

Faculty Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 4th 2014

Meeting was convened at 1:32 PM in South Shepler 623.

Meeting Facilitator: Sarah Janda, Chair

In attendance: Sarah Janda (Chair), Saeed Ahmad, Gary Buckley, Abbas Johari, Joanni Sailor and Benson Warren

- I. Chair distributed the agenda of the meeting. Secretary distributed minutes of Oct. 25th meeting. Gary Buckley's motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Joanni Sailor was approved unanimously.
- II. Chair reported that the faculty senate has approved the committee's recommendation to form two new committees called "Athletics Committee for Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion" and "University Committee on Diversity". President met with the people related to the issue and has approved the recommendation.

Chair reported that during its next meeting the faculty senate will vote on the committee's recommendations regarding the proposed changes in the faculty handbook with reference to the tenure and promotion.

Chair also reported that we have not heard back from the President about the committee's recommendation regarding the "Distinguished Professor" position.

- III. The committee discussed the issue of faculty overload and compensation. Two out of the four schools on campus, namely the school of liberal arts and the school of science and technology allow faculty to teach overload classes but the other two schools, the school of business and the school education and behavioral sciences do not allow their faculty to teach overloads. It was noted that the overload pay for regular faculty is less than the adjuncts'. The committee realized that overload can increase credit hour production per faculty but at the same time will reduce the amount of time available to faculty to carry out research or to do university service and thus should in general be discouraged.

From each department's point of view, it would be helpful to figure out if we really need to teach an overload class and if we do, then a faithful effort should be made to search for adjunct faculty to teach such classes. The committee decided that the chair will write a statement regarding this issue, explaining the committee's point of view that why overloads should be discouraged in general. This statement will be presented to the faculty senate during its next meeting.

- IV. Meeting adjourned at 2:22PM.