

Penn State Behrend Faculty Council

Monday, September 25, 2017

3:30 p.m. in Reed 113

In Attendance: Jane Ingold, Luciana Aronne, Laurie Urraro, Joseph Previte, Ralph Ford, Sharon Gallagher, Rod Troester, Robin Panda, Alicyn Rhoades, Sarah Whitney, David Waples, Moustafa Elhadary, Ivor Knight, Tim Krause, Gary Viebranz, Pam Silver, Nicole Shoenberger, Mary Connerty, Ed Evans, Chuck Brown, Denise Divins, Andrew Yu, Ozgun Caliskan-Demirag, Kathryn Wolfe

Call to order by Chair

- A. Meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Laurie Urraro.

Approval of Minutes from April 17th, 2017 meeting

- B. Luciana Aronne motioned to accept the minutes as amended and Tim Krause seconded. Minutes were approved as amended.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

A. Officers

I. Laurie Urraro, Chair

- a. Laurie welcomed everyone to the meeting. She has met with all chairs and given them their charges for the academic year. Student Life will develop the vision of a Behrend graduate that can be used in recruitment and retention, at open houses, and in discussions with students.
- b. She will continue to attend the College Advisory Committee and College Leadership Team meetings.
- c. The NTT Task Force will have its first meeting on Friday.
- d. She heard some offensive music coming from a dorm. Please contact Student Affairs if you hear something like this.

II. Tim Krause, Vice Chair

- a. No updates.

III. Jane Ingold, Secretary

- a. No updates.

IV. Sharon Gallagher, Past Chair

a. No updates.

V. Luciana Aronne, Parliamentarian

a. No updates.

B. Committees

1. Robin Panda, Chair of Academic Computing

a. No report.

2. Carol Wilson, Chair of Athletics

a. Not present. No report.

3. Gary Smith, Chair of Curricular Affairs

a. Not present. No report.

4. Ozgun Caliskan-Demirag, Chair of Faculty Affairs

a. No report.

5. Alicyn Rhoades, Chair of Research

a. No report.

6. Sarah Whitney, Chair of Scholarship & Awards

a. No report.

7. Omar Ashour, Chair of Student Life

a. Not present. No report.

8. Joseph Previte, Chair of Undergraduate Studies

a. No report.

9. Nicole Shoenberger, Chair of Institutional Education Diversity

a. No report.

C. Representatives

1. Denise Divins and David Waples, Part-Time Faculty Representatives

a. No report.

2. Rod Troester, University Senate Faculty Representative

a. There are eight university senators from Behrend. They met two weeks ago and the committees are getting up and running. We have representation on all the most important committees. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 17.

3. Moustafa Elhadary, Student/Senate Representatives

- a. SGA had a retreat the day before. They hope to have a joint meeting with Faculty Council this semester.

Dr. Ralph Ford, Chancellor

- C. His state of the college address is upcoming. We are starting to get traction on his vision of a Behrend graduate.

Dr. Ivor Knight, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies

- B. Sabbatical applications are due to Lisa Nelson on October 2.

Dr. Pam Silver, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

- A. The most pressing issue is developing criteria and procedures for promoting non-tenure line faculty. A task force (created by ALT) is charged with developing college-level criteria and processes. After UP approves the procedures then schools develop specific criteria
- B. Gen Ed programs are changing and new requirements are necessitating logistics changes such as how many seats we need, what areas we need them in, and how will we create them.
- C. Faculty senate is re-certifying Gen Ed courses. Those developed at Behrend will be recertified here.
- D. New academic progress requirements are adding work and a lot of education of advisors. They will need input from the registrar and ACPC. We will stay on Starfish and there will be more functions added to it. Starfish doesn't interface with Lionpath.
 - a. Alicyn Rhoades later commented that her students have no idea what Starfish is. We need some communication to them. What is their responsibility and how would they interact with it? Pam will see if they can get training. You are supposed to record when you meet with them. Discussion of its use and experiences with it followed.
- E. New Honors Director Mike Brown is trying to create an honors culture with resources for students to get them engaged.
- F. A new curriculum management system, called Course Leaf, is being populated now. It is supposed to be up and running in spring semester.
- G. Maggie Slattery from undergraduate studies will be here on October 18.
- H. Discussion about NTT promotions.
 - a. There were stated concerns about discrepancies in new titles. Ralph explained that, at time of hire, we make the decision if someone gets a title. Faculty Senate made that policy. There is a difference between rank and title.

- b. There is a discrepancy between campuses as some campuses have used the higher title. The NTT Committee is writing a statement for faculty senate about disparity between campuses. There is not a scholarly component to promotion across all campuses and units. Criteria is ours to decide as long as it is approved by UP. Behrend faculty are scrutinized at a higher level than other campuses.
- c. At her request, Dave Christiansen sent Luciana Aronne an email detailing the differences in weights to scholarship, teaching, and service at each campus. He responded with the following:
 - i. Abington: the default balance for teaching/research/service is 80/0/20. Fixed-term faculty members pursuing a promotion from the second level to the new third level will also have to demonstrate research success, even though it is not considered in the annual evaluation.
 - ii. Altoona: some divisions are 60/20/20 and others are 70/0/30. However, given the opportunity for promotion from a second level to a third level, the college is discussing the need to link annual evaluation expectations to promotion expectations. As a consequence, they would establish a research requirement for all fixed-term faculty members.
 - iii. Berks: the default balance is 80/0/20. However, given the opportunity for promotion from a second level to a third level, the college is discussing the need to link annual evaluation expectations to promotion expectations. As a consequence, they would establish a research requirement for all fixed-term faculty members.
 - iv. Harrisburg: the default balance is 60/10/30. This can be changed with the concurrence of the faculty member and the school director.
 - v. University College: the default balance is one-third/one-third/one-third, a la, the promotion and tenure process. Some campuses have modified this a bit to give a higher weight to teach and to reduce research expectations.
- d. NTT faculty are asking that senior lecturers be assigned titles they already earned.
- e. Rod said that Senate Faculty Affairs recognizes that there is an equity issue across campuses.
- f. Two other concerns: Creative accomplishment has disappeared from the list. We need clarification of what "While in the rank of" means for the assessment period.
- g. If the task force is done by November, there should be enough time to get it through so that faculty can safely go up for promotions next year. Schools should already be thinking about their criteria.

- h. With so much uncertainty, fixed-term instructors don't know how to build their portfolios for promotion.

VII. Old Business

- A. Faculty Senate Constitution will need an overhaul.

VIII. New Business

- A. There have been many syllabi changes and they will be placed in multiple loci on Behrend's website, per committee charge. Dawn Blasko is also working on a list.

IX. Announcements

A. Behrend meetings

- Next Faculty Senate meetings: October 3rd, 2017, 4:30, Reed 117;
December 5th, 2017, 4:30, Reed 117
- Next Faculty Council meeting: October 23rd, 2017, 3:30 pm, Reed 113

B. University Senate Meetings (UP) – Fall 2017

- October 17th, 2017
- December 5th, 2017

X. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn made by Joe Previte and seconded by Tim Krause. Meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm.