

Faculty Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 25th 2013

Meeting was convened at 11:05 AM in South Shepler 623.

Meeting Facilitator: Sarah Janda, Chair

In attendance: Sarah Janda (Chair), Saeed Ahmad, Gary Buckley, Mike Husak, Abbas Johari, Joanni Sailor, and Yanjun Zhao

- I. Chair distributed the agenda of the meeting. Secretary distributed minutes of Sept. 27th meeting. Abbas Johari's motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Mike Husak.
- II. Chair reported that in her meeting with the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA), VPAA liked the idea to clarify language of the handbook with regards to the tenure and promotion. VPAA also liked the committee's proposed clarifications in the handbook.
- III. With regards to the promotion and tenure, the committee discussed the language under section 4.5.4 article 5 that states "Early tenure cannot be initiated without prior written approval of the Provost and the President." In addition it states "Early tenure may be awarded to faculty members of extraordinary high merit prior to the end of the sixth probationary year." Some of the language is found to be contradictory and unreasonable. The chair pointed out that this issue is on the agenda of the next council of chairs meeting. The committee decided that this issue should also be brought up in the faculty senate for a discussion.
- IV. The chair reported that VPAA did not like the idea of adding a checklist along with the tenure application that needs to be checked by the department chairs (to avoid any extra burden on the chairs). But the departments should be urged to check what needs to be included, so that the applications are organized and well structured.
- V. The committee discussed the criteria for the "Distinguished Professor" position, and should there be a stipend rather than a salary raise for this position? The committee discussed the fact that this position should be such that once a faculty member is nominated for the position, he/she should be requested to provide a brief portfolio and then a committee especially established to consider such cases will review the nomination.
- VI. Next meeting will be held on Friday, December 6th at 11AM in South Shepler 623.
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 12:06 PM.