

Faculty Welfare Committee

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday September 11th 2013, 2pm to 3pm in Science Center 207

Present: Emily Grundstad-Hall, Mirari Elcoro (Chair), Brenda Logan, Gracia Roldan, Caroline Hopkinson (Sec.), Jane Blackwell (Senate Rep).

1. Chair reviewed the agenda, three charges: Faculty salaries, Domestic Partner benefits and committee consolidation.
2. Discussed the New Administrative Positions Freeze Bill proposed by the Language Literature and Philosophy Dept. We decided that since the faculty salary study issue is being brought forward by others who are doing a very good job at it, we would use this bill as a model to address our other charge.
3. Discussed bill to call for "Plus one" or domestic partner benefits at Armstrong. Reviewed the excellent proposal made by UGA's University Council and the USG Faculty Counsel's resolution. Decided to ask for full benefits (rather than "soft benefits") since the retention of faculty is at stake. The chair of the committee offered to draft a bill, speak to Rebecca Carroll, director of HR to start a conversation about matter, get HR's input, hopefully support, and communicate with Parliamentarian Clifford Padgett about writing a good bill. At the next meeting of the Committee we'll review a draft of the Bill with a view to presenting it to Senate leadership in October.
4. We discussed ways to examine overlap/alignment of committees, in line with the charge on consolidation of committees. It would seem from the names that there is some overlap between "Faculty Welfare" and "Faculty Development" but would need to investigate to determine overlap. Reviewing minutes to find out if we are distributing our efforts effectively as committees was one alternative discussed. Before assigning tasks to a subcommittee or members of the faculty welfare committee, the chair of this committee will find out if another group (the Committee on Committees?) already has this charge. Also, Faculty Welfare received a number of charges this year, so a busy committee, meeting often and makes imagining consolidation more difficult. It might be better to look at committees with lesser number of charges for consolidation.

Meeting ended at 3pm.

Next meeting : Monday October 14, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Science Center 207

Submitted by Caroline Hopkinson

