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College of Arts & Sciences Department Chair Meeting: 2019 : 01 : 30

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CAS CHAIRS MEETING
January 30, 2019

In attendance: Magali Michael, Michael Francis, Mark Walters, Joan Reid, Susan Toler, Melanie Riedinger-Whitmore (via phone), Lisa Starks (via phone), Bridget Nickens (minutes)

• Updates
  o Minutes from January 19 meeting were approved.
  o USF System Deans Council Meeting (Jan. 28) Overview:
    Discussions are underway to restructure summer session system-wide beginning in 2020. Thus far, a draft plan envisions 4-week, 8-week and 12-week sessions. USF appears to be working towards increasing summer enrollments. Representatives from USFSP have not included people from Academic Affairs. Faculty are encouraged to begin thinking about what summer classes could best be offered during the various timeframes with a view toward student success. Dr. Francis pointed out that many adjuncts would be needed to increase the number of summer courses, especially since many tenured and tenure track faculty members use the summer for research. The Department of Labor is doing a review of USF hiring and may be asking for more data. One aspect of hiring that will change is that fewer waivers of advertising will be approved. Adjunct searches will have to start earlier—search committees for adjunct hires may even be required.

    Concerns have been raised by the Graduate Assistant’s Union that health costs continue to rise but GA stipends are not going up. Departments were also told that they must use the published standard start and stop hire dates for GAs. Moreover, GAs should be hired for nine or twelve months, not semester by semester.

  o Budget: no updates
  o Office Staff: Internship Coordinator search is underway
  o Schedule: Martin Seggelke is finishing the summer and fall class schedules. Departments must let him know now if any changes still need to be made.

• Summer 2019 Staffing Deadline is March 1, 2019
  Departments must provide information to Jennifer regarding summer hires by March 1 so contracts can be signed and paperwork done in time to get them paid by the first pay period for which they are eligible.
• Consolidation
  o Taskforce Final Report
    The Task Force Draft Final Report was released yesterday and recommends that USFSP and USFSM be considered “Branch Campuses.” The Task Force is made up of community members and legislators have responded positively to their recommendations, which is positive for USFSP.
  o Cluster Discussions
    CAS Tampa faculty want the CAS structure in Tampa to remain the same. USFSP faculty serving on Consolidation Clusters need to keep reinforcing the Task Force Report’s recommendations regarding “Branch Campuses” and the SACS definition of a branch campus. A College of Arts & Sciences or at least of Humanities & Social Sciences will likely be based in Tampa. One possibility is that USF Tampa would have a “College of Arts & Sciences” and USFSP would have a “School of Arts & Sciences.” One question is where Criminology would go since it is located within a difference College in Tampa. Another question is about reporting lines. Would USFSP report to USF Tampa regarding curriculum and operations or for the former but not the latter. In addition, if operational control remains at USFSP, would USFSP lose resources such as money for faculty travel and research.

• TA Support (Tiffany Chenneville)
  Dr. Chenneville asked if grader hours could be pooled to help other faculty members. For example, she has 175 students in an online course but, if she does not need all of her graders, could she share them with other faculty members. Dr. Michael will investigate.