

MINUTES
Faculty Affairs Committee
December 2, 2019
1:15 p.m. 411 Axinn Library

Voting Members Present:

Deborah Elkis-Abuhoff
Ann Grafstein
Rina Hirsch (Chair)
Kris Lotier
Kevin McElroy
Rebecca Natow
Jean-Paul Rodrigue (call-in)

Non-Voting Members Present:

Elisabeth Ploran (AAUP President)
Margaret Abraham (Sr Vice Provost for
Academic Affairs)
Holly Seirup (Dean, HPHS)

Absentees:

Russell Chun
Xiang Fu
Michael Heiss
Maureen Houck
Elisabeth Schlegel
Sylvia Silberger

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:23 p.m.
2. Minutes from the November 1, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved (with minor amendments).
3. Rina Hirsch provided an update to the committee on the Diversity CTR initiative proposed by Russell Chun.
 - a. Provost Berliner recommended an ad hoc committee made up of all the school's executive committee chairs.
 - b. Bill Caniano has been reaching out to the executive committee chairs to request their involvement in the committee.
 - c. Russell will continue to "champion" this Diversity CTR initiative as part of the ad hoc committee.
4. Rina Hirsch updated the committee on the status of the Adjunct Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award.
 - a. FAC previously unanimously voted in favor of this award (on March 16, 2018).
 - b. Eligibility of adjunct professors to be considered for this award: The 'old' 2.2 status, that is, Adjunct faculty will be eligible for the award after teaching nine credit hours over at least three semesters within four academic years. All other rules will follow the process for full-time faculty. The voting should be held in tandem with the current full-time award, i.e. students will be able to vote for full-time and adjunct professors from each school, from 2 separate drop-down menus.
 - c. Provost Berliner would like this to go through the full governance process before being implemented, so Rina will be presenting this to the SEC at her meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 2019. If passed it will go to the full senate on Monday, December 9, 2019.

If passed at full senate, the full faculty will have to vote on it in the Spring on Monday, February 24, 2020 since our next Full Faculty meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 (prior to the SEC and senate meetings).

5. The committee reviewed FPS #9 and unanimously approved the following revised language to ensure that adjuncts inform students of the nature of their availability in their syllabi. The language of Section V. of FPS #9 is revised as follows:
 - a. Full-time faculty shall schedule regular times for conferences with students at least one hour each week for each three hours taught. These scheduled hours shall be included in the syllabi and kept for this purpose. Adjunct faculty shall inform students of their availability in their syllabi.
6. The committee briefly discussed the proposed revisions to the Secretary of the Faculty position to Deputy Speaker.
 - a. The committee felt that there needed to be some clarification as to what the goal of the change in responsibilities would be, especially in light of the potential for course release time.
 - b. The committee decided to table this item (see below) for Spring of 2020 and invite both Bill Caniano (Chair of the University Senate) and George Giuliani (Speaker of the Faculty) to discuss what the benefits of a new position replacing the Secretary of the Faculty position would be.
7. Tabled discussion of:
 - a. Discuss changing the title and responsibilities of Secretary of the Faculty to Deputy Speaker with Bill Caniano (Chair of the University Senate) and George Giuliani (Speaker of the Faculty).
 - b. Discuss having faculty pictures automatically associated with Outlook/Blackboard accounts with an opt-out option.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.