University Faculty Affairs Committee
Minutes: April 6, 2015
Faculty Dining Hall Seacobeck, 12:00pm

Committee members in attendance: Eric Gable (Chair; CAS), Angela Pitts (CAS), Hilary Stebbins (Secretary; CAS), Jo Tyler (COE)

1. Currently there is language in the faculty handbook (2.6.3) that “one at-large member [of UFAC] shall be from the renewable term or adjunct faculty ranks.” Eric noted that while the goal of this is laudable, the reality of finding someone who fits these criteria and is willing to do this service on a consistent basis is low. Jo noted that John Morello suggested that we remove the requirement that a faculty member be either adjunct or on a renewable tract and instead make it clear that adjunct/renewable tract faculty are eligible to run for the at-large position. We simply need to make sure that UFOC makes this clear when they send out calls for nominations to all faculty. Jo volunteered to write the motion that will make this recommendation so that we can be ready to submit it at the beginning of next year.

2. Eric would like to develop a list of agenda items to discuss for next year. If we establish this list now then we will be in a good position to hit the ground running in the fall of 2015. One example suggestion was regarding faculty governance and responding to the COB’s proposal for bicameral governance. Other suggestions included revisiting the merit evaluation system and establishing some type of central, accessible repository for information related to the institution (e.g. a place where we could easily find how many tenured faculty there are, etc.).

3. Our final meeting of the semester will be at noon at Monday, April 20th in the Faculty dining hall in Seacobeck. The plan is to bring together further ideas for agenda items for the 2015 – 2016 year. In addition, the chair of the UFC has asked that we invite new committee members and that we hold elections for chair and secretary positions.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Submitted by: Hilary E. Stebbins