable Care Act affects the hiring of PTI (Part-time instructors). She noted that a new policy had to be created when calculating PTI hours worked. Also, the OFA is working on some general policy issues. There have been some concerns about existing USG policies regarding faculty seeking promotion from Associate Professor to Professor rank early; the GSU OFA is addressing this. In addition, some GSU policies will be re-examined in light of changes in

faculty work (e.g., faculty working remotely). The OFA plans to address these issues in 2014-15 and will look for input from FAC. In addition, OFA is revitalizing a program for underrepresented faculty. Finally, OFA is starting a mentoring program for faculty “stuck” at the Associate Professors rank, focused especially on women. McClymond asked if the Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs had specific data from GSU faculty regarding their own perceptions of why they had remained at the rank of Associate beyond the expected time period. Brown-Wright said no, and she agreed to conduct this survey and bring results to this committee.

McClymond asked about the status of past work on the student evaluation instruments by this committee. Frost indicated that changes had been made in 2013-14, and these changes had been submitted.

McClymond asked subcommittee chairs to move forward as appropriate with their subcommittees, meeting or scheduling meetings as needed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Submitted by

Felicia Thomas

GSU – Philosophy & Religious Studies