

Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting

Minutes

October 20, 2015

9:00 am

Dewar College of Education & Human Services, Room 2050

Members in Attendance: Alicja Rieger, Katharine Adams, Eric Howington, Dominick Gheesling, Hasson Tavossi, Nancy Swanson, Lee Grimes, Harold Thiele

Guests: Michael Noll

1. Welcome

Meeting called to order by A. Rieger.

2. Approval of the Faculty Affairs Committee minutes from September 29 meeting.

The minutes of the 9/29 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Notification to the Committee on Committees and the Senate President, Peggy Moch about adoption of a whole committee format for this year's work on the designated charges submitted.

No discussion.

4. Introduction of a guest, Dr. Michael G Noll, past Faculty Senate President. Dr. Michael G Noll, background information and clarification related to our ongoing charges: Sick-Leave and Academic Freedom. Dr. Michael G Noll and the committee members, suggestions how to proceed with our charges in a most effective way.

Summary of discussion:

4a. Academic freedom charge: Dr. Noll briefly reviewed Dr. George and parking deck issues, noting that these issues have led to VSU being flagged by FIRE. Clarification of our charge: We are to gather info and on the issue and put together a summary report detailing our findings. Background details are unnecessary and the report should be as "apolitical" as possible. It was suggested that we could request an assessment from FIRE – they may do some of our work for us. The report should summarize current academic freedom policy at VSU and BOR and should compare both to AAUP guidelines. An expectation of free, yet respectful, dialogue should be clearly communicated.

4b. Sick leave charge: Most of the work has been completed. Create a summary sheet to add to K. Adam's previously generated report and submit to the senate to close this issue.

5. A new charge remanded to Faculty Affairs Committee by the Faculty Senate: Credit for SOI Compliance.

The issue is whether faculty should be able to offer extra credit for SOI compliance. Offering extra credit for SOI compliance is considered unethical by some faculty. Some faculty question the relevance of our current SOI model. There is another committee, chaired by J. Jewusiak, currently working on SOI issues.

6. Other items as indicated by the committee member's

No new business was brought before the committee.

7. Scheduling next Faculty Affairs Committee meeting

The next meeting of the Faculty Affairs committee was scheduled for Tuesday, 11/10 at 9 am in the same location.

10:20 am: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Eric Howington

These minutes were amended and then approved at the 11/10/2015 meeting.