Minutes for the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate

October 3, 2013

In attendance: Abdullah Algafis, Jamie Ervin, Ralph Frasca, Harry Gerla, Linda Hartley (Chair), Emily Hicks, Carissa Krane, Kurt Mosser, Yong Song, Eric Taglieri, Katie Willard, Pat Donnelly (ex officio)

Absent: Shawn Cassiman, Paul McGreal, Tony Saliba, Joe Watras

Meeting called to order by Dr. Linda Hartley at 12:05 pm

Announcements:

1. The FACAS welcomes a new SGA member, Ms. Katie Willard, a student representative from Engineering.
2. FACAS meeting agenda and approved minutes will be posted on the FACAS Groups tab in Porches. The ‘Document folder’ will contain all working documents. All drafts will be sent directly to members by email.
3. Based on currently available scheduling information, the FACAS will likely continue to meet at noon on Thursdays in the Spring Term, 2014. Student schedules are still not known at this time, however the student representatives are encouraged, if possible, to keep the Thursday 12-1:15 time slot open in their schedules.

Business:

1. The first order of business was to approve the FACAS minutes of September 5, 2013. Prof. Emily Hicks moved to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric Taglieri. The FACAS minutes from September 5, 2013 were unanimously approved with minor correction.
2. Dr. Linda Hartley provided an update on the status of the Intellectual Property discussion initiated with the FACAS at the September 5, 2013 meeting. The FACAS has been assigned Document 12-01 “Revision to the University of Dayton Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures, August 24, 1994 to Include Faculty Ownership Rights Regarding Online Course Materials”. It was determined at the Sept 5, 2013 meeting of the FACAS that Dr. Hartley would form a subcommittee to further study the proposed revised policy. Dr. Hartley reported that a subcommittee including Dr. Hartley (FACAS/ECAS), Dr. Shawn Cassiman (FACAS), Associate Provost Paul Vanderburgh (Graduate Academic Affairs), Prof. Matt Willenbrink (UD Director of Technology Partnerships), and Associate Provost Pat Donnelly (Office of the Provost) has been formed and is working to schedule a meeting to discuss the proposal.
3. Associate Provost Pat Donnelly briefed the committee on the contents of an email that he sent to Dr. Carolyn Roecker-Phelps, President of the Academic Senate on September 23, 2013 regarding Faculty Titles. The memo from Dr. Donnelly to Dr. Roecker-Phelps and a copy of the Faculty Handbook section on Faculty Titles and Ranks (pp. 53-54) were provided to the FACAS as materials for discussion. Specifically, Dr. Donnelly requests that the Academic Senate review the titles and title descriptions for (C) Clinical Appointments to the Faculty and (E) Distinguished Service Professor currently in the Faculty Handbook (p. 53). He also requests that the Academic Senate revisit the status of the title of Research Professor, which was approved by the Senate in 2003, but was not forwarded for approval by the President and Board. It is possible that the new
categories of Joint Faculty Appointment may address the issues raised by the Research Professor position. This issue of faculty titles was forwarded by ECAS to the FACAS for discussion.

A. Discussion on the issue of the title of Clinical Appointments to the Faculty:

Dr. Donnelly provided a brief overview of the issue. The issue of the title of Clinical Appointments to the Faculty arose with Dean Kevin Kelly during the process for accreditation for the newly established Physician Assistant degree program. The School of Education and Health Sciences has been using the title Clinical Professor for people working outside of the classroom to oversee practicum and clinical activities. When the descriptions of faculty titles were examined in the Faculty Handbook, it was found the description did not fit with the current use and intent of this title. Associate Provost Donnelly sent a memo to all Deans to determine whether the title “Clinical Appointments to the Faculty” is being used as described. The Deans responded that no faculty currently holds that title as described. School of Education and Health Sciences has a need for a title of Clinical Professor, but the description in the Faculty Handbook is not consistent with intended use and function of someone holding that title. The FACAS discussed the following: a.) the need for such a title; b.) concerns that the development of a new title will result in the request for more titles; c.) suggestion to delete Clinical Appointment to the Faculty and description and insert a new title, “Clinical Faculty” with a new description; d.) whether rank should be included in the title; e.) if a new title “clinical faculty” were to be developed, what would be the benefits, privileges, qualifications, for holding the title?

