

MINUTES
Graduate School
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, February 8, 2010
1:30-3:00 PM
334 Bascom Hall

Convened at 1:33 PM by Wayne Feltz

Present: Wayne Feltz, Miriam Simmons, Reina Maryuama, Bruce Neumann, Julie Schears, Mary Lou Reeb, Donna Cole, Kristin Nagle

Absent: Julie Karpelenia, Tanya Cobb, Cheryl Redman, Dan Bull, Martin Cadwallader.

Welcome and Chair Comments (Feltz)

Minutes from January 11th, 2010 – reviewed and approved.

ASA/ASEC report

February 8 meeting to discuss the Ad Hoc committee report, restructuring, collective bargaining. Provost will be attending.

Academic staff do not have the same benefits of salary increases tied to title changes or of instructional leave to plan courses that faculty have. There has been erosion in job security over several years; one of many changes in professional climate for academic staff.

Miriam Simmons asked if the Provost was talking to the Ad Hoc Committee , ASEC, etc. about the restructuring. Wayne Feltz indicated that he is.

Don Nelson from UW-Madison's UW System Legislative Liaison is supporting a bill that would prevent the state from furloughing employees supported by federal funds. Reina Maruyama asked how most academic staff are funded. The majority in Graduate School are funded primarily with federal funds; some tuition and state funds are also used.

Don Nelson is also concerned that unions are making a new push to reclassify academic staff on all campuses; ASEC is issuing a strong oppositional statement.

Donna Cole expressed concern that the Mentoring Committee is not showing up in a list of ASEC committees. Wayne Feltz suggested that Donna attend an ASEC meeting and advocate for the committee; Wayne feels that there was an oversight or confusion (perhaps thought that the Mentoring Committee was part of PDRC), rather than lack of support.

Committee Reports

Communications (Nagle)—Web updates underway; hope to complete and post by March meeting. Need to assess page and whether there are changes in formatting or content that would make it more dynamic and/or useful.

Wayne Feltz raised that Graduate School is considering changes to the new employee packet and asked for feedback and ideas: bookmark format was seen as positive; suggestion to use a thumb drive for content, both as a greener solution and because it continues to be useful to employees throughout their tenure.

Nominating and Districting (Feltz)—E-mail has been sent out about elections. Wasiman Center still has an open district.

Wayne Feltz asked if distribution lists are up to date. Bruce Neumann will resend lists to all GS-CASI members.

Mary Lou Reeb asked if there is a skill set we should be looking for in new candidates. Consensus after discussion was that interest and enthusiasm are key.

Professional Development (Reeb)—Will be reviewing ASEC goals for areas of overlap and new ideas.

Other Business

Wayne Feltz stated that Mo (?) wants to meet with the CASIs and asked if he could attend our next meeting. Members agreed that this would be beneficial.

Wayne Feltz discussed that with our current lame duck governor, there is no feel for what his priorities are, what he will veto or support in the budget.

2008-2009 GS-CASI Annual Report—Mary Lou Reeb rewrote a portion of the report. It was suggested that the Communications Committee review the report when done for formatting, consistency, etc. Discussion regarding whether to put past representatives in chronological order or alphabetical order; decided to put most recent first. Bruce Neumann pointed out that his title needs to be updated.

Action Items

Wayne Feltz will talk to ASEC about a holding a faculty and academic staff town hall meeting on the restructuring reports. We would also like to discuss mentoring.

Guests for future meetings were discussed—Julie Karpelenia may be lining up some guests; Wayne Feltz will follow up.

Meeting adjourned by Wayne Feltz at 3:05 PM.
Minutes submitted by Kristin Nagle

Next Meeting:

March 8, 2010

Location: 334 Bascom

Time: 1:30-3:00

Minutes: Miriam Simmons