

Sabbaticals, Fellowships, and Faculty Awards Committee  
Meeting of 28 October, 2011

Chair: Chris Foss

Secretary: JeanAnn Dabb

Members present: Dawn Bowen, Teresa Coffman, JeanAnn Dabb, Chris Foss, and John Morello  
(ex-officio) Member absent: Bob Greene

The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. in Combs 322.

Deliberations began as John introduced the topic of sabbaticals and the evaluation process and criteria that were used for the 2010-2011 year. With input from committee members it was determined that a new listing of criteria should be posted on the Provost's web page. One example is that the 16-point grading scale is no longer in effect and the Deans now give greater weight to the quality and magnitude of a proposed project. Faculty should be apprised of these criteria, particularly as Deans of the three colleges will make decisions prior to proposals being forwarded to this committee and the Provost. The committee recommended that the Provost's page should also have a list of approved sabbaticals, and should also include a brief abstract of each topic.

Discussion then moved on to the Jepson Fellowships as committee members reviewed the history of the program, the intent of the program to function as a faculty retention initiative with emphasis on connecting scholarly activity to teaching. Committee members considered topics such as whether supplementary teaching materials would be required or optional as well as the possibility of changing the calendar for applications, but in the end determined that the current calendar was preferred. It was determined that the application process should move to electronic submissions so that next year, each candidate will submit only one hard copy for archival use and an electronic copy which can be distributed to Committee members. This may require some applicants to digitize some aspects of their applications materials but will be, in the long run, a more efficient method for distribution of materials.

The final topic of discussion was faculty awards. This year all nomination materials will be in electronic format as individuals (both faculty and students) respond to the Provost's call for nominations (which will go out via email sometime in January.) The deadline for submission of nominations with supporting materials will be the Friday before Spring Break. The committee will deliberate and reach decisions about the nominations by 19 March. The committee next reviewed descriptions of the faculty awards.

As there would be no pressing business to require a meeting on 18 November, that meeting will be cancelled. The committee will next meet on 6 February to coordinate a schedule for discussion of faculty awards.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02.

submitted by JeanAnn Dabb

