College of Liberal and Applied Arts College Council

Meeting date: Monday, February 8, 2010

Time/Location: 2:30 pm, Ferguson 172

Attending: John Dahmus, Ty Spradley, Owen Smith, Perry Moon, John MacDermott, Wilma Cordova, John Boyd, Steve Marsden, Julie Harrelson-Stephens, Ken Collier, Associate Dean Berringer

Meeting opened by Perry Moon.

1) Marsden has volunteered to take over Secretary duties.
2) Collier proposed, seconded by Boyd, to approve corrected minutes of December 15 meeting.
   Carried unanimously with 9 votes.

3) The council discussed a proposed change in the constitution, article I, section 3: instead of current apportioning rules, each department and division would receive two members on the council, except for Military Science, which would continue with one, as per article I, section 1.

   Further suggested that Modern Languages, Social Work, and English members would extend the term of one member, to maintain an overlap in member terms (so one experienced member would continue to serve with a new member). Smith recommends that Communication, on next election, elect one representative for a shorter term.

   Boyd proposed, seconded by Collier, to amend article I section 3 of the College Council constitution to read: “Every department in the College will have the right to elect two members of the Council.”

   Passed unanimously with 9 votes.

4) Moon suggests amending article one of the council constitution—so that a representative of the University Curriculum Committee be made an ex-officio member of the council unless he or she is an elected member.

   Boyd moved, and Collier seconded, to amend constitution to include section 6:

   Section 6. The College representative to the University Curriculum Committee shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Council unless he or she is already an elected member of the Council.

   Passed unanimously with 9 votes.

The Council resolved to put these constitutional changes out to the main faculty for a vote.
5) Harrelson-Stephens reopened discussion on staggered terms for Communication. The council debated whether the recommendation might make for too many members rotating off in a year. Boyd proposed, seconded by Smith that English, Social Work, and Modern Language should extend one member’s term, and that the members from Communication should serve out their terms, then the Division of Communication should elect one member for a 2 year term at next election.

Passed unanimously with 9 votes.

6) The tenure / third year review committee has found their task difficult because of large binders and extremely limited time to review them. Several options for resolving this problem had been suggested at the chairs’ meeting, including changing the guidelines regarding dossier contents. Council deliberated on the issue of binder contents and time available to review. Berringer opined that it might be easy to give tenure committees more time with the materials.

Dahmus moved, Collier seconded, that the council suggest at least a three week window to review tenure and promotion materials.

Passed unanimously with 10 votes.

Moon will go to the dean with the recommendation.

7) Debate was re-joined on contents of tenure binders. There was some confusion as to the existence and current status of lists of binder contents at the university level. While covers of books are required, books themselves are perhaps currently excluded. The council considered the difficulty of judging books by covers.

Dahmus moved that the council recommend that full copies of books / articles be required to be included with tenure materials. Harrelson-Stephens seconded.

Passed unanimously with 10 votes.

Moon said he would look into current guidelines at the college and university level before the next meeting.

8) Debate continued on contents of tenure binders. The council discussed the difficulty of presenting multiple evidences of teaching excellence without including some material that may overfill binders. The council discussed implementation of previously recommended changes in the recommended procedure for performance review at the department level.

9) Council discussed recent proposed changes in the workload policy. Concerns were raised about the allowance for graduate classes, and for undergraduate theses in the creative writing BFA. The council resolved to continue the discussion in the next meeting on Monday, February 22nd.

10) Harrelson-Stephens moved to adjourn, MacDermott seconded. Motion passed unanimously with 10 votes.