ARTS & SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, September 5, 2012
Student Union 280 (Sequoyah Room) 3:30 pm

Call to Order: Chair Ausman called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

Roll Call:
Present: Justen Renyer (ART), Bill Henley (BOT), Ramesh Kaipa (CDIS), Kevin Ausman (CHEM), Blayne Mayfield (COMSC), Rich Frohock (ENG), Susana Perea-Fox (FLL), Hongbo Yu (GEOG), Rick Rohrs (HIST), Bobbi Kay Lewis (MSC), Jesse Johnson (MATH), Babu Fathepure (MICRO), Jeff Loeffert (MUSIC), Scott Gelfand (PHILO), Flera Rizatdinova (PHYSC), Tony Brown (POLSC), James Grice (PSYCH), Michael Long (SOC), Carla Goad (STAT), Judith Cronk (TH), Andy Dzialowski (ZOOL), Nichole Brown (Student Rep.).

Guests: Dean Bret Danilowicz, Associate Dean Bruce Crauder

Approval of the Minutes of the May 2012 Meeting: Minutes of the meeting of May 2, 2012 were approved following a minor change (Former Dean Sherwood was presented with a plaque, not a plague!).

Approval of the Agenda: The meeting agenda was approved after dropping from Old Business the ASFC recommendation re: the TCC EXCELerate program, which is under consideration by the OSU FC.

Reports of Standing Committees:
College Policy and Planning (formerly Roth): None
Curriculum (formerly Goad): None
Rules and Procedures (formerly Henley): None
Scholarship (formerly Perea-Fox): None

Report of University Faculty Council Liaison Representative (Lewis): ASFC Vice Chair Lewis reported that Police Chief Michael Robinson discussed campus safety and gun laws. There is “no carry” on campus, so OSU is exempt from this general state law. Carol Moder presented the RPT task force report. President Hargis announced that OSU now has a Phi Beta Kappa Chapter, effective 7 September 2012. OSU fundraising is currently at ~$910M. Provost Sternberg discussed the requirement for ACT scores. The OSU FC is considering the April 2012 ASFC recommendation regarding the TCC high school EXCELerate program.

Old Business: None.

Dean's Report: Dean Danilowicz wants all processes and decisions in the Dean’s office to be transparent to faculty and advised by ASFC, including budgets and renovation priorities. Accordingly, the ASFC Chair will now attend Department Head meetings for better coordination. He noted that some departments have long ignored the policy that ASFC representatives must be elected, not appointed, by their departmental faculty. Those departments should change their practice and, if necessary, emend departmental rules and procedures to reflect this. Dean Danilowicz has charged departments with three major agenda items for the current academic year: (i) enrollment bottlenecks vs. resources, given rising freshman enrollment (see new business item f); (ii) establishing consistent performance metrics such as student learning outcomes; and (iii) establishing consistent and explicit workloads for faculty members.

New Business: Chair Ausman conducted the following new business
a. A handout listed continuing and newly nominated (in italics) faculty and student members of the various ASFC committees. A vote of the ASFC collectively approved all new nominees for service.
b. Standing committee chairs for 2012-2013 were unanimously elected as follows: College Policy & Planning (Flera Rizatdinova, Physics); Curriculum, General Education & Extension (Carla Goad, Statistics); Rules & Procedures (Blayne Mayfield, Computer Science); Scholarship (Judith Cronk, Theater).

c. Chair Ausman asked the Rules & Procedures Committee to propose, within three weeks, new procedures for searches for endowed chairs and department heads. Proposed procedures will be distributed to ASFC members prior to the October meeting when they will be revised and approved. The committee also was charged with thoroughly reviewing the ASFC bylaws before spring elections.

d. Chair Ausman suggested reactivation of an ASFC website, possibly modeled after that of the OSU FC. He provided a draft outline. Councilors discussed briefly the challenges of keeping it current, providing a link to the A&S Student Council, and asking Gary Jones (A&S IT) to do updates for us. Vice Chair Lewis volunteered to draft some brief text for the site. ASFC suggested deleting the outline items for ad hoc committees (ephemeral) and recommendation to the Dean (redundant with ASFC minutes), as indicated in strikethrough on the handout appended to these minutes.

e. The Dean needs ASFC ranking of departmental renovation requests (up to 3 per department) by the October meeting. Research, teaching and outreach needs will be considered. (Next year we should have more lead-time.) Chair Ausman provided a draft “Suggested Procedures for Ranking Departmental Requests” as a starting point for discussion. The list of requests will be compiled by the Dean’s office and emailed to ASFC members prior to the meeting. At or before that time, Chair Ausman will provide a final procedure for ranking. One suggestion to help narrow the list and shorten discussion at the October meeting was for each councilor to rank their top several requests, then these rankings will be tallied in a spreadsheet (prepared by Carla Goad) before the meeting, as a starting point for discussion. {Note: this spreadsheet and the list of requests were emailed to councilors on 24 September with a deadline for return to Carla by 2 October at 8 AM.}

f. Administration anticipates possible course bottlenecks given two consecutive years of increases in freshman enrollment without a corresponding increase in faculty size. The Policy & Planning Committee was charged with compiling information (by January) from internal (e.g., Institutional Research) and external sources. For example, what are the trends in average class sizes per year and per department across peer institutions? How have other universities dealt with this problem? Is it common to have senior level courses with ‘X’ students in discipline ‘Y’?

g. The Dean has expressed frustration with the current complex, protracted procedures for selection of department heads and endowed chairs and professorships. Thus, the Rules & Procedures Committee was tasked with drafting new streamlined procedures for discussion and approval at the October meeting. {Note: these draft procedures were emailed to councilors on 25 September.}

h. Due to time constraints, the Dean’s planned walkthrough of the College budget was postponed.

Secretary's Report of ASFC Recommendations to the Dean (Henley): none

Announcements: At the November ASFC meeting, Carol Moder (Chair of the OSU FC Task force on Reappointment, Tenure & Promotion) will present their recommendation and solicit our input. Reminder: ASFC bylaws state that departmental representatives must be elected, not appointed. Several possible topics for new business were listed on the meeting agenda. The next meeting will be at 3:30 Wed., 3 October in SU 280 (Sequoyah Room).

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:10 pm.
• Home
  o Brief overview (Needs text)
• Charter and bylaws (PDF)
• Current Councilors
  o Name and department (with links to department website and individual faculty’s website)
  o Officers marked as such
  o List observers/liaisons, such as the Dean and the A&S Student Council President?
• Committees
  o General description of role of committees and rotation of membership (needs text) with link to bylaws, which contains a detailed description of the rotation schedule
  o Standing Committees (list)
    ▪ Name of committee
    ▪ Description of duties (from bylaws)
    ▪ Current membership (name and department with links to appropriate websites, chair indicated as such)
  o Ad hoc Committees?
• Meeting Dates
  o Dates, times, and locations (list)
• Agendas and Minutes
• Links to PDFs
• ASFC Recommendations to the Dean?
  o This is likely redundant with the meeting minutes and could be a pain to keep updated.

NOTE: Bullets shown in strikethrough were rejected by the ASFC during the 5 September meeting.