March 5, 2014 Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Dianne Hyson, Ted Lascher, Data Barata, Seunghee Wee, Elvia Ramirez, Monicka Patterson-Tutschka, Robert Wassmer, Kevin Wehr, Jackie Carrigan, Mark Brown.

Meeting Minutes: The February 19, 2013 meeting minutes were not approved. Mark agreed to assemble and bring the minutes to the council next session after receiving Kevin’s meeting notes.

Contingent Faculty Report: Mark did not receive substantive feedback from lecturer reps or department chairs regarding the summary report. Kevin agreed to send a reminder to lecturer representatives and Diane and Rob agreed to discuss the report with chairs at the next chairs meeting. The council hopes to finalize and send out the summary report and recommendations after these contacts are made.

Overview of Provost’s Meeting with SSIS Department Chairs: The provost asked department chairs to summarize their programs. The provost also shared her thoughts on the following issues:

**Faculty Hiring:** 1) The Provost stated that she hopes for substantial hiring. 2) She would like searches to begin earlier in the academic year. 3) Proposals for new positions should discuss needs relating to bottlenecks, FTES, enrollment, and growth. But proposals may include a discussion about the need to fill holes in the existing curriculum. Addressing an existing curriculum need is now appropriate, whereas before it was inappropriate. 4) If two strong candidates emerge in a single cycle, the provost would agree to hire both candidates only in VERY exceptional circumstances.

**Salary Inversion/Equity:** The provost recognizes salary inversion and intends to deal with this issue separately from hiring. Faculty might see a new equity adjustment package proposed.

**Staff hiring:** The Provost was open to the idea of making some temporary staff positions permanent.

**Professional Development/Research support:** The provost would like to support faculty research. A faculty summer research grant is an option she might pursue. A start-up package for new hires is also a possibility.

**RTP Standards:** The Provost favors the following “general rule of thumb” for tenure (She does not appear to be advocating for a formal change in policy at this point): a) two published papers; b) two grant applications (they need not be accepted); c) conference presentation. She does value senior faculty who emphasize service, but she also emphasized that faculty in all ranks should keep up with the research in their fields.

**Provost Meeting with Associate Deans:** The Provost seemed interested in reconciling the disconnect between IRTs and ITCs. She was concerned about the way classroom upgrades have been made without faculty consultation.
Special Faculty Project Support: The council agreed with Ted’s proposal to offer up to two $3000 awards. The council thought much of the UEI language was useful. There was some discussion about whether or not a faculty who receive a UEI campus grant can also receive the proposed college grant. There was general agreement that an expanded version of a proposed faculty project could receive funding from both revenue sources so long as the proposed project was tailored to the college. Ted agreed to send a new draft of the college grant proposal to the council.

Speakers for Spring 2014 Commencement: The council thought the following proposed speakers should be contacted in the following order 1) Markel Williams; 2) Gary Davis; 3) David Masmuto; 4) Jim Mayer.

Asbestos in Amador Hall: Ted and Diane will be meeting with some staff on the plant side of the university in the near future and will offer more asbestos info at the next council meeting.

Painting the Third Floor of Tahoe Hall: Rob asked Ted to inquire when the third floor of Tahoe Hall will be repainted or touched up.

KEY FOBS: Kevin asked about the status of fobbing all of Amador Hall. The higher priority areas in Amador Hall now have FOBS (soc office, psych office, ABS, 1st floor, &c), and discussions continue at the university level about placing fobs on all doors in the building.

Contingent Faculty Representative on Faculty Council: Mark reintroduced Ted’s idea of having a contingent faculty member serve on faculty council. Ted maintained that the college might be willing to cover some expenses (through a 1 unit WU or an hourly rate). An election could be held in the fall. The contingent faculty member would have the same voting rights as other members of the council. The council agreed to vote on these questions at the next meeting.

Generating an SSIS Contingent Faculty Email List: The council agreed that the college should generate a SSIS contingent faculty email list.

Selection Advisory Committee for SSIS Dean’s search.
The council agreed to list of faculty members for the selection advisory committee and Mark will email the list to Don Taylor for approval:

The council also agreed to ask the University Faculty Policy Committee (or the appropriate committee) to review the policy re: what ranks are entitled to sit on the Selection Advisory Committee for the Dean Search. Right now, the policy is vague. It is not clear if tenure-track or contingent faculty can serve.