Faculty Policies Committee – Summary of Activities AY 2014-2015

Referred Items

Policy of Faculty Representation for Administrative Appointments
A new proposed policy on creating the committees for Administrative Appointments was proposed by the administration. FPC reviewed the current policy and the proposed policy. FPC recommended changes to the proposed policy to ensure that administrative searches for positions in Academic Affairs are composed of majority of faculty in the areas to be administered.

Policy on “Extra Effort“ Assigned Time
The CBA required that the Faculty Senate develop a policy to award assigned time for “extraordinary effort” in service to students. The FPC reviewed a draft policy provided by the Executive Committee. The revised draft was returned to the Executive Committee.

Resolution in Support of AS - 3197-14 The Need for a Comprehensive California State University Policy On Academic Freedom (FS 14/15-98/FPC/EX)
The FPC recommended support of the ASCSU Resolution on Academic Freedom. The Faculty Senate approved the recommendation.

Resolution in Support of AS – 3199 -15/FA Non - Tenure Track Faculty and Shared Governance in the California State University: A Call to Campus Senates (FS 14/15-174/FPC/EX)
The FPC prepared a resolution in support of the ASCSU resolution on Shared Governance which encourages participation by non-tenure track faculty. The Faculty Senate approved the recommendation.

Committee Charges – Faculty Policies, PEAS, Visiting Scholars, PEAS, Livingston Lecture, RCA (FS 14/15-90/FPC/EX), (FS 14/15-91/PEAS/FPC/EX), (FS 14/15-92/VS/FPC/EX), (FS 14/15-100/LL/EX), (FS 14/15-101/RCA/EX)
To conform to a standard, the FPC reviewed the committee structure and charges for the parent Faculty Policies Committee and most of its subcommittees – the Livingston Lecture Committee, the Research and Creative Activity Committee, the Visiting Scholars Committee, and the Pedagogy Enhancement Awards Subcommittee.

Emeritus Status Policy, Amendment Of FS 14/15-134/FPC/EX) and Email Account Policy, Amendment Of FS 14/15-135/FPC/EX)
This is a continuation of work done in 2013-14 to create a policy so all retired faculty and staff who choose to continue to use the name@csus.edu email will be allowed that privilege. Library privileges will continue with the same login name. Webpages will continue with the same url. This policy was recommended after consultation with Provost Harmsen, the Retirees Association, VP of IRT, Larry Gilbert, and the Library.
Diversity Holidays
In response to a request to accommodate faculty and student request to be excused from school to observe religious holidays the FPC is constructing a calendar of “standard” religious holidays that will be updated each year.

Visiting Scholars
The Senate was approached regarding the allocation of Visiting Scholars awards. In particular the request was to review if the allocated funds should be awarded as 50% to each Fall and Spring semester. The FPC is collecting data and will take this up in Fall 2015.

FPC Choice:
Three part University Conversation on Demystifying RTP: Service, Teaching, Empowering Faculty
To better educate our colleagues and to help, particularly those in the process of RTP, including University administrators, FPC hosted a three part series of “University Conversations” on different aspects of the broad topic of “Demystifying RTP.” The first conversation focused on Service – what we would encourage our faculty to pursue and why it is important. The second was on Teaching – why our efforts matter and how we document our work. The third was on Empowering Faculty to do they work they feel is most effective in furthering our mission, how we find support for our work and how we can develop more opportunities for support. These conversations were very successful. We have discovered there is not much consistency across campus in evaluation and recognition of these different aspects of the faculty member’s work. It is essential that we endorse the concept of “home rule” in RTP decisions. We are preparing a summary paper and will recommend that all evaluators participate in a workshop to emphasize how the evaluations should be conducted and the importance of evaluating candidates based on their primary RTP documents.

Workload
The FPC has had continuing discussions regarding workload and how to ensure ta more consistent level across campus. We will continue these discussions.

Travel Policy
We have seen an increase in the restrictions on faculty travel even when the supporting funds are not from the University but are acquired through other means (including external support). We have not had a clear explanation of these restrictions and will continue to pursue this in the 2015-16 year.

University Branding
A committee that did not include any faculty has developed a new template we will be required to use for any University document. FPC has tried to provide additional feedback to this committee. We presume that with a new President some of these restrictions may change.
FPC membership 2014-15:

Maggie Beddow (BM/EDUC)
Sylvester Bowie (Social Work/HHS)
Wendy Buchan (FACS/SSIS)
Donald Grushkin (EDUC)
Sue Holl (Mechanical Engineering/E&CS) CHAIR
Maria Kochis (Library)
Hellen Lee (English/A&L)
Hakan Ozcelik (Management/CBA)
Adam Rechs (Biological Sciences/NS&M)
Ta-Chen Wang (Economics/SSIS)