Following discussion the FACAS agreed that the next step would be to ask Dean. Kelly and representatives from the School of Education and Health Sciences to provide a draft description of the title needed, as applied to the accreditation needs of the DPT and PA programs, as well as the contemporary use of “Clinical Professor” in the Teacher Education program. Dr. Hartley volunteered to follow-up with Dean Kelly and will extend an invitation to him to attend a future FACAS meeting at which the draft description will be discussed.

B. Discussion on the issue of the Distinguished Service Professor title:

Dr. Donnelly raised a concern with regard to the current use of the title of Distinguished Service Professor. Current practice awards this title to nominated and selected faculty during the last year of service at the University, at the same time that a retiring faculty member could be considered for Professor Emeritus/Emerita. Dr. Donnelly views the title of Distinguished Service Professor as an honorary title that is intended to be granted to a faculty member ~ >10 years after promotion to Full Professor who is still in service with the University. As an Honorary Title, it expires after retirement, unlike the title Professor Emeritus/Emerita. Currently, there is only one faculty with this title still employed/active on the faculty. Thus, the title is not being awarded or used as intended or described in the Faculty Handbook. After discussion, the FACAS recommended that the description be amended to clarify the current intention of the Distinguished Service Professor title to apply to faculty while in service. Prof. Harry Gerla volunteered to draft a revision to the current description as well as a statement of clarification.
C. Discussion on the title of Research Professor Title:

Dr. Donnelly indicated that the School of Engineering has requested that the issue of the use of the title “Research Professor” be revisited by the Academic Senate. The title “Research Professor” was approved by the Academic Senate in 2003. However, the Senate-approved document was not forwarded on to the President or Board of Trustees for approval, and therefore, does not appear in the Faculty Handbook as an official title. In the meantime, the title of “Joint Faculty Appointment” has been approved as a formal faculty title. Therefore, Dr. Donnelly requests that the issue of the title “Research Professor” be revisited in light of the title “Joint Faculty Appointment” to determine whether the new Joint Appointment language covers the intent of the Research Professor title. Following discussion, the FACAS recommended that Dean Tony Saliba be consulted on this issue to clarify the rationale and need for the Research Professor title, and whether the Joint Faculty Appointment title would serve the purpose.

4. The FACAS discussed the assignment from ECAS to address policy issues related to the new SET instrument. Dr. Hartley provided a copy of the document, “Policy Questions Related to SET”, (a set of instructions to all Academic Senate subcommittees prepared by ECAS), and recapped the discussion of the new SET instrument that occurred at the Academic Senate meeting on 9/27/13. The FACAS is charged with examining policy issues relating to SET (see “Policy Questions Related to SET”). The FACAS is to assume that the new SET will be administered online. The FACAS has been asked to provide a list of recommendations by the end of the Fall semester, 2013. There will be overlap between the work of the FACAS and the APC/SAPC on this issue, so it is likely that a subcommittee of representatives from FAC, APC, and SAPC will be formed. The FACAS discussed whether the report will constitute “Guidelines” or “Policies” and whether some of this work has already been done by the SET committee. The FACAS also discussed whether the “Guidelines” or “Policies” proposed would be implemented at the level of the University, School/College, Unit, etc. A suggestion was made that the recommendations of the committee should leave room for Dean/Unit level interpretation and implementation. Dr. Hartley referred the group to pp.17-18 of the SET report, and indicated that she would revisit the issue of “Guidelines” vs. “Policy” recommendations with the SET committee. Dr. Hartley will report back to the FACAS at the next meeting with regard to SET Committee recommendations on “Guidelines” vs. “Policies”.

5. Meeting adjourned at 1:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissa M. Krane