

Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2013

Opening

The meeting of the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) – Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:36 pm on 10/28/13 in Hodges Library, 220E, by Jenny Fowler.

Present

Eleanor Read, Bonnie Ownley, Jenny Fowler, Phillip Daves, Phillip Ye, Chris Cherry, David Harper

Unable to attend: John Schwartz, Jo Ann Cady, Irene Goodwin

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of previous meeting were approved, with the addition of a note about the vote to approve edited Romantic Relationships policy via email.

Old Business

After obtaining feedback from the Commissions for Women, Blacks, and LGBT People, the Office of Equity and Diversity, and the Provost's office, the policy regarding "Romantic and/or Sexual Relationships Between Faculty and Students" was edited in the Executive Council. The policy was approved by the committee via email and adopted by the Senate at the October Senate meeting.

Open Issues

None were discussed at this meeting.

New Business

Academic Freedom

At the last Faculty Senate meeting, a proposal was made to have the committee respond to the placing of Dr. Sousa on administrative leave. After discussion, the committee concluded that this was an administrative decision and that the Faculty Senate did not have jurisdiction over this issue. If this becomes an issue about tenure, then the Appeals Committee would be the best committee to handle this. The FAC decided that they would decline to take on this issue.

Agenda for Next Meeting

A policy regarding “Academic Freedom” will be formulated. The next meeting will be December 9, 2013.

Agenda for Future Meetings

Retention Review policy changes for Faculty Handbook

Tenured Faculty Termination policy changes for Faculty Handbook

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at about 4:45 pm by Jenny Fowler.

Minutes submitted by: Jenny Fowler

cherry@utk.edu, dag@utk.edu, xye2@utk.edu, pdaves@utk.edu, dharper4@utk.edu,
jschwart@utk.edu, ereal@utk.edu, bownley@utk.edu, jcady@utk.edu,
igoodwin@utk.edu