

**Minutes**

**Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting**

January 11th, 2021 / 12:30pm-1:30 p.m. Zoom

***Members Present through Zoom:*** *Chair: Jim Thatcher, Wei Cheng, Fei Leng (Arrived after Minutes approval), Rob MacGregor, Sharon Laing, Alex Miller, Rich Furman (Arrived after Minutes approval)*. ***Members Excused:*** ***Guests:*** *Diana Falco (Co-Chair, Lecturer Affairs Ad Hoc Committee), Greg Lund (Co-Chair, Lecturer Affairs Ad Hoc Committee)* ***Administrative Support***: *Andrew Seibert*

1. **Recording Permission/Consent**
   * Recording permissions granted by the Committee. Recording was started automatically via Zoom.
2. **Approval of Minutes** 
   * **Minutes from 12/14/2020**
     1. Edits:
        + No edits were made to the December 14 2020 minutes
     2. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written. So moved by Sharon Laing, seconded by Wei Cheng
        + ***Vote:*** *5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions*
   * Minutes are approved as written.
3. **Report of Faculty Affairs Chair- Jim Thatcher**
   * 1. Faculty Affairs Chair discussed with a colleague who has done Listening sessions.
        + Faculty Assembly is also interested in pursuing these discussions for the listening session
          1. This work will not be duplicated by both Faculty Affairs and Faculty Assembly and the Executive Council. This process will be utilizing all resources available.
     2. Faculty Workload Research
4. **Updates from Lecturer Affairs/Non-Tenure Track Faculty Forum**
   * Lecturer Affairs is getting ready for the transition to the Non-Tenure Track Faculty Forum pending the approval of the bylaws changes when sent out to all Faculty which should be coming up shortly
     1. In the meantime, Lecturer Affairs is scheduled to remain until the end of this Academic year.
        + The new Forum would be reduced to 7 committee members total with a limit of 3 members per school. Once those members are elected, a vote will be taken for the Chair of the Forum. Elections will take place in the spring quarter or end of spring quarter to be ready for Autumn 2021
   * Lecturer Affairs is working on revision review for the climate survey, as the results did not identify Faculty as part-time or full-time Faculty. It did group by tenure track or non-tenure track faculty.
     1. Diana Falco also states that one third of the faculty are represented in the non-tenure track, but that data is officially tracked in the climate survey.
   * Lecturer Affairs is also looking into the sabbatical process throughout each of the seven schools and including non-tenure track faculty into the process.
5. **Focus Group Discussion**
   * The Chair of Faculty Affairs created a Google Doc to brainstorm questions for the Focus Group questionnaire.
     1. Questions from document:
        + In your unit, what is considered a normal research output for a year? (normal or one that meets meritorious)
        + What strategies might UWT schools implement to clarify expectations regarding scholarly production?
          1. How does your unit define what is and what is not acceptable research?
        + How is your unit supporting you in your writing and producing scholarship?
          1. Follow-up: How might they better support you?
        + Are there specific ways in which your ability to conduct research have changed in the past year?
          1. How has/hasn’t your unit responded to those changes?
     2. After discussion the Committee has decided to wait on more after reflection and should any additional items come up that they would be added on the document no later than next week to prepare sessions for each school.
6. **Listening Session Discussion**
   * The Chair of Faculty Affairs is interested in creating a listening session for Faculty to have a space to support and listen to one another about struggles in teaching in the past year and any tips they might have for others.
     1. A Committee member had recommended to get in touch with Beth Kalikoff, as she may be doing something similar.
     2. Action Item: Chair Jim Thatcher will contact Beth Kalikoff
   * Once the Committee knows if Beth is doing something similar, the Committee can move forward with dates.
7. **Next Chair for Faculty Affairs/Interim Chair**
   * The Chair of Faculty Affairs would like to open the committee to sit in as interim chair in the spring quarter, and Chair for 2021-2022 Academic year.
     1. After discussion was made, no final decision was made on a chair. The Chair did say that this will be on the Agenda for Faculty members to think about this.
8. **Ongoing: discussion of areas of interest for 2020-21**
   * Research for Faculty/Tenure/Promotion
     1. Faculty Affairs Chair was supposed to hear from the Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee Chair, however there was no contact as of yet. The Faculty Affairs Chair will be getting in contact with the Chair of APT.
9. **Adjournment**
   * Meeting was adjourned at 1:21PM
     1. Next meeting Monday, February 8th, 2021
        + Zoom