ARTS & SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
Student Union 280 (Sequoyah Room) 3:30 pm

Call to Order: Chair Ausman called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Ramesh Kaipa (CDIS), Kevin Ausman (CHEM), Blayne Mayfield (COMSC), Rich Frohock (ENG), Hongbo Yu (GEOG), Yongtao Du (HIST), Bobbi Kay Lewis (MSC), Jesse Johnson (MATH), Babu Fathepure (MICRO), Michael Kirkendo for Jeff Loeffert (MUSIC), Scott Gelfand (PHILO), Alexander Khanov for Flera Rizatdinova (PHYSC), James Grice (PSYCH), Michael Long (SOC), Carla Goad (STAT), Andy Dzialowski (ZOOL). Guests: Dean Bret Danilowicz, Associate Dean Bruce Crauder.

1) Special item: Election of ASFC interim Secretary — Kevin asked for volunteers to fill the office of Secretary of the ASFC. No one volunteered, so Kevin pulled a name out of a hat. Scott Gelfand was appointed interim Secretary.

Approval of the Minutes of the January 9, 2013 Meeting: Minutes of the meeting were approved with the corrections already made.

Approval of the Agenda: Approved agenda with some changes (approved adding report from Ad Hoc RPT Memo Committee).

Reports of Standing Committees:
College Policy and Planning (Rizatdinova): Ausman suggested that we get an update at the next meeting.

Curriculum (Goad): No report.

Rules and Procedures (Mayfield): Report will be discussed during new business.

Scholarship (Cronk): No Report – Dean stated that some scholarships may violate a new state law (State Question 759?). We need to change the terms of these scholarships so that they comply with the law.

Ad Hoc RPT Committee: The committee is working on the issue of what document should govern RPT decisions when a new document has been written after someone was hired. The Committee may take up some other issues. The Dean asked whether College RPT Committee should include non-tenured faculty. Also, should people up for re-appointment or promotion be on the Committee (even if they recuse themselves from discussions in which their cases are being discussed)?
Report of University Faculty Council Liaison Representative (Lewis): No Report

Old Business:
Renovation Request Procedures – The Council discussed a draft of suggested procedures (see attached). The Council suggested that rather than having four different categories (Safety, Instruction, Research, Urgent), it might be better to put safety proposals into a separate category that would then go to University Facilities so that these could be funded without using A&S funds. (The Dean stated that having them ranked helped in discussions with Facilities.) The Dean also stated that we might find discussions on the Internet concerning how to rank proposals concerning Safety. It was also suggested that there should not be a special category for Urgent (we can see urgency by looking at the proposals), thus leaving two categories. A member stated that having these two categories might be difficult since some proposals might fall into both categories, while other proposals might not fall into either category. Finally, it was suggested that departments include in their proposals something like a Strategic Plan; that might help Council evaluate the rationale for the proposal. A member questioned whether departments should state whether they are willing to contribute to costs associated with a proposal.

Richard Frohock updated the Council on work being done by the Sub-Committee on Rules and Procedures for Centers. Frohock stated that this Sub-Committee consisted of only two members, and he asked for volunteers to the Committee. Frohock stated that work was just beginning, and the Committee is now figuring out its charge and will then work on relevant proposals. The Committee may look at issues including: proposals for new centers, how directors will be appointed, and what should happen to centers that aren’t doing anything.

Dean's Report: Dean Danilowicz had three topics he wanted to discuss. 1) The Dean stated that he was aware that there is no universal student absence policy, but he is concerned about some faculty members not being receptive to students who are absent because of university-sanctioned events. 2) D,F,W’s – The Dean said he was concerned that faculty may misunderstand his requirement that dept. heads discuss D,F,W’s in A&D’s. The Dean wanted to assure faculty that he does not intend to use D,F,W rate as a measure of performance. Rather, the Dean wants faculty to be aware of D,F,W rates, especially in those cases in which the rate is extraordinarily high. Bruce Crauder gave the example of a required course (he didn’t mention the department) in which the rate was over 80% on a regular basis. In such a case, the rate bears attention. At the very least, the head of dept. and faculty member ought to talk about the rate and see if there is something that can be done to lower it. The Dean intends to write a letter to faculty explaining his thoughts concerning D,F,W’s. 3) A&S Faculty Fellow for Engagement Proposal – The Dean said that there is a national movement among universities to become engaged with the community. Given that OSU is a land grant institution, this is especially relevant to us. The Dean is proposing that one member of the faculty in the College serve the role of Faculty Fellow for Engagement. This would be a one year position in which the faculty member spends 25% of his/her time in an administrative capacity in the Dean’s office. The responsibilities include:

• Represent A&S at monthly campus engagement meetings
• Attend Engagement Scholarship Consortium meeting (October 2013 at Texas Tech)
• Learn about A&S activities and needs in engagement, then become a resource and mentor for faculty across the college
• Organize and run the annual A&S Engagement meeting
• Create and maintain A&S engagement database
• Create and oversee an ‘A&S engaged faculty member of the year’ award
• Assist in the transition to the following year’s A&S Faculty Fellow for Engagement.
• Participate in weekly Dean’s Office meetings

The Dean explained that this should only be a one-year assignment in order to rotate it among the faculty, thereby giving a variety of faculty members an opportunity (which faculty don’t usually have) to perform in an administrative role.

New Business: Chair Ausman conducted the following new business
Mayfield discussed preparation work for ASFC bylaw revisions. He wants to begin by finding areas in which the ASFC does not comply with its own bylaws and either amend bylaws or change behavior in order to be compliant. Mayfield asked faculty for comments/input concerning this issue.

Prep-work for Recurring Funding Requests – The Committee is seeking any input before working on guidelines.

Kevin Ausman resigned as Chair of ASFC, citing personal reasons. The new chair will be Vice Chair, Bobbi Kay Lewis. The council agreed that, pursuant to Article II,D,2 of the Bylaws (Provision of Absence), the Chair of the Rules and Procedures Committee will fulfill the duties of the Vice Chair of the ASFC until the next regular election for officers takes place, later in the spring.

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

Announcements: The next meeting will be at 3:30 Wed., 3 March in SU 280 (Sequoyah Room).
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,
Scott Gelfand
Susana Perea-Fox
(Secretary)