

Council on Academic Freedom, Faculty Quality and Faculty Welfare
Minutes
January 30, 2006
10:00 A.M. -12:00 P.M.
202 Tigert Hall

Attendees:

Mike Katovich
Curt Hannah
Joe Glover
Tim White
Kyle Cavanaugh
Sue Percival
Peter Giacobbi
Paula Fussell
Debra King
Rebecca Pauly
Phil Barkley
Chris Snodgrass
Janie Fouke

Mike Katovich called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Dr. Katovich updated the council on tenure issues brought to his attention from faculty in colleges where faculty members feel the procedures for tenure and promotion are not followed by the Dean.

The council discussed the Academic Personnel Board. Dr. Glover reported that some changes have already been made. The council also discussed issues within certain colleges where it is difficult for some departments to form tenure committees according to the regulations. Curt Hannah requested that the council follow the IFAS Tenure and Promotion committee structure issues. AFTPRSC will write a request to the Welfare council to move the issue forward.

Dr. Glover updated the council on the current chair training procedures. Dr. Katovich will write a letter to the Provost on behalf of the council recommending that chair training be mandatory for all new chairs. The letter will also include a request for refresher courses for all old chairs.

Tim White reviewed the Memo to Dr. Machen from the APB. The council will review the recommendations and discuss at the next meeting.

The council briefly discussed the DRO position with Kyle Cavanaugh and Curt Hannah. The AFTPRSC has concerns about the neutrality of the position if the DRO reports directly to a Vice President. Curt was directed to have his committee make a recommendation for the DRO position to the council by its next meeting.

Dr. Katovich distributed his questions for the faculty survey regarding the tenure process. Council members will select final questions for the survey at the next meeting. The goal is to distribute the survey in April. The purpose of the survey is to determine if the tenure rules are followed. The council will attempt to survey anyone who went up for tenure this year as well as tenure and promotions committees at the college and possibly university level.

The council briefly discussed child care during spring break. The issue was directed to the Faculty and Staff benefits committee for further research. Mike Katovich was also sent a concern from a faculty member regarding parking on campus. He will forward the issue to the Infrastructure Council.

Dr. Fouke made a presentation on the Provost's office reorganization draft. The draft represents topics rather than people. The Faculty Development piece will be rolled out first followed by the Information Technology piece. The Provost's office will do outcome measures to determine the effectiveness of new programs. Faculty Development will include faculty awards programs, spouse hire programs and retention programs. Various 'toolkits' for topics such as mentoring and peer review will also be available.

Dr. Katovich proposed reviewing the faculty and staff survey with a committee who is already looking at the staff survey. The council will discuss further at the next meeting.

Dr. Katovich also proposed two recommendations to Dr. Fouke. The first recommendation is for mandatory training for new and existing department chairs. (He will follow up with the written request). The second recommendation is for a centralized website for faculty to go to for answers to common questions and information. Dr. Fouke requested specific examples of content which would be include on this website.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 P.M.