University Faculty Organization
Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2014
215 George Washington Hall, 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

Members Present: Brooke Di Lauro, Debbie Zies, and Lance Gentry
Unable to Attend: John Broome, Nichole Phillips, and Jo Tyler

The committee opened with a discussion of the UFC’s response to the UFOC’s request to have time to carefully review the original proposal and provide a formal recommendation. The UFC denied this request, but invited the UFOC – along with all interested parties – to submit an alternative proposal by Friday, September 26.

While the UFOC does not understand the UFC’s rush to vote on a proposal of this significance, we decided to accept the UFC’s invitation to formally submit an alternative proposal for consideration if that is the will of the majority of the UFOC. 100% of those attending recommend this course of action as was the case at our last meeting.

Based on the agreement of the UFOC at the September 8 meeting, the following changes to the Faculty Handbook are proposed by the UFOC.

2.3 THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

2.3.4 Membership and Organization of the UFC The UFC will be comprised of the following fifteen (15) voting members: two (2) three (3) faculty elected from the College of Education; two (2) three (3) faculty elected from the College of Business; two (2) and nine (9) faculty elected from the College of Arts and Sciences; as follows: three (3) faculty elected from the health and STEM disciplines (biology, chemistry, computer science, Earth/environmental sciences, mathematics, physics, or health/physical education/recreation), three (3) faculty elected from the social sciences (economics, geography, history/American studies, historic preservation, political science/international affairs, psychology, or sociology/anthropology), and three (3) faculty elected from the arts and humanities (art/art history, classics/philosophy/religion, English/linguistics/communication, modern languages/literatures, music, or theater/dance), and four (4) faculty elected from the instructional faculty—at-large. In addition, the President, the Provost, the deans of all three colleges, and one student representative selected by the Student Government Association serve as nonvoting ex officio members.

APPENDIX L

RULES OF ORDER FOR MEETINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

L.3 Quorum A quorum for UFC meetings of record is a majority of voting members that includes at least one member from each member election category (CAS, COE, COB, At-large).
L.11 Proxy Voting Proxy votes are allowable in the event of illness or an irreconcilable schedule conflict. The written designation of proxy must be given to the secretary of the University Faculty Council by the beginning of the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The secretary of the UFC will report the proxies held at the opening of the meeting.
The Chair of the UFOC will take this input and put it into a format showing UFOC recommended changes to the current proposal. She will then provide it to the entire UFOC for feedback. Assuming the majority of the UFOC still agrees, she will then submit it to the UFC by their deadline of Friday afternoon.

The committee discussed a faculty request to add open voting to the rules of the UFC. Since there is no urgency to this request, the UFOC simply noted it and will return to it later. The rationale was to increase accountability – since the UFC members are elected, the faculty member thought that votes should be a matter of public record so faculty could consider them when voting again, just as is the case with both US Houses of Congress.

The committee also reviewed the Statement of CAS Faculty Governance that was provided in the proposal distributed by the UFC. The UFOC unanimously supported the CAS intent stated as “There is no expectation or plan that dissolution of CAS Faculty Senate will shift CAS business to the UFC.” However, there was concern that the suggestion to have the BLS committee report to the UFC would do just that as the BLS is not appropriate for Education and if the COB obtains AACSB accreditation for their BSBA, then the BLS will also be precluded from offering business degrees. In this case, the BLS would strictly be a CAS issue and should not report directly to the UFC. The two CAS members of the UFOC opined that there would be a need for a smaller CAS senate or similar body to handle CAS-only issues, such as changes to the CAS appendix in the Faculty Handbook.

Finally, the COB reported that there was a tie in the vote for their representative on the University Faculty Affairs Committee. The COB will report to the UFOC when this is resolved. This challenge served as a useful reminder in why having an even number of faculty on the UFC should be discouraged.

The meeting was then adjourned.