

University Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2020

3:30pm, Combs 236

In attendance: Betsy Lewis (at-large, Chair), Jennifer Magee (at-large, Secretary), Randall Reif (at-large), Xiaofeng Zhao (COB), Eric Bonds, via phone (CAS)

Meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm.

1. Discussion of mid-term grade reporting (from UAAC): Our stance is that we are in favor of required mid-term reporting. We believe that this should be overseen by the Registrar's Office, as final grade submissions are. We are not in favor of either M (marginal) or I (insufficient). Question raised about this type of grading in URES or independent study. We will tentatively plan to incorporate appropriate language about this in Section 6.
2. Discussion of request to audit and formalize Special Assignments (from Caitie Finlayson and Mary Beth Mathews on behalf of larger group of faculty members): Betsy will ask for a report from Provost's office to address first set of concerns from this group (including reporting structure, hiring/contracts, salary, teaching release, expectations regarding time commitments, evaluation procedures). As a committee, we agree that these are important questions and do not have easy answers. In particular, this should be addressed in Handbook language regarding evaluation and promotion/tenure.
3. Discussion of Section 6: Discussion of comments provided by Nina regarding Section 6 proposed language. During this conversation, we identified the need to have Handbook language to address issues regarding special assignments (perhaps in section 3.7). Committee members volunteered to read through other sections of the Faculty Handbook to ensure that there are no contradictions with what we are proposing in Section 6.

Our next meeting is March 12th.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.