

Academic Staff Senate Meeting | Wednesday September 9th, 2015

Present: 2015-16 Academic Staff Senators

Excused: Jenice M.

Call to Order: 1:05pm

Approve Minutes of 5/4/15: (Ryan/Jon) correction motion to “Improve” to “approve”. (Motion Passes)

Chair- Report/Updates: Innovation and streamlining moving forward. Nothing new that differs from all-campus updates. Scheduling regular meetings with governance chairs.

Sub-Committee Reports & Updates on 2015-16 Priorities:

-UW-System Representative: Most discussing budget, tenure, & governance. Looking at how changes will be made and implemented into policy. First meeting not until next week. Moving location to be able to do video conferences – hope it will keep costs down, but we do actually have more travel funds.

-Personnel: Doing research with other UW campuses to see their processes and policies. Finding needs to address this across system institutions. Evaluation and promotion processes/policy are linked, but not working together as well as they should. Doing workshops for employees and supervisors during the fall so people are prepared and ready for promotion process.

-Professional Development & Awards: Haven’t yet met. Orientation process is moving forward (Old Business)

-Communications: Haven’t yet met. Goals- to make progress on newsletter & website. Unknown about website integration processes. Will send passed By-Laws. Integrate poll related to Academic Staff Development Day. What would we like to do for a Staff Social? Struggle with competing events & scheduling. Combine with an existing activity? Work with Alumni Association. Group – Brainstorm possibilities so it’s not just the same-old approach.

-Taskforce- gathering information from Climate Survey for Morale and Communication. Need to know if another survey is forthcoming (SPTC) or if we need to conduct our own. Data from first survey could be a benchmark to see what has changed. Once we know that status, we can plan for next step – survey, training, policy? Push for whole campus survey so we are not acting alone. Spring semester as timeline for acting on information.

-UPDATES – Any synopsis of our Strengths/Ropes day – Academic Staff Development Day? None right now, but would be good to collect for ourselves and future.

Report from Provost/Chancellor Unable to attend - tabled

Governance Liaisons Unable to attend - tabled

Old Business:

-Vote on New Staff Orientation Policy – “Onboarding” (U. of M policy) pulled together ad hoc committee, had quick meeting with HR head – nothing advanced over the summer. How to simplify for new staff while ensuring we are thorough. Seems to be confusion about who is working on what across campus. Distinguish between training and orientation – the roles of supervisors vs governance.

Motion: Move to approve the proposal with recommendations (John/Nick). Discussion: Broaden shared governance module to include campus involvement. Find a place add in promotion process. Connection

with CETL or keep with Academic Staff Senate? Link documents to website. Use as a template? Needs broader discussion before it can be rolled out. (Motion passes)

-Vote on amended Emeritus Policy

Motion: Move to approve Emeritus Policy with change in parking permit (Rob/Ryan) (Motion Passes)

New Business:

-Welcome Event for New Senators: What could we do for this body to welcome new Senators? Get to know each other on a personal level. Separate from meeting & retreat – include outgoing Senators. Would like to do more fun things together! Action item given to Jen for this semester.

-Reminder- New meeting times begin October 2-4pm.

-Still need Senator on Personnel Promotion Committee – Jon agrees (heavy sigh audible in room)

- Fill the spot for Dean of Faculties Search – Nick & Emily put names forward, as does John, seek out other names. Would be positive to have non-Instructional perspective as well as Instructional on search committee.

Adjourn (Ryan/Jon) 2:47pm

Respectfully submitted by john mccormick