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USFSP Faculty Council Meeting : 2003 : 10 : 09 : Minutes

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG

Faculty Council Meeting
October 9, 2003 10:30 am

Present: Robert Egley, Bill Heller, Ellen Hufnagel, Rebecca Johns, Jim Spence, Jackie Jackson
(substituting for Deb Henry), Al Hine (substituting for David Naar)

Guests: Keith White

USFSP's Relationship with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Dr. Albert Hine, Associate Dean of Research in the College of Marine Sciences spoke to the Council regarding the deteriorating relationship between USFSP and the USGS as are result of several policy changes. Of particular concern to the USGS are (1) parking fees that exceed the rates paid by USFSP faculty and staff, and the lack of adequate parking to accommodate those using green and gold tags. (2) problems encountered by USGS personnel who wish to use the Poynter Library or access online resources, and (3) newly instituted fees for the use of campus facilities such as the pool and locker rooms. Given the important role the USGS plays on campus, particularly with respect to USFSP's Environmental Science program, the Faculty Council agreed to discuss these concerns with the administration to ensure that our new administrators are aware of the tensions these policy changes have created within the USGS.

Committee on Committees

The Committee on Committees proposed a slate of nominees for both the Faculty Council and Campus-wide Committees/Councils. The nominees were approved and will be forwarded to CEO Karen White for formal appointment.

Campus-wide Celebrations

Ellen Hufnagel reported that an ad hoc committee comprised of representatives from the 3 Campus Councils and Student Government met yesterday in response to a request from Dr. White for some guidance regarding the format and timing of a holiday gathering. The recommendation sent to Dr. White was that we have a catered luncheon the week after Thanksgiving with "pot luck" desserts.

Reports from the College Councils

The CoE Council raised concerns as to whether or not USFSP actually play a significant role in campus governance. These concerns were echoed by other FC members and a motion was passed to call a joint meeting of the Faculty Council and the Library and College Councils to discuss issues pertaining to faculty governance.

The CoB Council has developed a plan for allocating scarce summer teaching resources using a rotation system. Jim Spence agreed to share the details of this plan with the other Colleges.

The CAS Council is working on guidelines for allocating merit pay increases and drafting tenure and promotion procedures for their College. They will be asked to hold an election immediately to replace Mark Pezzo who resigned from the FC last week.

Privacy and the Web

Jackie Jackson (substituting for Deb Henry) addressed the issue of faculty privacy and the Web, distributing a one page summary indicating the types of personal information currently included in the USF directory and on the SACS Website. This document explains how to limit the

dissemination of one's home address as well as other personal information. Council members agreed to disseminate this information within their respective Colleges.

Barnes & Noble Contract

Responding to concerns that the new Barnes & Noble bookstore contract might restrict the sharing of faculty textbook requests with Bayboro Books, Keith White (CAS) addressed the Council and asked for support in ensuring that textbook requests continue to be made available, in electronic form, to Bayboro Books. A suggestion that USFSP create a Web page that faculty can use to enter their book requests was discussed. Keith agreed to keep the Council updated on any new developments regarding this issue.

Old Business

Updates were provided on the Council's efforts to ensure that faculty will be given an opportunity to evaluate administrators this year. CEO Karen White has agreed to discuss this issue with President Genshaft and follow up with the Council.

Also discussed were the activities of the USF Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Intercampus Operating Agreements, which is currently gathering input on all campuses.

It was reported that Dr. White has responded to our concerns about the lack of faculty involvement in planning this year's Academic Convocation by turning the event over to the Faculty Council. A motion was passed to assign the task of planning next year's Convocation to the Academic Conduct & Awards Committee.

Discussion of the USF Faculty Senate's Constitution & Bylaws was postponed until a later meeting.

New Business

The USFSP Tenure & Promotion procedure from USFSP's Web site was distributed and concerns were raised regarding the latest changes, which were approved in Fall 2003, with no apparent faculty input. Further discussion was postponed until our next meeting due to time constraints.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing a request from CAS Dean Mark Durand for input regarding the AVP for Academic Affairs position description, which was circulated earlier in the week. Of greatest concern was the very short timeframe for responding (less than a week) and the fact that this allows too little time for faculty discussion. Two resolutions were passed. The Faculty Council will ask the administration for an extension of the deadline to Monday, October 20th. The Council Chair will contact the College Councils and ask them to convene a meeting of their faculties to discuss this very important issue prior to next week's Faculty Council meeting.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 16th, 10:30 am, Library Conference Room (POY319). The primary item on our agenda for this meeting will be faculty feedback on the AVP-AA position description and nominations of faculty to serve on the search committee.