

MINUTES

Graduate School
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, August 8th 2011 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm

334 Bascom Hall

Present: Alex Converse, Nicci Schmidt, Kristin Nagle, Wayne Feltz, Miriam Simmons, Tom Zinnen, Julie Schears, Jenny Hackel, Martin Cadwallader, Bruce Neumann

Absent: Julie Karpelena, Moira Harrington

Convene

Meeting was convened at 1:30 p.m. by Dean Martin Cadwallader

Review and approve minutes from 7/11/11 meeting: Miriam will email out most updated copy of minutes for approval

Action items

Document retirements across campus and backlog of retirements (Feltz):

Wayne has not sent email to ASEC yet due to recent ASEC turnover. He will send the request to Heather Daniels to address and ask them to compare the recent retirement numbers to previous year trends. While the results would be interesting to GS-CASI, this issue is better addressed by ASEC on a campus wide level.

Communications - web page updates (Nagle):

The website is not updated yet. Despite recent attempts to update the site, it appears either the file was not uploaded or the website is grabbing old data from somewhere. Kristen is meeting with the Grad School person on Wednesday (August 10th) to discuss.

General Reports

ASA Report

No report

ASEC report

There are currently no GS CASI members participating in ASEC. Dean Cadwallader attended the meeting last week and reported that ASEC is looking to learn more about WARF's role on campus and how WARF funds are allocated.

Committee Reports

Communications (Nagle)

See Action items for update

Nominating and Districting (Feltz)

Wayne is currently compiling the annual CASI report for ASA in October. All CASI elected positions are now filled. Only the two Dean appointed positions remain open. Suggestions for those spots are IceCube and Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery.

Professional Development (Simmons)
No report

Other Business

Campus leadership (Dean Cadwallader)

David Ward is here for a one year term, until a new person can be transitioned in. He has been well received by the campus so far with his message to stay within the system, but encourage the system to be better. He would like the system to recognize the niches that each campus has and encourage success in those areas.

Current and future status of Graduate School administration (Dean Cadwallader)

The search for the Vice Chancellor for Research/Dean of the Graduate School has been called off until a new chancellor is named. This is due to the unique relationship of that position with the Chancellor and Provost. Martin Cadwallader has been appointed as Interim Vice Chancellor for Research/Dean of the Graduate School until a new chancellor is named and the search can resume. All other current campus job openings are proceeding.

Academic Staff Budget discussion (Feltz)

CASI would like an update on the flexibilities implementation on campus. This item to be included on September retreat agenda to discuss CASI ideas for how to best implement these goals. Miriam participated in an ASA subcommittee on this sort of discussion years ago and will try locate the recommendations and summary from that.

Graduate School Center Climate Surveys (Feltz)

SSEC conducted a climate survey prior to the legislation of the past year with good results. The activity resulted in useful workplace improvements and cost very little to carry out. The exercise was done in conjunction with Human Resources and DoIT. Given current morale concerns on campus, the exercise is suggested.

In addition to climate surveys, Nicci suggested the addition of a survey to ask each center "how are you creating ambassadors?" The question serves to tell our sponsors how we are effectively utilizing funding and is a timely request as UW Madison will be celebrating "the Year of the Wisconsin Idea".

Minutes/notetakers

Schedule to be determined at September retreat.

Action Items

Miriam Simmons will contact potential speakers for the next several CASI Meetings. Of particular interest for speakers include: Alice Gustafson (APR/campus efficiency study), Steve Lund (Human Resources, new campus flexibilities), Bob Lavigna (Budget Repair bill), Don Schutt (Human Resources, climate surveys).

September will be the annual retreat to develop an annual plan for the CASI. The following items will be added to the agenda for discussion: New HR flexibilities: does CASI have ideas to input?, CASI Committee membership, Minutes/notetaker schedule, rotating the CASI meeting site to include visits to Graduate School centers, and the Year of the Wisconsin Idea.

Adjourn at 3 p.m.

Next Meeting:

To be determined. Wayne will send out a Doodle poll to figure out best date for the annual retreat.

Minutes: Julie Schears

Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Hackel