

Faculty Senate
Welfare Council
February 24, 2010
Tigert Hall - Room 226
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Minutes

Attendees:

Heather McAuslane
Tony Offerle
Mary Ann Ferguson
Rebecca Jordi
Angel Kwolek Folland

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 AM

The council discussed Nigel Richards' presentation on behalf of the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars. There is not a lot of university wide recognition on the Academy. The council discussed encouraging deans to nominate faculty to this group because broad representation is very important. The council would also like to encourage deans and chairs to put forward distinguished professor nominees. Tony Offerle will talk to the Steering Committee about ways to encourage deans to nominate faculty for university awards.

The council reviewed the statement for Tenure and Promotion guidelines for evaluating candidates in areas that have merged as revised by the Senate Steering Committee. The wording was suggested to state that faculty members "elect" rather than "should be permitted to request" their criteria. The council also removed the word 'and' from the sentence "and/or the newly merged units."

Mary Ann Ferguson moved to approve the revised statement. The revised statement was approved. It will be an information item at the March Senate meeting.

The council discussed a university wide mentoring program and discussed the need to incentivize mentoring. A council member mentioned that IFAS has a teaching resource center that may be a good model for assisting faculty with teaching resources in lieu of formal peer mentoring. Kathy Long will be invited to the April meeting to discuss teaching resources.

The council briefly discussed online student evaluations. Council members stated that online evaluations are conducted in the Colleges of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Nursing. The council will invite Andy McCollough to the April meeting to discuss.

The council will also invite Paula Fussell to the April meeting to discuss the status of a possible maternity leave policy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 AM