Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

12:00pm Wednesday, February 13, 2019 Sanders Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Amanda Branscome, William Davis, James Gadberry, Susan Owen, Kim Roberts, Teresa Wanbaugh, Jennifer Wolfe, Lionel Wright

Absent: Sean Busick, Dave Fitzsimmons, Elizabeth Pruett, Bill Wilkes, Marla Williams

Old Business:

Minutes from the 10-10-18 meeting were approved.

Faculty Workload Policy

The committee suggested that the statement regarding that faculty may refuse overloads in Section V. also include directed/independent studies as well.

New Business:

Academic Freedom Policy

The committee discussed the draft Academic Freedom policy. Dr. Owen suggested that the text in Sections 1 (Policy Statement and Purpose) and 2 (Description of Academic Freedom) be replaced with a link to the AAUP 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure. The purpose and description of academic freedom are concisely captured in this established document.

The section on Reporting Violations/Grievances should also reference the Grievance Policy.

The committee agreed to accept the policy with these changes.

Compensation for Directed/Independent Studies

The committee supports the proposal that after every 6th independent study, faculty would receive overload pay. One-sixth of the overload pay would be dispersed after each independent study. Dr. Gadberry will research policies from other institutions and create a framework for the committee to review.

Efforts to Increase Student Participation in Faculty Course Evaluation

The committee discussed topics such as ideas to improve response rates, construction of the survey itself, the questions asked on the survey, and the number of questions asked. Dr. Wright suggested the use of student focus groups to assist in the process.

Dr. Gadberry will send the committee Dr. Owen's materials on student evaluations. Discussion on this topic will continue at the next meeting.

Faculty Evaluations

The committee discussed and supports a proposal to amend faculty performance evaluations for tenured Full Professors to every five years.

Next meeting:

To be determined. The meeting adjourned.