Faculty Affairs Committee

Approved Minutes

Friday, September 19, 2014
Room 225, SUB
1:00 PM

I. Call to Order – 1:05 – meeting attended by Jane Finan, David Massaro, Amanda Van Lanen, Claire Davis, Cara Thompson, Jenny Scott, Travis Osburn, Clarence Griffin, Beverly Kloepfer, Alex Bezerides (guest)

II. Consent Agenda – motion to approve minutes by David, 2nd by Cara, approved unanimously

III. Chair’s Report – funding for faculty development grants in 2001 was $30,000 for the academic year (2 funding cycles). Now there is $15,000 on the table for the next 3 semesters (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015). So, there is a historical precedent for greater funding and the faculty should push the administration to make greater funds available. Also, Jane is going to start working on a form to use to give individuals feedback about their applications.

IV. Guest Reports

a. Alex Bezerides - Alex met with Lori to talk about the history of professional development funding. Lori did request in Fall 2013 as part of her direct reporting unit (DRU) for $25,000/academic year for professional development funding. That would have amounted to an increase of $15,000. Ultimately that increase was not funded (funding for the teaching and learning center was also requested and funded). The faculty will encourage the Provost to make a similar, or larger, request this year with hopes to have greater funding in place by Fall 2015.

V. New Business – none

VI. Old Business – Ranking system discussion

a. Continued discussion about how ranking system should work. Should a presenter with a weak proposal get full funding (if available) simply because they are a presenter? Also, should there be a system in place by which we can make sure that people will use funds if given funds? The danger here is that they apply, their application is approved, and then they end up not using the funds (typically because they still couldn’t afford to go). In those cases the concern is that those funds, depending on the timing of that particular round of proposals, may be lost instead of rolled over into the next round.
b. Discussion of individual proposals – Proposals were discussed and the allotted $5,000 was allocated. Per the faculty development guidelines, priority was given to those presenting at a conference or conducting research that could lead to dissemination over those attending a conference.

VII. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Beverly, 2nd by Cara, approved unanimously

Next meeting Friday, Oct. 10th 1:00 PM