Franklin College Faculty Senate
Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM in room 348 of the Miller Learning Center, Dan Nakano presiding.


Proxies: Huabei Guo for Lianchun Wang; Steve Soper for Dinani Husseina; Susan Tanner for Don Nelson

Guest: Steve Holloway, Geography, to present certificate recommendations

Members not present: Diana Downs, Lakshmish Ramaswamy

Approval of the minutes of the October 20 meeting: Approved without corrections.

President Dan Nakano’s Remarks

- Welcome to the last meeting of the semester. Next semester, meetings will take place in Connor Hall 104. The first meeting will be January 19, 2016.
- We have two issues of significance to discuss today. Time will be allocated equally between them.

Dean Dorsey’s Remarks

- Dean Dorsey discussed the Count Me In survey. Senators are encouraged to participate, and to encourage our colleagues and students to participate, despite any “survey exhaustion” that may exist. The survey closes this Friday.
- With regard to faculty annual evaluations, summarizing the situation, it is Regents’ policy that all faculty members be evaluated annually, and that is not changing. The changes at UGA are designed to provide guidance to those completing the evaluations, and to provide consistency across units. On October 30, all affected UGA community members received a memo about the new policy, with an embedded link to relevant passage in the Academic Affairs Policy Manual. That template will be used starting in spring 2016, with regard to 2015 activities. The FAR system has been replaced by UGA Elements. This may be complicated initially, with start-up issues of importing information and transition from FAR, but over time the new system should make information collection easier throughout the year. Elements is already open, so anyone can enter their information, and see what’s been automatically populated. Annual
evaluations will be based on this information. Evaluations will be due March 31, which is a relatively brief window especially for large units, but it’s reasonable with respect to using evaluations to inform any merit-based raises that may be forthcoming. The Dean’s Office will provide to Unit Heads a timetable to help with timing and training/implementation.

- Questions were invited.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee: No new business reported.
- Curriculum Committee: Approved 13 new courses, approved 6 course changes, and 2 proposals to be discussed under New Business.
- Academic Standards Committee: Received 3 petitions, which were approved.
- Committee on Faculty Affairs: No new business reported, other than the upcoming departmental voting rights issue.
- Committee on Planning & Evaluation: No new business reported.

New Business:

- Urban and Metropolitan Undergraduate Certificate. Approval was moved, and approved unanimously.
- Urban and Metropolitan Graduate Certificate. Approval was moved, and approved unanimously.
- Discussion of voting rights for Lecturers, Academic Professionals, and Full-time Instructors – Mitch Rothstein. Voting rules with respect to non-TTF are relatively uniform across units, although not completely so. Survey distributed to 130 non-tenure track faculty, 46 responses have been received. 32 of these 46 reported being satisfied with the level of voting rights that they currently possess. One Senator expressed the view that non-TTF are likely not to consider research excellence when voting on TTF candidates, which is unfair to candidates. Other Senators expressed the view that non-TTF have every likelihood of considering research excellence when individually evaluating TTF candidates.
- A New Written Annual Evaluation – Fred Dolezal. Various constituencies have expressed a desire to further consider the new written annual evaluation. It was moved to solicit input in the form of suggestions and concerns about the new policy, from faculty members, and forward it to the Faculty Affairs Committee. The Faculty Affairs
Committee will generate questions to be circulated to faculty members. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Goodie
Franklin College Senate Secretary and Senator for Psychology